

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

Dear Secretary of State

## **Sealink**

In your letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> August you requested further information from several parties regarding the Sea Link DCO.

I am writing as a result of the two reports from Ofgem and the National Audit office which raises questions about the potential problems of delivery, the increased cost and value for money for the proposed Sea Link project.

Ofgem now estimate that the Sea Link project will be £3.2 billion which is three times the amount presented in the DCO examination – how can this be?

National Grid originally presented a cost of £1.1 billion but Ofgem now estimate the true cost to be £3.2 billion. How can there be such a difference and how can this exorbitant amount be justified?

SEAS have already a different far cheaper alternative which is to upgrade the existing pylon connections in Suffolk and Kent for which the cost will be just £300 million – a saving of £3 billion!

We all accept that in order to achieve Net Zero serious investment will be required , but value for public money is also essential. To spend £3.2 billion will mean that National Grid will expect to recoup this expenditure from the consumers.

Not only will the SEAS proposal be much cheaper but it will be much quicker to deliver and also reduce the inevitable damage to the environment as well as the upset to communities for years to come.

I urge you to give this vital national issue your consideration.

Yours Sincerely.

Michael Hills

