

THE ALDEBURGH SOCIETY
(Registered Charity Number 262239)

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Scottish Power Renewables

Scottish Power House

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Aldeburgh Society Response to Scottish Power Renewables' decision to proceed with the Friston site despite reaction to the phase 3.5 Public Consultation Exercise

The Aldeburgh Society is very concerned that SPR intends to proceed with the Grove Wood, Friston site despite the many objections it received in response to the Phase 3.5 consultation. For all the reasons we as a Society put forth in response to this and the previous phase of the consultation, we object strongly to this choice and call for both the landfall and substation sites to be situated in brownfield land at Sizewell if this project has to go ahead at all.

We reiterate that the proposed transport routes for the construction traffic associated with these projects simply cannot work and must therefore not proceed. The plan to route HGVs used in the construction of the landfall site at Thorpeness from the A12 down the A1094 to Aldeburgh and up the B1122 to the B1353 and to Thorpeness is clearly unacceptable.

We repeat that the current proposals envisage HGVs coming into Aldeburgh down the Saxmundham Road and turning at the Tesco roundabout to take the Leiston Road are simply not feasible. The route is clearly not wide enough to allow two way HGV traffic. For the reasons stated in our earlier response this attack on the safety of Aldeburgh residents cannot be allowed.

We urge SPR again to consider accessing the landfall site by sea.

There needs to be a re-evaluation of the location of both the landfall and substation sites, and we would suggest brownfield land at Sizewell for both to minimise environmental damage. On top of the intractable transport difficulties, the cliffs to the north of Thorpeness are a very precious landscape area which would be seriously damaged by an onshore cable route being placed there.

The current proposals remain unacceptable to the Society and we trust that the points raised will be addressed in the next phase. I emphasize that we as a civic society are very cognizant and supportive of the move to renewable energy as long as all reasonable steps are taken to minimise the adverse effect of such moves on the local environment particularly in an AONB. We cannot emphasise strongly enough how imperative it is for a comprehensive strategy for all energy projects to be developed to stop each development being considered on a piecemeal basis.

Yours sincerely

Katherine Mackie

Chair

