

Eastangliaonenorth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

5 July 2021

Eastangliatwo@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

East Anglia One (North) and East Anglia Two Offshore Windfarms.

SUFFOLK PRESERVATION SOCIETY Ref no: 20023705

Deadline 13 submission.

I am writing on behalf of the Suffolk Preservation Society (SPS) at the close of the Examination into the East Anglia One (North) and East Anglia Two Offshore Windfarm schemes **to urge that the Secretary of State is recommended to return a split decision.**

SPS acknowledges the contribution that renewable energy will make towards securing the Nation's future energy needs and in our written representations have accepted that projects such as these will be delivered. However, we have consistently raised strong objections to the selection of the Friston site for the EA1(N), EA2 and National Grid onshore substations which will result in significant harm to the landscape and designated and undesignated heritage assets. Furthermore, we have raised serious concerns regarding the cumulative landscape and heritage impacts of the proposed onshore infrastructure with future energy projects including Sizewell C, Eurolink, Nautilus, Greater Gabbard and the Galloper extension.

We therefore fully endorse the views of the local campaign groups SASES and SEAS in calling for a more coordinated delivery of renewable energy schemes in East Suffolk. SPS has previously called for an offshore ringmain to obviate the need for onshore substations by providing a long term, sustainable solution to the delivery of electricity from the North Sea zone to the National Grid. Alternatively, where an on-shore installation is required, we have called for these to be co-located with other energy infrastructure in order to minimise harm to the wider environment of Suffolk, our natural and built heritage, our landscapes and the communities who live within them.

SPS therefore urges that the Secretary of State is recommended to return a split decision with regards to the EA1(N) and EA2 DCO applications which would allow the progression of the offshore element while ensuring a less damaging solution to energy transmission is sought.

The split decision approach to the current DCOs is endorsed by Therese Coffey MP as well as local campaign groups SASES and SEAS. In her deadline 10 submission (May 2021) Therese Coffey highlights the opportunity and suitability for the EA1(N) and EA2 schemes to engage with the BEIS Review as a 'Pathfinder' project and identifies the long-term potential capacity of Bradwell as an integrated Wind Energy Hub on a brownfield site and the potential to connect an offshore platform to the Bramford NGET substation, as alternatives options to the Friston site.

In summary, SPS objects to the site selection of Friston and does not consider that the significant visual and landscape impacts of the substations and associated infrastructure are capable of effective mitigation. We therefore endorse a split decision approach to the current EA1(N) and EA2 DCO applications which would allow for more appropriate alternatives to be pursued.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bethany Philbidge', with a small flourish at the end.

**Bethany Philbidge BSc (Hons) MSc (Town Planning) MRTPI
Planning Officer**