

To: The Rt Hon Miatta Fahnbulleh MP, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero,

c/o: Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery Team, DESNZ

Via Email: SouthEastAngliaLink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Subject: Sea Link (EN020026) – Request for Information

Dear Secretary of State

I was an interested party of the examination and made written and oral representations.

Since its conclusion there have been 2 highly material developments : first OFGEM has revealed that the true cost of Sea Link is approximately £3.2billion almost exactly 3 times the figure given by NGET in its DCO application and never updated or corrected. Secondly OFGEM tells us there is a harmonics issue which calls into question the viability of whole project. This must have been known to NGET before the end of the examination but again was kept from the inspectors.

The key point for you to consider is that the project could be delivered at a fraction of the cost by upgrading pylons. We are talking about something in the order of £300million as compared with £3.2 billion . The cost will be passed on to consumers. The new administration has placed at its heart helping with the cost of living and here is an opportunity to save something in the order of £100 per household. I urge you therefore to withhold consent and require that a proper feasibility study be undertaken of the cheaper and simpler pylon alternative.

It is important to emphasise that there is no risk whatever that this would delay net zero or the achieving of the desired interconnectedness within the grid. With the relocation of Nautilus from Suffolk to Kent the capacity demand addressed by Sea Link has reduced from 1852 MW to 352MW and even this will only arise if at all at the end of the next decade.

Yours sincerely

Anthony Fincham

