



Your ref MC82018fi2226

Our ref

Date 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Please ask for Philip Ridley

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The Rt Hon Claire Perry MP  
Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth  
Department for Business, Energy &  
Industrial Strategy  
1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET

Dear Ms Perry

**RE: Energy Projects proposed on the Suffolk Coast in the vicinity of Sizewell.**

On behalf of myself, and Cllr Andrew Reid of Suffolk County Council, I would like to thank-you for meeting with us, Therese Coffey MP, and colleagues on 24<sup>th</sup> July to discuss the proposed energy projects coming forward in the sensitive area around Sizewell, in east Suffolk. These significant developments are proposed here so as to take advantage of available grid capacity at Sizewell. We are appreciative of your clear understanding of the scale of the impacts on our communities that we have to address whilst acknowledging these developments are necessary to enable us to have security of energy supply.

Our two councils do not wish to unnecessarily resist these proposals but need to ensure that if they are to take place that they are sensitive to the special qualities of this protected area. Your clear statement from you in our meeting that you expect the promoters to work together with us to minimise the cumulative effects of the proposals provides us with the comfort that there is support for us pursuing the strategy we want to take forward to get the best solution possible. The two councils will be writing to the promoters informing them that we met and referring, as you suggested, to your expectation that we all work together, along with the statutory bodies to resolve the understandable concerns.

We will also be writing to you shortly to formally request that you Direct, as provided for in s35 of the 2008 Act, that the National Grid Ventures proposals be accepted as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. Your agreement to this will enable the cumulative impacts of all these proposals to be properly considered through the one consenting regime.

The next 10 years will see significant energy development in this area which will put added pressure on our infrastructure, especially roads and rail access which will face unparalleled increases in capacity using them. Timely delivery of the required mitigation is critical as we have highlighted to you. There are, despite all these challenges, significant opportunities we want to embrace, to maximise the local benefit. Your support, and that of your colleagues and officials is important to us and we look forward to continue to work with you in the future to get the right outcome. Our two councils would also be pleased to host a visit from you to see for yourself the scale of the challenge, and the opportunity, and look forward to hearing from you shortly.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Geoff Holdcroft  
Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Economic Development  
Suffolk Coastal District Council

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**Suffolk Coastal District Council**

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