Submission ID: S262205A7

Interested Party Reference number: [redacted]
I am the Essex County Cllr for the division of Broomfield and Writtle, the Chelmsford City Cllr for the ward of Broomfield and the Walthams and a Parish Cllr for Great Waltham. I made 3 separate representations, but was contacted by Planning Inspectorate and asked if they could be combined under one, which I agreed – Interested Party Reference number: [redacted]
My County Council role covers 11 parishes of which 10 are affected by the overhead lines.
As such I have been consistent in opposing the overhead line run to the West of Chelmsford, in previously unspoilt countryside and have supported alternative routes, or undergrounding the cables. I have participated in all the consultations in all my 3 roles, and as an individual. I do live in the village of Great Waltham, 0.5km from the nearest proposed pylon, so I am not personally directly affected. But I do represent around 16,000 people who will feel some impact.
I am a Chartered Electrical Engineer, so I am not unaware of the difficulties and costs of alternative options!
Noting that the objective of these hearings are to consider how the application will be examined, I will not repeat all my objections, but I do wish to promote a proposal made by NGET in AENC-ARC-ENV-REP-0031 Norwich to Tilbury Volume 6: Environmental Statement Document: 6.4 Environmental Statement Chapter 4 - Project Description Final Issue A August 2025 Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020027 Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 Regulation 5(2)(a) – Page 36.
This pertains to a change that was made before the submission to lower pylon heights in the region of The Walthams (the gap between Great Waltham and Little Waltham, which is in the conservation aera. The design submission changed TB136 to TB142 to lower lattice height pylons up to 40 metres in height (but widening by 10m) instead of the 50m standard pylons, The negative impact of this was to add an extra pylon, but more importantly, position a lower height pylon TB141 right next to Chelmsford Road. This road is the main highway/footway between Great and little Waltham, and would be significantly affected by the presence of such an overbearing feature right next to the road. From my involvement with the local community, I have experienced much concern over this position of TB141. Whilst lower hight pylons may reduce the extent of visibility from Grade I listed Langley's house and its immediate gardens, the wider stance and heavier frame of the lower height pylons would have a greater visual presence in the context of the southern part of Great Waltham Conservation Area and the designated and non-designated heritage assets in this area.
AENC-ARC-ENV-REP-0031 Page 36 (see attached file) requests consideration of flexibility to revert to standard lattice pylons following further technical details being refined – this may also include removing the need for one of the three pylons and a change to the location
I urge for this to be considered as part of the examination, and if possible, be mandated as a change to the design such that change of just 2 (not all) to full height pylons will facilitate the move of TB141 further away from the edge of Great Waltham Conservation Area , the main road and the non-designated heritage asset Windmill House. The introduction of full height pylons and the omission of one pylon could potentially reduce the level of heritage harm by positioning the pylon more towards the centre of the adjacent field, further away from the road, and significantly reducing to overbearing aspect of the pylon.
I request that the matter is explored further.

19. The Walthams and Stanford Heights to the south of the River Chelmer (Section F)	Low height pylons TB140 to TB142  Standard pylons and one pylon removed TB140 to TB142 	Figure 4.1: Proposed Project Design (document reference 6.4.F1) and Figure 4.2: Proposed Project Design – Permanent Features (document reference 6.4.F2) show pylons TB140, TB141 and TB142 to the south of the River Chelmer as low height pylons. After consideration of feedback during consultations in 2025 certain technical details are being refined which may result in standard lattice pylons to the south of the River Chelmer being installed. Therefore, flexibility has been retained to revert to standard lattice pylons following further technical details being refined – this may also include removing the need for one of the three pylons and a slight change to the locations of the remaining two pylons within the LoD.	The use of low height pylons between TB140 to TB142 shown on Figure 4.1: Proposed Project Design (document reference 6.4.F1) and Figure 4.2 Proposed Project Design – Permanent Features (document reference 6.4.F2) is assessed in each ES environmental topic chapter (Chapters 6 to 18 (document references 6.6 to 6.18)). The 'sensitivity testing' section within each environmental topic chapter presents an assessment of standard lattice pylons between TB140 to TB143.