

Summary of contribution to CAH1.

Owing to time constraints, I limited my contribution to asking the question, "why it is necessary for the cable route to go through our land at all?". There is a viable and perhaps cheaper alternative which would take a route to the north through [REDACTED] land. There would need to be two trench less solutions and not one as in the current proposal, but the overall length of any tunnelling would be less. The continuing route through [REDACTED] land would be slightly shorter and could follow a hedgerow and be less disruptive than the current plan that cuts right through the middle of several fields.

I also commented that the chosen route will inevitably be very wet in winter and pretty much inaccessible. I asked the question about repair plans should faults develop in years to come. The route will also cut right across 9 or 10 field drains. Deep excavations particularly on Cotswold brash have very long lasting effects. Land where sewer pipe was laid by compulsory order in 2017 is estimated to still be only yielding 50% of the undisturbed land adjacent to it.

The re establishment of a mature biomass crop will be costly.

The observations that I did not raise due to time constraints centre around the yield potential of the field where the proposed trench less solutions will come out of the ground. I note from the maps that it is 'predicted' sub grade 3a land.

This is probably correct. The national average of winter wheat yields in the UK is approximately 3 tonnes/acre.

The land in question has produced 4 tonnes/acre. Our 3b land has produced 3.5 tonnes/acre. It therefore seems fair to say that all the land (in this area) that is designated 3a and 3b land to be used in this project has potential to produce considerable more than the national average (as far as winter wheat production is concerned.) This is not marginal land.

A further observation revolves around the Baseline habitat map and the designation of non-cereal crop and cereal crop. I'm wondering if there is any meaning to these criteria? Clearly the designation was recorded at the time of the survey but it is now incorrect, due to crop rotation. Are there conclusions drawn from this data?