

o: The Rt Hon Miatta Fahnbulleh MP, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero,
c/o: Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery Team, DESNZ

Dear Secretary of State,

SEA LINK – THERE'S A CHEAPER, FASTER ALTERNATIVE

I understand you have requested additional information regarding the Sea Link DCO. Two recent reports from Ofgem and the National Audit Office, raised significant queries about the proposed Sea Link project regarding costs, the ability to deliver and fundamentally about value for money. It is critical with major infrastructure projects are necessary, proportionate and provide genuine value for money for consumers.

Ofgem highlights that Sea Link will cost ~ £3.2 bn – three times the cost (£1.1bn) stated at the DCO examination raising questions on reliability and transparency of the applicant.

I understand there are both significant technical issues (todo with harmonics) and deficit issues regarding the relocation of the proposed Nautilus interconnector.

During the DCO examination, an alternative approach was highlighted by the Suffolk Energy Action Solutions (SEAS) group, however this appears to have been dismissed without any sound evidence. This apparently is a significantly cheaper approach which could be delivered more quickly.

Fundamental questions must be asked of the developer as to their motives. As a resident of East Suffolk the apparent reckless spending of tax-payers money and lack of common sense in co-ordinated planning with so many infrastructure projects is blighting our area and we are exhausted in dealing with organisations that have no interest in local communities or ensuring that there is true value for money in projects.

I support the transition to Net Zero and recognise that Britain's electricity network needs substantial investment but this does not mean spending billions of pounds on new infrastructure when cheaper / better alternatives are available.

I therefore urge the Government to conduct an unbiased review to ensure the proposals / options represent the best value for money to the tax-payer i.e. you and me.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Parker (BEM)

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