

I am a resident who uses the old rewilded Hoverport area frequently for recreation and mental health purposes. I love being able to walk in this area and observe the flora and fauna and wonder at how it has been able to re-establish itself, and the insects and wildlife that you can see as you amble through the area. Please do not agree to let National Grid compulsorily purchase this area and add it to their plans because it will cause so much ongoing harm and destruction. We are all supposed to be trying to protect our wildlife and nature, not destroy it, so I am at a total loss to understand why this peaceful, tranquil, and easily accessible area so closely connected to our National Nature Reserve, is being so threatened!

If this is allowed to go ahead, it will only be National Grid and their share holders that will benefit! Locals, visitors, businesses in the area, and our wildlife and nature will all suffer! There is no benefit for any of us, only loss upon loss! Nature, wildlife, and humans will suffer! Thanet has an extremely small amount of area that wildlife can flourish in and where disabled and wheelchair users or people with pushchairs can use. Yet, the old Hoverport is such an area and the site is fantastic for everyone and the wildlife.

If National Grid becomes the owner of this land, then it will encourage them to continually want to use this area for potential future usage, bringing in more cables through, and they will destroy the wildlife and plants left in this area. There will be no chance for any signs of recovery! The destruction that the heavy goods vehicles and machinery alone will cause will be immense. The old Hoverport site is fragile and I fear that all the heavy goods vehicles will destroy it and pollutants will be released which will pollute the area causing even more damage that will also affect the Saltmarsh and National Nature Reserve!

Please do not allow this Sealink project to go ahead here as it is totally against Nature, wildlife and what locals want, and need! This is not an environmentally friendly project, and we should be protecting special areas, such as the old rewilded hoverport site, as it is such a precious local asset for us and all that lives and grows there! Bee and Lizard orchids are amongst these, along with many other species. Birds of all sorts of species, many RED endangered, frequent and use this area, and people also love to bird watch here. The Viking Ship and Njord cafe and the petrol station are all businesses within very close range of the old hoverport site, and these will be very badly affected, because people will stay away! People come to the area as it is so peaceful and rich in nature, but with all the noise, vibrations, mess and destruction National Grid's working there will cause, people and wildlife will keep well away. Additionally, the roads will be impacted, more heavy goods vehicles will cause damage to the roads and verges. Extra noise, pollution, and congestion! And this will go on for years! Plus, if it does get the go-ahead, I am afraid that National Grid will want to use this area yet again for more and more construction works and new projects!

I am also wondering why National Grid did not know that the Saltmarsh is not totally static beforehand; this demonstrates to me a total lack of environmental knowledge and understanding. I do not think that National Grid has done any surveys or its homework in relation to this area. If so, where are the results? Also, what if any, mitigation measures are being proposed? It appears that National Grid just wants to quietly compulsorily purchase this land and do what they want to remove any obstacles to their proposed Sealink project scheme! Wanting to take so much of the old Hoverport site is a major change to the original plans, and I do not think that this is a fair consultation. It has been a major job for locals to find out about National Grid's original plans, let alone all the changes they have made to them! And how many times are people supposed to put objections/comments in? This process is all on National Grid's side and I feel that it is extremely unfair and biased! People think that they have done their bit by objecting initially, and are unaware of how long and tedious a process this is! Please remember this and also take that into consideration. I am passionately against National Grid's proposed Sealink project, but I am finding it very hard and time-consuming trying to keep up with the whole process! People have their lives to get on with and cannot keep up with all of this! Please see this proposed Sealink project and the proposed use of the old rewilded hoverport site for what it is: a project to benefit National Grid. The Government is so fixated on their agenda to race to reach net zero, that they cannot be relied upon to do what is actually best for our country and its' Nature, wildlife, and Green spaces, that is why it is so desperately important that you do not recommend that this project is allowed to go ahead as it is!