

To the Planning Inspectorate Team. Re: Sealink.

Written Representation, Deadline 7 Submission .

Re: AS-167.

At this late stage in the Examination, it is disturbing to learn that the detailed arguments put forward to the Inspectors by engaged individuals and bodies in opposition to NGV and Sealink's very ill prepared plans for this region, and the very basis upon which those arguments have been submitted within the process of the DCO, may be entirely invalidated by the Applicant's late proposal in AS - 167.

With so many issues remaining unresolved within this Examination, issues with which our local authorities are fully engaged and uniquely placed to offer pertinent information, the Applicant now seeks to attribute decisive powers of decision making to a putative body within the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero which has not yet been created.

This proposal materially changes the ground upon which this democratic process has been undertaken to date . Local authorities, at present fully accountable to their region and working hard to contribute invaluable checks and balances, will be sidelined.

I write here as one of the many who are already directly and profoundly affected in daily life by the Scottish Power Renewables' East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two projects.

SPR is currently working in the field directly to the right and in front of my residence creating the cable corridor, and Horizontal Direct Drilling will shortly commence two fields away from us at Landfall for a period of 28 weeks. We are effectively encircled by these works for a long period.

The way in which the contractors' discharge the requirements imposed upon them through the DCO, adhering to mitigations won through persistence and with the benefit of local knowledge, is crucial.

Sizewell C, meanwhile, is being constructed half a mile to the north, and our home at the coast is as a consequence subject to endless detours.

Through all this, the knowledge that local authorities have input on significant matters relating to the effects on the community, offers a balance and a reassurance that there are processes that regulate assurances made through the hard fought DCO.

The suggestion that local authorities might now be demoted to consultees subject to a body whose statutory status is entirely undefined is unacceptable to anyone who understands the value of democracy, both locally in this case and on a wider basis. It is certainly unacceptable within this Examination, at this critically late stage.

Further, i have a great concern about the precedent set by this proposal. It can be used as a tool to circumvent scrutiny by local authorities within this case, and indeed within future NSIPs.

It seems clear that this proposal runs counter to the very principles of the DCO as all of us, yourselves included, have engaged in to date.

Please reject the Applicant's submission identified as AS-167 in full.

End.

Tessa Wojtczak