

Fiona Gilmore IP Refence: [REDACTED]

Oral submission made at OFH Dated 5 NOV 2025

Good afternoon. My name is **Fiona Gilmore**, and I am speaking today in my personal capacity as a resident directly affected by the National Grid Sea Link proposals. I speak on behalf of my family, my neighbours, and the many local people whose daily lives are already being significantly disrupted by the cumulative impacts of major infrastructure works unfolding across coastal Suffolk. What I share today is lived experience and the reality on the ground.

The District Nurse comes to visit one of my family every morning. She arrived yesterday completely **frazzled**.

“Nightmare roads. Diversions. Traffic lights. I can’t get round all my patients.”

The electrician arrived on Monday for urgent repairs — **fuming**.

“Ridiculous. [REDACTED] mess. HGVs everywhere. The roads are adding an extra hour to my drive every day now — all SZC stuff.”

I went into a class of six-year-olds. We talked about the benefits of renewable energy. I then took a map and asked:

**What route would you take to deliver wind power from EA2 and EA1N to London?**

They took rulers and drew straight lines from the windfarms to London — **directly through the North Sea corridor**.

They didn’t send the power via Aldeburgh for a cup of tea first.

In other words, **Friston and Saxmundham are the wrong places for an energy hub** — we have no need for more power, and we are a needless deviation.

**Sea Link is a white elephant** — a redundant, unnecessary, and excessively costly proposal.

The projected power flows for this region are below 7 GW, and the existing pylons can carry that. They can also be upgraded — which is far cheaper than building a domestic interconnector of this scale.

Nautilus is now heading to Grain.

North Falls and Five Estuaries are collaborating to connect into the Tendring node.

LionLink — and even EA1N and EA2 — **could go directly to London**.

And Sizewell C will not be operational for at least a decade.

This project could be cancelled, and the UK would save **well over £2 billion**.

I therefore ask that the Examining Authority ensure an Issue Specific Hearing is held to explore alternative sites and technological solutions.

**Russian Dolls.**

For those who attended the SPR EA1N and EA2 hearings, it was clear that National Grid were not open about future projects. The Sea Link and LionLink schemes were concealed — like Russian dolls. The National Grid substation at Friston was slipped into the application, and within it sat further projects not immediately visible but lurking in the shadows.

As a result, our concerns about cumulative impacts were expressed — but not fully acknowledged.

Now, all is revealed.

Or is it?

At this pivotal Sea Link hearing, the truth and the **full cumulative impacts** can finally be interrogated, transparently and without evasion.

Thank you.



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