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The Rt Hon. Miatta Fahnbulleh MP.
Dept for Energy Security & Net Zero
55 Whitehall
London SW1A 2HP

12 September 2026

Dear Ms. Fahnbulleh

Re: URGENT R.F.I RESPONSE: SEAL NK (EN020026) – Save Minster Marshes, Pegwell Bay & the Former Hoverport

I am writing on behalf of my family & myself again regarding the above. I wish to draw to your attention the growing concerns both locally & further afield because of the likely devastating consequences if this project goes ahead, not only the environmental impacts but also the substantial public expenditure involved. There are serious questions that remain regarding transparency, Value for money & due process. Billions of pounds of public money are being requested yet meaningful scrutiny by the public is impossible because the contract remains confidential. The full project cost has not been made available & has not been updated from 2018 prices. There are numerous foreseeable additional costs and risks to this project. The project is proposed on marshland adjacent to a river, in an area internationally recognised for its Roman archaeological significance and

and Pegwell Bay & the surrounding farmland is known to have been used for wartime bomb disposal. These issues were raised during the consultation process so it is difficult to understand why these matters were not fully identified & costed.

The question for tax payers is simple: if such predictable costs were overlooked, what confidence can there be that further cost increases will not follow?

Even more troubling after N.E. obtaining permission from Thanet District Council to strip land for further archaelogical investigations. There is now substantial activity taking place before the Secretary of State for DE.S.N.2 has made a final consent decision.

Heavy plant has been brought to the site & activity appears consistent with preparations for either stabilising the marsh or discovering unexploded ordnance.

Neither of these activites have been given permission by T.D.C who allowed passive ground investigations not earth moving

If work is effectively progressing before consent is granted then this creates the perception that the outcome has already been decided. Public trust depends on decisions being made before major works commence NOT AFTER.

This project is not simply an infrastructure project on brownfield land. Pegwell Bay is a SSSI, RAMSAR protected. Internationally known by many visitors - Minster

Marshes & Pegwell Bay & associated SSSI including the wildlife corridor linking Minster Stream & the River Stour support 203 species including 35 RED LISTED & 40 AMBER LISTED Species.

These include the critically endangered European Eels Turtle doves, butterflies, water Voles Beavers & large colonies of grey & Common seals.

The destruction of this habitat would be irreversible There are alternatives!

To witness N Rs. work beginning in advance of the S of S decision is profoundly disturbing while serious questions remain regarding need & value for money.

Please note the date of this letter.

I would ask that you call for an immediate halt to the works which should not have been commenced prior to Consent.

Thank you for reading.

Yours Sincerely

[redacted]

Mrs. VALERIE ANNE SCOTT

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