

To: Councillor Matthew Hicks: Leader, Suffolk County Council
To: Councillor Steve Gallant; Leader, East Suffolk Council
cc by email EDF, Council Cabinet members, Officers, Therese Coffey MP and Dan Poulter MP

24 June 2020

Dear Cllr Hicks and Cllr Gallant,

We applaud your previously expressed concerns about the impacts of covid-19 on the Sizewell C planning process and your call to EDF to "*delay the Section 56 consultation until such time as all parties...are satisfied that appropriate public engagement can take place.*"¹

Despite some recent easing of the lockdown, we continue to have serious concerns about our ability - and the ability of our members - to fully participate. Now that PINS has accepted EDF's DCO application for examination, we strongly urge you to press EDF to pause the Section 56 public engagement period whilst the people of Suffolk and our groups remain disadvantaged. We face ongoing restrictions in holding public events and limitations in being able to easily view DCO materials offline. Moreover, covid has created serious capacity constraints for many organisations, with key personnel on furlough, re-deployed, still shielding (as are many of our supporters), or focused on pandemic-related issues.

We further ask you to send a strong message to the Planning Inspectorate that the scale and complexity of the Sizewell C application means it is totally unsuitable for digital examination.

Signed:



Alison Downes, Executive Director, Stop Sizewell C, alison@stopsizewellc.org on behalf of:
Adam Rowlands, Suffolk Area Manager, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Ben McFarland, Head of Conservation, Suffolk Wildlife Trust
David Wood, Chairman of the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB Partnership
Nick Collinson, National Trust, General Manager – Suffolk & Essex Coast
Fiona Cairns, Suffolk Preservation Society
Harry Young, Chairman, The Suffolk Coast Destination Management Organisation
Pete Wilkinson, Chair, Together Against Sizewell C
Rachel Fulcher, Coordinator, Suffolk Coastal Friends of the Earth
Paul Collins, Secretary, Minsmere Levels Stakeholder Group
Charles Macdowell, Chair, B1122 Action Group
Graeme Murray, Chair, Anglian Energy Planning Alliance
Daphne Havart, Secretary, Shut Down Sizewell Campaign

¹ Your letter to EDF of 9 April 2020