Deadline 1A submission
Written representation of oral submission made on
the 6th November 2025

Firstly, I would like to endorse the submissions made by Suffolk Energy Action Solutions, other community groups including the parish councils and all who oppose these plans.

In this submission as in my oral submission, I want to speak firstly about the cumulative impact of all the energy projects planned and underway in the East Suffolk area and secondly about the effect of these projects on us personally.

Background

Our home of 26 years is a 16th century farmhouse bordering the Friston NG/SPR substation site. The same site forms part of Sealink and Lionlink's plans. The red lines delineating the sites for all these projects run along our garden fence. So we are truly in the eye of the storm

Cumulative impact

You will be familiar with the graphic map produced by the various community groups intitled "Cumulative impact map of coastal suffolk" which illustrates very effectively the shocking impact of Sizewell C, the SPR offshore wind projects, the Sealink and Lionlink intetconnectors and the newly announced ESW project.

The enormous impact on local communities of up to 7 energy projects being constructed over the next 15 years cannot be overstated.

A major problem with the PiNS SPR inquiry was the failure of the inspectors to grapple with the cumulative impact of all the projects slated to come in on the back of NG/SPR's plans to develop a connection point at Friston.

They chose not to use the powers they had to compel the disclosure and production of documents relevant to cumulative impact. They accepted NG's assertion that plans were not sufficiently advanced to be included but the fact was that we all knew about them so clearly they did too.

Of course, as soon as that inquiry was over all these projects were brought forward- so it's not surprising that we as a community are cynical about this process and national grid and the developers engagement with it.

In my submissions to the SPR enquiry, I said I saw our future as being encircled by Cable routes and huge industrial structures. Sadly that is what is coming to pass. I hope that during this inquiry you will rigorously use the powers that you have to interrogate NG and the developers about their plans and in particular the cumulative impact of these projects. So many of which are already becoming clear.

Personal impact

Here I want to turn to some of the ways these projects are impacting on myself, my family and our neighbours I am going to list them for brevity:

The huge mental, physical and financial toll taken fighting these plans for more than 5 years already

Dealing with constant land surveys and demands for access, information etc

Loss of our our privacy, security and peaceful rural environment, footpaths, wildlife and dark night skies.

The daily stress we experience of just being in our home formerly a place of peace and tranquility now in the midst of a construction site

The knowledge that if only the consented projects go ahead works will last for at least the next 12 years with multiple projects being constructed simultaneously.

The shocking revelation that National Grid and developers can financially blight your property leaving your most valuable asset hugely reduced in value and in many cases unsaleable with NO compensation.

The wholesale destruction of the Suffolk countryside (you must have noticed this in your travels around the area)

The security implications of living next to a run of pylons and substations carrying so much of the nation's power.

The total unsuitability of the A12 and our rural roads to deal with the increased traffic with the resulting increased risk of accidents and injuries.

Most frustratingly National Grid continues to resist better

off shore grid solutions which would substantially reduce the on shore environmental devastation that these projects are causing.

I support the greening of our energy infrastructure but it feels like we in East Suffolk are the sacrificial lambs of the government's rush to net zero. It's not too late to stop this. The damage can be limited so I implore you to prevent the further destruction of this precious landscape and with it East Suffolk's way of life by refusing consent for Sea link

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