

From: Ivor Eisenstadt
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2026 11:59
To: South East Anglia Link
Subject: Fw: Sea Link (EN020026) – Request for Information

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Dear Secretary of State,

SEA LINK – A CHEAPER ALTERNATIVE MUST BE EXAMINED

I support the transition to Net Zero and recognise the need to strengthen Britain's electricity grid. But this must be achieved in a way that protects communities, the environment and consumers.

Sea Link would bring substantial new infrastructure into East Suffolk, adding to the cumulative impact of major energy developments on our countryside, communities, wildlife and landscape.

At the same time, the estimated cost of Sea Link has risen dramatically. Ofgem is now considering a project cost of around **£3.2 billion**, compared with the approximately **£1.1 billion** figure presented during the DCO examination.

There may be a much less damaging and less expensive alternative.

Suffolk Energy Action Solutions (SEAS) has proposed upgrading and reconductoring existing transmission corridors in Suffolk and Kent. SEAS estimates this could cost **less than £300 million** and potentially be delivered more quickly, while making greater use of infrastructure that already exists.

If those estimates withstand independent scrutiny, the potential saving is approaching **£3 billion**.

That is an extraordinary sum of money. At a time of intense pressure on public finances and household budgets, the Government should consider the wider opportunity cost of expenditure on this scale. Billions saved on unnecessary infrastructure could ultimately reduce costs borne by consumers and free economic and public resources for priorities such as the **NHS, social care and other essential services**.

East Suffolk should not suffer avoidable environmental damage and years of disruption if the necessary grid capacity can be provided by upgrading existing infrastructure at a fraction of the cost.

I therefore urge you, before any final commitment to Sea Link, to require a **fully independent and transparent comparison of Sea Link and the SEAS alternative**, covering cost, delivery time, network capacity, environmental impact and disruption to local communities.

If an alternative can meet the required network need for substantially less money and with substantially less environmental damage, it deserves to be properly examined before billions of pounds are committed.

Yours sincerely,

Ivor Eisenstadt

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