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South East Anglia Link

Dear Secretary of State

I see you requested further information on 28 August 2026. I felt it necessary to write to you because of serious questions raised about the increase cost and the effectiveness of several projects along the East coast. I absolutely agree to the government reducing household bills and energy costs, I also realise the extreme position we have with the war in Ukraine and Iran but it has to be addressed regarding the genuine value for money with all these energy related projects happening in a similar timeframe along a fragile, unpredictable and eroding East coastline.

There has to be transparency and regulatory control of costs. Consumers must be protected, especially when we pay the highest costs in Europe if not the world.

Ofgem has assessed Sea Link at approximately £3.2 billion, 3 times the original examination. Where was the transparency? National Grid estimated £1.1 billion despite SEAS challenging the figure and the true cost approximately £3.2 billion. Ofgem assessed Sealink and confirmed the figure put forward. Why are decisions allowed to affect communities without true costs?

Ofgem has also identified unresolved issues which may require additional work elsewhere before it can operate its intended capacity. There are so many issues arising from these projects I implore you to investigate fully, the true cost to consumers delivering Sea Link, it affects all of us as tax payers.

SEAS has time and time again identified an alternative based on upgrading, re-conductoring existing pylon corridors, the cost is enormously reduced and so to the human cost.

Consumer protection investigation into Lion Link must happen also, this affects the Suffolk coast. Lion Link is a private enterprise and what makes it worse is the energy will not even be green for a long time.

Lion Link has proposed G3, yet another site, G and G2 were discarded with the outrageous excuse, moved it further away from the village. Half of the village homes are within 500m some much closer. The construction taken over 2 years and beyond, will be catastrophic for the community, protected and scientifically protected wildlife sites plus severe traffic disruption. I cannot believe any human thought was considered in this project.

Achieving Net Zero should not cause unnecessary ill thought out projects railroading a vulnerable coastline. A community seminar was not even considered by Lion Link when they moved the site to G3. The community had to tell them how wrong this was and to invite a meeting with them?!

As communities we have a duty to protect this fragile vulnerable east coastline it is for future generations, it cannot be enviromentally damaged it will never recover. These projects Sealink, LionLink have to be reassessed using current evidence.

Yours Sincerely

Chris Collie

