

Thank you, Panel, for having actually visited this place which is being subject to so very much rapid and uncoordinated development and change, largely based on desktop evaluations.

I don't live in Saxmundham, although I use it for many of its amenities, but I support local residents, SEAS, and Saxmundham against Needless Destruction as they show you how devastating the SEALINK proposals will be to the town and its environs.

I want to speak on behalf of people who may not be well represented in this Examination; people like me who rent a property here on a long term basis, and who do not drive.

The reason for that lack of representation may be that many of us in that situation may not be connected to the lines of communication where matters like this are discussed, so unaware of how it may impact day to day living, unavailable to attend the Examination, or not capable of engaging online.

I have lived on the coast near Sizewell for nearly twenty years. Some of my regular work as a freelance is in London, otherwise in Halesworth, Aldeburgh or Southwold. This has worked well until the last 18 months, as a non driver relying on buses, trains and taxis, and enjoyment of walking.

To meet my work commitments now, it's a 45 minute walk through construction sites that used to be fields to a bus stop to wait for an hourly bus that I now know will be delayed and will probably be cancelled, to a train station whose line may be shut for construction work. If I try to book a taxi, I'm out of luck as certain Sizewell C contractors require them on a regular basis (for visiting consultants) and all journeys are taking longer. Nothing can be done off the cuff.

That's one small example, that's life now. And it's not sustainable, certainly for my working life.

As a contractor, on a day to day basis I have to be present at 9.00 am, or forfeit the job. The only way to fulfil that obligation, particularly in London, is to book an overnight hotel room, a significant outlay.

For others who do not drive in this region, the issue may be missing a doctor's appointment, picking up children from school, or simply accessing any kind of social or familial interaction.

If I am required for any reason to leave the property I now rent, accommodation is scarce and becoming increasingly overpriced due to contractor demand from Sizewell C. This will increase with subsequent visiting contractors. The result for any of us would be to move away from the area where we have established a working life and significant connections.

You as inspectors will have heard the terms of many of these arguments before: the overloading of unsuitable roads, the depredation of nature, loss of natural habitat, trees and hedgerows, all to be addressed. But I would really urge you to look around and see the massive scale and the shock of what's happening here and really attend to the layering of detail that people are giving you about the increasing societal and mental health crises that are being experienced here. Because so many ill conceived and uncoordinated projects are being landed on us. And we can clearly hear the dismissal of our concern from London.

These are unusual times. Rights are being changed, process and procedure is being restructured within the planning environment. Disastrous and irreversible impacts are being minimised or simply lost in a flurry of pro forma counter claims from Applicants in previous Examinations. Meanwhile, a flourishing and diverse region withers into an ill designed outdated monoculture.

Please do see this as more than a local issue. Sea Link is an unnecessary and badly planned addition to this chaos. I support SEAS and SANDS in calling for an offshore solution now.