

[EN020026-002378-SL 28JAN ISH2 PART3.pdf \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)

01:12:16:14 - 01:12:51:19 01:12:51:28 - 01:13:24:29. 01:13:36:20 - 01:13:56:26

Landscape and Visual, in respect of planting to the right of the track that leads from the B1119 to Wood Farm.

Geraldine Barker from Saxmundham Town Council.

The proposed Sea Link Converter on the landscape will be a blight on the landscape at this point. I asked why we couldn't have additional planting, and I believe this is intrinsically linked with the next proposed converter station, which is Lion Link, which I know it's outside the scope of this hearing. However, it is, it is very apparent from Lion Link's

The document, which I refer to, is Lion Link's potential design approaches. Lion Link appears to be taking on the majority of landscaping to both areas (Sea Link and the proposed Lion Link draft order areas) which will include extensive planting. Also Lion Link appears to propose to reinstate the Great Wood.

Finally, we would like to see planting around the B1119. Mitigation is not only required for PRoW users as consideration should be given to the visual implications for people entering Saxmundham by vehicle to negate the impressions of an industrialized landscape.

[EN020026-002411-SL 29JAN ISH2 PART1 Transcript.pdf \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)

Traffic and Transport

Geraldine Barker representing Saxmundham Town Council

In respect of cumulative projects in the area and the A12/ B1119 Rendham Road junction.

May I add for consideration to the list of projects, one which is not a nationally significant infrastructure project, but the 800 houses adjacent to the A12 and also the commercial area, which is on the opposite side of the A12, (which would lead to having a new A12 roundabout installed)? We understand that application for outline planning will be submitted in the near future. Perhaps you could refer to East Suffolk Council on that.

This will increase traffic on the A12 between the B1119, (southern junction). We are also very, very concerned about the B1119. This is the Rendham Road junction. Saxmundham Town Council has already expressed our concerns, but would reiterate that it is a very dangerous junction and we have just had a fatality. As this junction is considered as a diversionary route for closures relating to the B1121 Benhall Bridge the junction requires remodelling. (The fatality occurred in December 2025).

[EN020026-002414-SL 29JAN ISH2 PART4 Transcript.pdf \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)

Health and Wellbeing – Working Hours

Geraldine Barker on behalf of Saxmundham Town Council

Regarding the quantitative value that the Applicant puts on the costs that would be incurred by not working on Saturdays and Sundays:

The Applicant stated that the sum would ultimately be paid for consumers via their energy bills. We would like to know exactly how much per head (or per energy bill) that would be. Are we talking about a pound a year, Are we talking about a hundred pounds per year? The Applicants costings need to be put in perspective.

In respect of construction on Sundays, it is not solely construction activities, but construction traffic that will create disturbance. In Saxmundham, residents who live along the major routes, which are the B1119 and B1121 (that have already been the subject of earlier discussion); suffer from traffic congestion and noise. There has been a 20 percent increase in traffic coming through the town, some of it attributable to early morning worker journeys heading towards Leiston, and as such likely Sizewell C workers. Thereby construction will not only affect residents who live adjacent to construction sites and compounds. It will affect everybody. Sunday mornings are the only days when town centre residents might be able to have peaceful sleep without being disturbed early in the morning.

Finally to proposed working hours, daily from 07.00 to 19.00, it is important to remember that there is an hour each side of the core hours for worker arrival/leaving and start up and finishing activities. Start-up activities could for example, include rigging a crane – a noisy activity.

Weekend working and long working hours are unacceptable due to the very close proximity of the project to Friston, Benhall, Sternfield and Saxmundham. Therefore, we call for Sunday working to be removed.

[EN020026-002420-SL 30JAN ISH2 PART1.pdf \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)

Cumulative Impacts

Geraldine Barker on behalf of Saxmundham Town Council

I've listened to everything stated thus far and totally concur with all the comments (from Suffolk representatives) in relation to cumulative impacts.

I would like to add in respect to Saxmundham that the Inter project cumulative impacts on our on small market town will be horrendous. We have already heard about the visual, traffic, noise and loss of business impacts. Saxmundham will also lose business due traffic congestion and the poor visual perception (created by the converter stations).

The cumulative impacts to Saxmundham should be noted, to the north, we will have Essex and Suffolk Water with their water pipeline and NGV Lion Link cables. To the East, (in addition to Sizewell

C) there are Sea Link and Lion Link converter stations. To the west, 800 houses plus an associated commercial area. And to the south we have the Sea Link access road, Friston substation and the Helios Solar Park. In the centre of Saxmundham we will potentially have pipeline work in the Memorial field. It will be Saxmundham under siege.

I concur that the cumulative impact assessments submitted by the Applicant require review.

[EN020026-002418-SL_30JAN_ISH2_PART3.pdf \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)

Design

Geraldine Barker on behalf of Saxmundham Town Council

Lion Link's visualizations for the visual impact mitigation are superior to Sea Link. Moreover, they have proposed various different concepts for the exterior of the building.

I am wondering what is occurring, because the concepts that we have seen, albeit they are only concepts at the present time from Lion Link, seem to be far superior than Sea Link's designs. I'm very concerned, echoing Mr. Atkinson's views, that we have not been advised on the final converter design. This is very important for Saxmundham, for the villages, Sternfield and Benhall, that we get the best possible exterior design.