

Final comments on Sea Link proposal

From [REDACTED]
Date Tue 2026-04-28 16:23
To South East Anglia Link <SouthEastAngliaLink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Dear Inspectors,

[REDACTED]

May I start off by thanking you for the time and attention that you have given to these hearings, thank you for visiting this special part of the country, I hope that you were able to see the beauty of it as well as the ongoing infrastructure developments.

As a resident in Suffolk for more than 30 years it is heart breaking to have spent the last 7 of those years fighting these unnecessary projects. I object to the SeaLink proposal in all its forms.

Throughout the DCO hearings National Grid have shown a cavalier attitude to residents, local authorities and to you, the inspectors. Documents have been submitted late by the applicant, inexcusable given their vast resources, the maps and diagrams they have submitted are almost impossible to read and the visualisations are disingenuous, making it look like a row of trees will hide these superstructures. Last minute changes to the plans have been sprung on residents forcing those of us who object to the plans to have to constantly check and recheck documents.

National Grid seem to have no understanding of the rural nature of the area the plan to build on. They haven't worked out how to get access to the site, seemingly not realising that a small bridge over the railway is quite obviously unsuitable for heavy loads.

The result of the lengthy hearings for the Scottish Power Renewables (SPR) Friston substations showed that the area could barely cope with those proposals and no additional projects should be "bolted on". There is simply no need for these substations and cable routes, National Grid have been unable to prove the needs case. Throughout the hearings National Grid seemed unable to answer any questions, it became almost comedic the way that the rows and rows of their experts took it in turns to say "we will have to get back to you on that...." I sincerely hope that you have been able to keep track of all the questions that they couldn't answer and ensure that you end up with complete answers.

For local residents it is extremely distressing to see that the mitigation that we fought so hard to achieve in relation to the SPR development is being eroded by National Grid. Executives at desks miles away from here draw random lines across our fields seemingly at will, with no understanding of the impact this has on us.

The cumulative impact of the SeaLink project on top of the SPR work would be unbearable. Currently our lives are being ruined but constant noise and dust blowing across the SPR site and into our gardens. Are we to be subjected to another 5 years of this?

This country seems to have sold all the family silver to overseas corporations, National Grid care nothing about our countryside or the people who live here. I don't believe that National Grid have any real interest in "green energy" they simply see a money making opportunity to cash in on the current rush to net zero. We all support clean, green energy but it needs to be done properly. Needlessly pouring concrete over acres and acres of prime arable farmland, land that we need to grow our own food, is not a step forward in green technology, it is ecological vandalism.

I really hope that you the inspectors will hold National Grid's feet to the coals, they have presented sloppy, ill thought out plans. We know from the Post Office scandal and the shocking behaviour of privatised water companies that the only defence we have against these corporations is the bravery of a few whistle-blowers, inspectors and regulators. National Grid know very well how to bamboozle residents and local authorities that simply don't have the resources to challenge them as they should be challenged. Please don't let National Grid bamboozle you, I urge to to recommend to the Secretary of State that these plans should be thrown out, National Grid would then be forced to come up with sensible plans that don't involve the wholesale destruction of coastal Suffolk, sites of ANOB and SSSI.

Thank you

Louise Fincham

