

To whom It may concern,

I write to object to the proposed interconnector on various grounds.

I don't believe it will provide energy security for the islands if it is to replace our power station at the point where our old one in Lerwick is decommissioned, it would need to be a double if not triple cable laid apart from each other in the seabed to ensure security. Evidence for this is that Greenland had no internet connectivity last year when my husband was there because their internet seabed cable had been damaged.

I believe that this project is wrong in the amount it takes away from Shetland without giving back, energy security should have been the very least that a project of this scale which will dominate the islands and disrupt the lives of so many of its inhabitants. What I mean is that if it were to go ahead then it should have been with a battery bank big enough to store energy for the islands in the occurrence of no winds this should have been thought of in a green way, a perfect idea would be a pump back hydro power station at the loch of Gofirrh right in the middle of the Viking Energy development. This would have made the islands energy secure and greatly reduced the carbon footprint also.

With off shore windfarms being to be allowed to be developed again this should be looked at first along with other renewables before a cable link is approved.

The area which the converter station is situated is unspoiled moorland and the pylons which will emanate from it will change the centre of Shetland forever this will effect our tourism industry which is about all we have left. The size of the turbines are too big for the size of Shetland it isn't the same as turbines on a much bigger sloping hill on the Scottish mainland they will dominate much of the skyline and be visible from nearly all points of Shetland. I spend time in boats and I am always amazed at how many places you can see the wind turbines at Burradale from and they are much smaller than the proposed Viking turbines.

The feeling in the community is as far as I am aware nearly totally against this project it is ripping communities apart as the many who will become affected are very aware of the few who will benefit greatly from this. Concerns for health, house values and quality of life are real and should be considered before financial gain as as it stands this is not a green energy project.

Kind Regards