



## SCOTTISH POWER EA1N AND EA2 PROJECTS

16 AUGUST 2023

### Comments by Friston Parish Council in respect of the proposed Onshore Archaeological Mitigation Works – Discharge of Requirements DC/23/2436/FUL Land at Harrow Lane Airstrip, Harrow Lane, Leiston, Suffolk

1. Friston Parish Council has not previously been consulted or advised of this Planning Application, which whilst located some distance from Friston, affects the village of Friston due to the traffic movements associated with travel from Harrow Lane to the substation sites and cable corridor off Grove Road, Friston.
2. Figure 7 of Appendix 1 - Travel Statement <http://publicaccessdocuments.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/NorthgatePublicDocs/01821243.pdf> clearly shows a Designated HGV route (in blue) from the B1119 down Grove Road past AP2 access point as far as the entrance to Manor Farm from where it appears to be coloured solid purple as far as AP4 (no key to the solid purple is shown in the legend and this needs to be explained).
3. In Suffolk County Council's Highways Department's letter to East Suffolk Council of 31 July, Steve Merry states in the third paragraph that "*SCC does not object to the proposed minibus access routes noting that although some are on minor roads they avoid some problem areas such as Grove Lane or Church Lane through Friston.*" This is at odds with the information provided on Figure 7 and no reference at all to the use of Grove Road as a Designated HGV route is made in SCC's letter. This should be rectified.
4. ESC will be aware that Grove Road is very narrow and only single track in places when used by normal passenger vehicles. There is no footpath along Grove Road at any point. An HGV will take up the full width of the road for most of the road's length. This is unacceptable and dangerous for all those using the road, which include pedestrians and a large number of cyclists and horse-riders. For this reason Grove Road is designated as a Quiet Lane from its junction with Aldeburgh Road in Friston as far as its junction with School Road (towards Knodishall) and this is incompatible with a HGV route.
5. It is obvious that the substations site will be a large focus for the archaeological works and will require the largest proportion of personnel, plant and equipment associated with the works to be delivered. Grove Road is not an acceptable route for this purpose.
6. Another concern is the access shown at AP1 on the Saxmundham Road (B1121) shown on Figure 7 in green as an unbound track/private road. Friston Parish Council are not aware of the existence of such a track, which is then shown to follow a Public Right of Way

northwards towards Moor Farm (known as High House Farm). Similarly there is another track shown in green going east-west from footpath 6. Again this track does not presently exist. Footpath 6 and the access road to Little Moor Farm are shown in yellow as "Access Route (Subject to Public Right of Way/Bridlepath)". Residents of Friston have already experienced these PRoWs being used by SPR in earlier investigations and found the use by plant and 4-wheel drives to be intimidating and unsafe for pedestrians.

7. In addition, there are areas coloured blue which are shown in the legend as "Parking Location (private)". These parking spaces cannot be said to be "private" when they are shown as crossing Public Right of Way. Parking on a PRoW is totally unacceptable.
8. Friston Parish Council asks East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council to reconsider these transport arrangements to make it much safer for the residents of Friston and to preserve the amenity of the local PRoW network. Please accept this late submission as Friston Parish Council had not received notification of this Application.

**END**