

Further to the recent consultation meetings, I want to add further comments. It seems the applicant/s have done the absolute minimum by way of investigating the full details and consequences of the proposed route. They have failed to carry out full and proper surveys with regard to the impact on wildlife (including protected species), traffic (the lack of roads in the area and existing issues of congestion), tourism - potential for many years of disruption to the beach and roads, which could be devastating to the local economy. They have sought to minimise the disruption by being economical with the truth. Describing the drilling as "trenchless" makes it sound less intrusive, but there will still be access points in and out of the drilling points, as well as the need for compounds to store equipment, noise, dust etc. The applicant is vague about how long the project might take and that the work might be done in phases, meaning further disruption and possible permanent, irreversible damage to sand dunes, farming land, wildlife, tourism.

They are reluctant to take responsibility for the decision-making by stating it is National Grid's decision. They have given no reasons at all for the lack of consideration into the alternative, much more viable route at Hillhouse.