

Dear Councillors,

Now that the applications for EDF's Sizewell C and Scottish Power Renewables' EA1N & EA2 projects are with the Planning Inspectorate, our concerns about the cumulative impact of these and a further 6 prospective energy infrastructure projects are starting to be realised. These massive projects require a huge amount of attention at a time when town and parish councils are dealing with the ongoing pandemic. With a number of deadlines looming, this seems a good time to provide you with a brief but important update on the current position.

Scottish Power Renewables (SPR) - EA1N & EA2

Examination of the SPR's applications for EA1N & EA2 began on 6th October after completion of the Preliminary Hearing. The first Open Floor Hearings (OFH) were held virtually on 7-9 October. These were recorded and are now available on the EA1N & EA2 project pages of the PINS website. Huge thanks to everyone who spoke at these hearings. There were many excellent contributions including from the Rt. Hon Therese Coffey - MP for Suffolk Coastal, town and parish councillors, community groups and local residents.

The OFHs were over-subscribed so the Examining Authority (ExA) has decided to hold further OFHs (4 & 5) on 5th & 6th November. There will also be further OFHs w/c 18 January and/or w/c 25 January 2021. If you have not already registered to speak at an OFH and wish to do so, the deadline for notifying PINS is **Monday 2nd November**. This is also the deadline for receipt by PINS of Written Representations (WRs). These are a more detailed version of the Relevant Representations submitted when registering as an Interested Party.

They are a crucial part of the evidence to the ExA from Interested Parties and the views of town and parish councils are of great importance. WRs exceeding 1500 words should be accompanied by a summary. **Monday 2nd November** is also the deadline for anyone wishing to speak at the Issue Specific Hearings 1 and 2; and for lists of where we believe Inspectors should visit for their unaccompanied visits such as pinch points, landscape views which would be lost, quiet lanes, footpaths, road junctions etc. The ExA have said they would welcome supporting photographs. Further details of the Examination Timetable are set out in an annex to the Rule 8

letter. https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wpcontent/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010077/EN010077-002409-200929_Rule%20%20Letter_EA1Nv2%20

The SASES website also has some useful guidelines. <https://sases.org.uk/>

EDF - Sizewell C

On 15th October EDF issued a press release announcing its intention to make changes in its application so significant that further public consultations are required. EDF filed its documents with PINS on 6th October - less than a week after the Section 56 period ended and nearly 1300 Relevant Representations had been submitted. All concerned parties must respond to the new consultation by EDF. Collectively we face the possibility that we may have to review and possibly re-write our Relevant Representations.

PINS has written to all Interested Parties about these changes. This is what we now know.

- EDF is considering 14 changes, some more significant than others. These are summarised at the end of this email.
- EDF intends to hold public consultations for 30 days, starting W/C 16 November. We will be expected to send responses to EDF by mid December.
- EDF intends to formally submit its revised proposals to PINS in W/C 11 January 2021.
- PINS will then decide which changes are "material" (ie significantly different), whether the changes can be accepted, and what impact they will have on the examination. EDF hopes this will be by the end of January.
- The Preliminary Meeting, which may in ordinary circumstances have taken place in late November, will not take place until after the above.

While any improvements to the application are to be welcomed, the decision to hold another consultation so soon after the end of Section 56 has created a great deal of confusion and frustration, particularly as it's now evident that these new proposals have been in development for some weeks. Councils, NGOs, community groups and affected residents have invested valuable time, resources and energy into dealing with a 56,000 page application while simultaneously dealing with an ongoing pandemic and other local issues including the SPR examination. We understand that some of you have already written to PINS to express your concerns about this added burden. There is also interest in sending a joint letter once we know more details. You can find more information on the Stop Sizewell C (formerly TEAGS) website which will be updated as new information becomes available. <https://stopsizewellc.org/>

The industrialisation of a rural area on such a scale is unprecedented and will, we believe, have a lasting adverse impact on the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB and surrounding countryside which will be felt all along the A12 corridor. We therefore remain committed to ensuring that everyone in our region is aware of the massive implications of these planning applications.

With best wishes.

Graeme Murray - Chair, AEPA

Very brief summary of EDF's changes

- 1. Trains** - EDF considers four rather than three trains to be feasible - at night - and is investigating the possibility of them running at weekends.
- 2. Beach Landing Facility** - EDF says details on how this will be changed to allow for bulk materials are being finalised, but that "*some significant environmental effects cannot yet be ruled out*".
- 3. Relocation of "B" facilities:** EDF says it is intending to reuse Sizewell A land to avoid building a carpark on Pillbox Field. A separate application for planning permission is being prepared for East Suffolk Council.
- 4. Heights/Activities on the main development site:** EDF needs an additional stockpile and to increase working heights on the main

development site.

5. Water Resources Storage Area: this will be relocated to within the quarries and spoil-heaps and more flood mitigation storage will be introduced.

6. SSSI Crossing: EDF proposes to introduce *"additional flood relief culverts"*.

7. Tree Retention: EDF will need to chop more trees down.

8. Beach Outfall: an outfall will be needed for 2 years before the Combined Drainage Outfall is ready, to remove surface water from the construction site.

9. Sea Defences. EDF is still designing the hard coastal defence feature, and may need to increase the minimum height.

10. Southern Park & Ride: an extended landscaping bund around the Park & Ride site/Traffic Incident Management Area is proposed.

11. Compensatory Habitats: another fen meadow habitat near Pakenham in West Suffolk

12. Maybe more land needed for the Sizewell Link Road, Yoxford roundabout and Two Villages Bypass.

13. Impact on landowners: very unclear - possible compulsory purchase of new land if *"severance, injurious affection and/or disturbance"* can be reduced

14. Removing land no longer needed from the plans.

EDF is additionally proposing to share technical reports - especially related to coastal processes - referenced in the DCO that are not in the public domain and were *"unintentionally omitted from the application"*