

6 November 2025

YOU HAVE TAKEN OUR DREAMS AND TURNED THEM INTO NIGHTMARES.

Seven years ago, to the horror of local residents, the SPR projects were proposed for Friston. Nothing I have heard here—yesterday or today—surprises me. Nothing has really changed. The issues remain the same, yet the impact is now even greater. National Grid continues to be wilfully elusive and uncooperative. Friston quite literally begged National Grid to explain their overall plans.

Projects of this scale should form part of an integrated masterplan, and the Inspectorate should have insisted that one be prepared before accepting these separate submissions. Plans for our future energy needs should have been exciting and inspiring. Instead, in the absence of a clear, integrated vision, all we can do is speculate about the potential consequences for our village and this region.

Today—and every day—we are being forced to cope with the impact of these energy projects. The developments taking place in this region are ecologically disastrous, economically unsound, and politically undemocratic. They lack vision, wilfully ignoring more sustainable technologies and resulting in even greater harm to both the environment and local communities.

Development Consent Orders (DCOs) have a 95% approval rate. The process heavily favours developers, who are now abusing it. You, the inspectors for SEALINK, can see for yourselves the effect these projects are having on our community, and you have the power to help protect what remains.

This area is at a tipping point. Moreover, these projects do not need to be onshore to achieve our clean energy goals. What is urgently needed is:

- An issue-specific hearing on offshore alternatives; and
- An issue-specific hearing to assess the cumulative impact of all approved, proposed, and future projects.

Indeed, what is SEALINK actually required for, if not to serve additional, as-yet unconfirmed projects? This piecemeal approach to development must come to an end.

My husband and I stand in full support of all that has been said during these meetings, and want to express our deepest gratitude to SEAS and SASES for their tireless campaigning over the past six to seven years.

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Mya Manakides

Luigi Beltrandi

