

## Scrutiny Topic Suggestion Form

Please complete the sections below if you wish to suggest a topic for scrutiny or policy development. If you require assistance whilst completing this form, please contact the Scrutiny Officer on:

Telephone: 01507 613410 / 07766 421653

Email: [rebecca.james@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:rebecca.james@e-lindsey.gov.uk)

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**Suggested topics must meet one or both of the following criteria:**

- A High level/strategic topics that impact on how services are delivered and/or how the council works**
  - B Issues that have a significant impact on the East Lindsey community**
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**1. Topic title**  
Viking CCS (Carbon Capture Scheme)

**2. Which of the above criteria does your topic suggestion meet – B- and explain how.**

This proposal consists of a 55km pipeline that rings around the upper northeast portion of the District en route to the Theddlethorpe Gas Terminal and then offshore.

It cuts across the ELDC countryside from west of North Thoresby south past the east of Louth and Grimoldby before making a sharp left turn north of Gayton le March and heading to the coast immediately under Theddlethorpe.

Although the pipeline will be buried, the disruption to agriculture will be significant and further impact on the cost-of-living crisis by interrupting local food production and supply. Furthermore, the explosion risk from this pipeline is not to be underestimated.

**3. Reasons why the subject should be reviewed. If applicable, please state whether this topic is:**

pre-decision scrutiny

**4. What is the relationship to the corporate priorities as identified in the Corporate Plan?**

This proposed development is contradictory to our corporate plan: the destruction of agricultural fields, the worry of leaks (or worse), the fear of living alongside or in close proximity to what could be a ticking time bomb. These factors do not support growing our village and town centres, reduce the Carbon footprint of our council or district, or support well being of residents. The programme claims job creation, but are these the same unskilled/low-skilled jobs we already struggle to fill along the coast? With the ever-increasing use of AI, one might think that even skilled roles are in jeopardy in a facility such as this.

Portfolio Responsibility if known: I believe this is shared between Cllrs Grist, Kirk, Ashton, and Marsh.

**5. Evidence** (What evidence is there to support the need for scrutiny? What are the facts?)

Given that this development has bypassed the District Council entirely, there has been no opportunity for the planning committee, or indeed the full council, to investigate the project and view all sides of the matter. As this is one of two proposals currently being debated for the same site in Theddlethorpe, I believe the council must take additional care and scrutinise this proposal with the same vigour as I expect a GDF planning application would receive. The panel, and council, must ask why our district is the dumping ground for waste made elsewhere- certainly there are alternatives to this on-shore plan that would not lay the bulk of the risk associated with carbon capture at the feet of our district's residents.

**Desired Outcomes** (What would be achieved for the council or district by undertaking this topic?)

Following scrutiny, I would be seeking the panel to make a recommendation to the Council which could formulate the basis of a formal position of ELDC. This position would be the official representation of the District when consulted by the Secretary of State regarding the Viking CCS application.

Topic proposed by: Stef Bristow

Date: 23 June 2023

**Office use only**

- Overview Meeting:
- Accept/ Reject:

Please note, if you wish to see more details about how Overview Committee assesses scrutiny topics, please ask the Scrutiny Officer for a copy of the Scrutiny & Policy Panel Operational Guidelines.