

Dear Secretary of State,

**Re: Energy Infrastructure Projects
and Community**

Impacts in East Suffolk

**I am writing as a local resident of
Walberswick to contribute to the
discussion regarding the cumulative
impact of major energy
infrastructure projects, such as Sea
Link and LionLink, across East
Suffolk.**

**I have been following your request of
28 August for further information on
these developments. While I
appreciate the complexity of meeting
our national energy goals, recent
findings from Ofgem and the
National Audit Office (NAO) suggest**

that a careful re-evaluation is necessary to ensure these projects remain cost-effective and appropriate for the region.

Project Costs and Scope Changes
Recent evaluations have raised questions regarding the original planning metrics. Ofgem's valuation of Sea Link at £3.2 billion—notable compared to earlier figures discussed during the DCO examination—highlights the importance of rigorous financial scrutiny.

Furthermore, changes to associated projects, such as the repositioning of the Nautilus interconnector away from Friston, mean that the original capacity justifications for Sea Link have evolved. Given these shifts,

exploring alternatives such as upgrading existing pylon corridors warrants independent assessment.

Local Impacts of LionLink

Regarding the LionLink proposal, the proximity of the proposed landfall site (G3) to residential areas in Walberswick presents significant logistical and environmental challenges:

Construction Disruption: Prolonged works, including 24-hour horizontal directional drilling (HDD), risk creating sustained noise, light, and traffic disruption over a multi-year period.

Infrastructure Bottlenecks: Heavy reliance on the single access route of the B1387 raises valid logistical concerns regarding local traffic capacity and emergency access for residents and visitors.

Environmental and Economic Considerations:

Protecting delicate local wildlife habitats and safeguarding the regional tourism economy remain vital priorities for the community.

Consumer Value: Questions remain regarding how an interconnector operating primarily as an export route aligns with domestic consumer pricing and benefit.

Moving Forward

While the transition to Net Zero is broadly supported, local communities want to ensure that infrastructure is coordinated, cost-effective, and proportionate.

Before decisions are finalised, I respectfully request that the Government:

Independently assess alternative approaches to Sea Link, including upgraded corridor options.

Re-evaluate the economic and consumer case for LionLink using up-to-date evidence.

**Prioritise coordinated offshore
solutions that minimize onshore
disruption.**

**Thank you for your time,
consideration, and dedication to
balancing national energy needs with
the protection of local communities.**

Yours sincerely,

Yvonne Strutt

