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Template for letter to Scottish Power re Windfarms

Your address

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Response to Phase 4 / Section 42 Consultation – East Anglia Two and One North Offshore Wind Farm

We object strongly to the piecemeal approach to energy infrastructure development being adopted by Scottish Power Renewables and EDF who are consulting at this very same time on the Sizewell C and D nuclear power stations. The effect of both projects going ahead together would result in up to 12 years of major construction work on our heritage coast in the AONB. This is clearly unacceptable.

In relation to this Scottish Power Renewables' consultation, we oppose the proposals to put the substations at Friston and as residents of Aldeburgh object most strenuously to the proposed transport routes for the construction traffic associated with the windfarm projects.

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 makes no sense. The proposals involve up to 110 HGV movements a day coming into Aldeburgh down the Saxmundham Road and turning at the Tesco roundabout to take the Leiston Road. SPR claim that the route is wide enough to allow two way HGV traffic. This is not credible. The roundabout is already a pinch point, always congested and used by schoolchildren on their way to and from Aldeburgh primary school, residents going to the two supermarkets and the pub as well as those using the Jubilee Path. This area is already the most heavily-used pedestrian and vehicle access route in the town.

The proposed A1094/B1122 route would require substantial reconstruction of the approach roads to and from the roundabout which would bring chaos to the town causing wholesale disruption, pollution and adversely affect the town's key tourist industry.

Thought must be given to accessing the landfall site by sea and/or (if Thorpeness has to be the landfall site) using the Sizewell Gap Road once the eastern section of the cable corridor haul road is constructed (as stated in your Traffic and Transport Factsheet.)

The land-based substations to be built as part of the proposed development associated with these wind farms will have a substantial impact on the natural environment. Buildings of this type should not be built in an AONB and the NPPF states that development in an AONB should **only take place in exceptional circumstances**. Ideally the substations should be sited on brownfield sites well away from villages and well screened.

We ask SPR to take account of the fact that combined windfarm and Sizewell C and D projects are likely to have a considerable adverse impact on the communities, environment and businesses in the area and on Aldeburgh in particular and to rethink its approach to the traffic and transport issues associated with the windfarm developments in particular.

Yours faithfully

Cc Greg Clark, Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy - enquiries@beis.gov.uk

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