

#### NEW NORTHERN ACCESS ROUTE PROPOSAL

Ref, Suffolk County Councils proposal for a new northern access route to the SeaLink converter site. I wholeheartedly support this northern route as it would share an existing haul road with Sizewell C and minimize local disruption overall. National Grids preferred western route will gridlock the A12 and the B1121 on a permanent basis and close Benhall railway bridge during its re-construction. This will adversely affect trade, locals going to work, children going to school, emergency services and will completely destroy the Fromus Valley.

#### THE ENERGY SECURITY CLAIM

National Grid justifies the need for the SeaLink project on the grounds of energy security but if there 'was' an energy supply emergency in Europe, Belgium and Holland would NOT sell electricity to the UK. They would keep it for themselves. (as happened during Covid when the EU refused to honour our contract to buy vaccine supplies from Europe) Interconnectors are only used to sell surplus electricity in the good times.

The Sea Link project is there to make money for its overseas shareholders. It is not in our National interest.

The Energy Security argument is bogus.

#### EFFECTS OF SITING CONVERTER AT SAXMUNDHAM

The Sealink converter is one of 3 or 4 Interconnectors on the same site, each the size of Buckingham Palace and they are all on a HILL!

In National Grids Feb 26 response to the DCO examination, they state that there will be minimal effects and no drop in value of Grade 2\* listed Hurts Hall and other properties as the trees (they plan to plant) will have grown in 15 years. This is arrant nonsense. Are they assuming most of these owners are in their twenties so they will live to see these trees grow? No! Most of the owners will be dead. They even reported to the DCO that fields containing Christmas trees form part of the screening near Hill Farm. Don't they know that Christmas trees are cut down at Christmas!

#### NO HYDROLOGY REPORT

Neither have National Grid carried out a full hydrology report into the potential effects of run off from the converter site into the River Fromus both during the construction and post construction periods. The River Fromus already floods yet all National Grid have committed to are surveys every Spring and Autumn for 5 years (post project) to look at the effects of any increased run-off on INVERTEBRATES

WHAT ABOUT THE EFFECTS ON HUMAN BEINGS! We need a full hydrology report with mitigation action agreed now as necessary.

#### NO NOISE AND VIBRATION REPORT

National Grid have only done a desk top study and used generic calculations to assess the potential impact of noise and vibration on the local community from their Interconnectors. They have NOT carried out a thorough on site investigation into the specific equipment they plan to use or taken account of local geography.

There is an urgent need to look at what plans they have to mitigate noise and vibration. The optimum solution is to build as much as possible underground but they dismissed this at an early stage because it is more expensive (shareholder value again!)

#### THIS NEEDS TO BE CHALLENGED!

National Grid are happy to greenwash their project any way they can but

#### HUMAN BEINGS MATTER TOO

and should matter to the Planning Inspectorate.

Offshore has always been best.

Challenge their data

Challenge the need

Thank you.