

From: Mel Haselden [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 September 2026 20:31
To: South East Anglia Link <SouthEastAngliaLink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Cc: jenny Riddell-Carpenter MP [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: National Grid Sea Link (and LionLink) // Urgent

Dear Planning Inspectorate,

I am forwarding my letter written to Miatta Fahnbulleh, Secretary of State for DESNZ, yesterday.

I hadn't realised I should also have sent my letter to your above email address <southeastanglialink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk> – apologies for the error, and I hope/trust you will include it in correspondence.

With thanks and best wishes,

Mel Haselden

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mel Haselden [REDACTED]

Subject: National Grid Sea Link (and LionLink) // Urgent

Date: 18 September 2026 at 19:55:10 BST

To: Secretary.State@energysecurity.gov.uk

Cc: Jenny Riddell-Carpenter MP [REDACTED]

The Rt Hon Miatta Fahnbulleh MP

Secretary of State / DESNZ

55 Whitehall

London

SW1A 2HP

18 September 2026

Dear Miatta Fahnbulleh,

National Grid Sea Link and National Grid LionLink

I understand you are seeking further information about National Grid Sea Link's DCO request with regard to their proposed NSIP on the East Anglian Heritage Coast.

Please may I refer you to my recent email/letter of 18 August 26 in which I expressed my concerns about the DCO process and the unprecedented spatial concentration burden of multiple evolving NSIPs within this small Suffolk Coastal region.

As previously, I enclose a locator map for visual context and perspective.

More recently I have copied you in to separate emails to National Grid Sea Link and National Grid LionLink (each with their separate DCOs which are at different stages).

Over the past year I have been in regular contact with DESNZ Correspondence Unit. For information, they assigned me reference number **TOB2026/12096** to which all previous correspondence will be linked.

National Grid

National Grid is a multinational investor-owned, profit-making, private-sector commercial enterprise. Here at Suffolk Coastal we feel keenly our responsibility towards Net Zero, yet their ongoing proposals will destroy and disrupt the very thing Net Zero aims to protect and preserve - a critical environmental infrastructure for biodiversity and wildlife which we are national custodians of.

Far superior, innovative, economic solutions – including offshore grid and brownfield sites and hubs closer to centres of demand – have been identified in what is now a totally different geo-political climate, with a very different set of energy requirements and national security concerns.

You will know that we are already struggling to navigate - with good grace - the immense disruptive impacts of Sizewell C construction (9 to 12 year project).

Scottish Power Renewables / Iberdrola - another multinational investor-owned, profit making, private-sector commercial enterprise - have already commenced work on EA1N and EA2 (each with separate DCOs). Iberdrola's jack-up barge/rig *Haven SeaChallenger* currently sits nearby off the coast in preparation for Thorpeness landfill HDD works.

Clear and Present National Security Risk

Quite apart from the untenable spatial concentration of separate, expanding NSIPs, it is deeply worrying that the clear and present national security risk this targeted concentration poses appears not to have been considered or assessed.

Here at Suffolk Coastal we feel unheard, unseen, and unsafe.

In recent correspondence with National Grid LionLink, I was alarmed to learn the following:

“There is no single consent process that assesses all projects collectively.”

[National Grid LionLink / 21 August email]

"The legislative and regulatory framework that governs how such projects are assessed, consented, and connected to the electricity network is set at a national level."

[National Grid LionLink / 09 September email]

With this in mind I was encouraged to learn of the recently published **Electricity Transmission Design Principles** and would like to ask how these will be implemented with regard to the thus far unmonitored, critical set of circumstances we find ourselves in on the East Anglian Heritage Coast?

I appreciate these are exceptionally challenging times for the Government and am grateful for your insight and oversight in these matters.

I hope, at the very least, that DCOs which are currently in process will be paused in order for a full, rigorous, collective national energy – and national security – assessment and review to take place.

I look forward to hearing from you and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

With very best wishes,

Mel

Mel Haselden

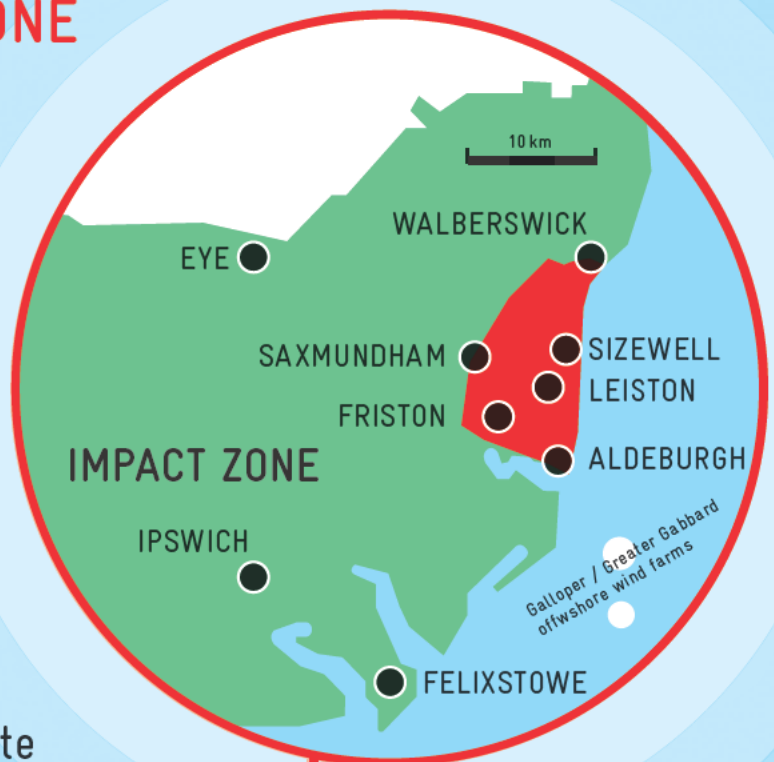


CUMULATIVE IMPACT ZONE

Designated area for concentration of multiple Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects:

Gigawatt [GW] rated power:

3.2 GW	Sizewell C Power Plant
1.2 GW	Sizewell B Power Plant
2.0 GW	Sea Link Cable Route
2.0 GW	LionLink Cable Route
1.7 GW	Scottish Power Renewables EA1N & EA2
0.504 GW	Greater Gabbard Offshore Wind Farm
0.353 GW	Galloper Offshore Wind Farm
10.957 GW	TOTAL



SUFFOLK

The cumulative effect of these projects would be to concentrate almost 11GW of energy infrastructure within a single stretch of the Suffolk coast – equivalent to around 30% of the UK's average electricity demand.

Added to this mounting infrastructure burden, communities will face further trenching and cabling associated with The Suffolk Water Recycling, Transfer and Storage Project which is expected to support Sizewell C and a proposed AI Data Centre in Eye.

LINK: <https://www.suffolkenergyactionsolutions.co.uk>