

THEBERTON AND EASTBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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To: Humphrey Cadoux-Hudson EDF Energy, cc Paul Morton, Julia Pyke, Carly Vince, Richard Bull, Tom McGarry
cc Therese Coffey MP, Peter Aldous MP, Dan Poulter MP
cc Planning Inspectorate, Sizewell C Case Team
cc Cllr Richard Rout, Suffolk County Council, Cllr Craig Rivett, East Suffolk Council

31 March 2020

We welcome your decision not to submit your application for a Development Consent Order for Sizewell C for “a few weeks” but given the seriousness of this medical crisis and the significant national and local impacts of Sizewell C, we do not consider a short delay to be acceptable. We acknowledge that you propose to extend the period for registration as interested parties, but Government advice is that restrictions on free movement and gatherings could last in some form or other for most of the year.

- We are concerned that the Planning Inspectorate may not have the resources to be able to assess the DCO application properly in the first 28 days. Already PINS staff are working remotely and it is difficult for members of the public to be in contact with them.
- County and District Councils, which are mandated to respond to questions about EDF’s Community consultation during this initial 28 day period, may not have the resources due to sickness and remote-working to fully deal with the application. Additionally, relevant officers should not be distracted from focusing on keeping vital local services operating during this time.
- If the application is accepted, it may be impossible to view documentation in hard copy and local printing resources are limited at present. Whilst some documents can be viewed digitally those who do not use the internet will be discriminated against, and the experience of Parishes at Hinkley Point was that some documents - such as maps - were impossible to view properly online.
- Parish and Town Councils are prevented from meeting in person and with the public for the foreseeable future and our ability to respond and engage with the public will be significantly compromised as a result.
- Wider public engagement in the examination process will be severely compromised. We are especially concerned about the ability of the older and more vulnerable members of our society to fully and effectively engage, who are self-isolating, unwell, and are less likely to have access to digital and online resources. Extending the period for registration is unlikely to assist such members of our society.

All of the above combine to make us very concerned about the robustness of the process and full and effective engagement on a project that has significant impacts across the County. We call on you to defer submitting your DCO until such time as the

Planning Inspectorate, Government's Statutory Advisers, Local Authorities, Parish and Town Councils, Groups and individuals are fully resourced, able to engage, and all restrictions on public gatherings have been permanently lifted.

Sharon Q. Smith

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Clerk, Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council, on behalf of Stephen Brett, Chair and Tim Beach, Chair, Snape Parish Council and the following 51 additional Parish and Town Councils:

Aldeburgh Town Council	Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council
Aldringham-cum-Thorpe Parish Council	Levington and Stratton Hall Parish Council
Bawdsey Parish Council	Marlesford Parish Council
Benhall and Sternfield Parish Council	Martlesham Parish Council
Blaxhall Parish Council	Melton Parish Council
Brandeston Parish Council	Middleton Parish Council
Bredfield Parish Council	Nacton Parish Council
Bromeswell Parish Council	Parham Parish Council
Bungay Town Council	Peasenhall Parish Council
Butley, Capel St Andrew and Wantisden Parish Council	Pettistree Parish Council
Campsea Ashe Parish Council	Rendham Parish Council
Charsfield Parish Council	Saxmundham Town Council
Chillesford Parish Meeting	Southwold Town Council
Corton Parish Council	Sudbourne Parish Council
Darsham Parish Council	Sutton Parish Council
Dunwich Parish Meeting	Sweffling Parish Council
Earl Soham Parish Council	Ufford Parish Council
Farnham with Stratford St Andrew Parish Council	Waldringfield Parish Council
Friston Parish Council	Wenhaston Parish Council
Great Glemham Parish Council	Westerfield Parish Council
Hacheston Parish Council	Westleton Parish Council
Halesworth Town Council	Wickham Market Parish Council
Iken Parish Council	Wissett Parish Council
Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council	Woodbridge Town Council
Kirton and Falkenham Parish Council	Yoxford Parish Council
Knodishall Parish Council	

In addition to those formally signing above, Walberswick and Great Bealings Parish Councils also expressed considerable concern.