Elkington Paish Council is very concerned at the impact these proposals will have on the area, in terms of visual intrusion; wildlife; loss of agricultural land and impact on tourism and economy.

To that end the Elkington Parish Council would like to see included with any application:

Compliance with regulation 5(2) of the EIA Regulations to ensure that -

*(2) The EIA must identify, describe and assess in an appropriate manner, in light of each individual case, the direct and indirect significant effects of the proposed development on the following factors—*

*(a) population and human health;*

*(b) biodiversity, with particular attention to species and habitats protected under Directive 92/43/EEC(14) and Directive 2009/147/EC(15);*

*(c) land, soil, water, air and climate;*

*(d) material assets, cultural heritage and the landscape;*

*(e) the interaction between the factors referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) to (d).*

*(3) The effects referred to in paragraph (2) on the factors set out in that paragraph must include the operational effects of the proposed development, where the proposed development will have operational effects.*

*(4) The significant effects to be identified, described and assessed under paragraph (2) include, where relevant, the expected significant effects arising from the vulnerability of the proposed development to major accidents or disasters that are relevant to that development.*

*(5) The Secretary of State or relevant authority, as the case may be, must ensure that they have, or have access as necessary to, sufficient expertise to examine the environmental statement or updated environmental statement, as appropriate*

In addition details should be included which specifically identify and include:

1. *A comprehensive and extensive bat survey for the proposed route and the proposed interconnector sites*
2. *A comprehensive wildlife habitat and species survey for the proposed route and the interconnector sites and up to 10 metres outside the range of the application site(s), together with mitigation measures to protect all wildlife species in the area including flora and fauna.*
3. *A survey of all local roads and impact thereon in terms of construction traffic both within the parishes affected and along the major routes to be used to access the site(s)*
4. *Impact Assessment on existing underground infrastructure.*
5. *Comprehensive study and report on the impact such development will have on the tourist industry, in particular the erection of the interconnector and substations along the main route to the coast and the visual impact from the Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.*
6. *Impact on the loss of agricultural land currently important in helping the UK in its food security measures.*

Regards

J. Cooper

Clerk to Parish Council