

24 February 2026, for Deadline 1.

With thanks for your decision to offer OFHs at this stage to hear views from the start, which I'm afraid I was not able to participate in, but did observe. Further to these, I'd like add some points to my Registration Submission prior to 27 February 2025, where I objected strongly to the Norwich to Tilbury pylons project, and continue to do so.

Having worked against this now for four years, attended and responded to all the consultations and talked to dozens of others affected by this destructive plan, nothing prepared me for the effects of hearing the statements of the nearly 100 groups and individuals who spoke at these hearings. You'd have to go a long way to find a more varied, thoughtful, genuine, articulate and distressed collection of people. Each with their own different reasons for being from upset to heartbroken by it.

And this reached through the entire statutory and social strata of the whole area – from MPs, County, City, Town, Borough, Local and Parish Councils, to desperate farmers, landowners, businesses and despairing individuals, many of whom will have to suffer serious financial repercussions as a result of this totally unnecessary, ill-advised, ill-considered and rushed proposal. It is mis-placed, the wrong tech in the wrong place, and NOT green transmission, but industrialisation.

Why does one rule apply here & others elsewhere? With regard to the Scotland to England offshore link (SEGL1) National Grid state: "routing the cable overground for hundreds of miles ...would cause disruption and visual impacts to many communities, ranging from County Durham to southern Scotland... By routing cable under the North Sea...we significantly reduce impact on communities"... (From SEGL1 Community Relations Team, 2022).

Similarly, if it is better for EGL 3&4 to go Offshore, why NOT in East Anglia?

In NG's own words [Doc 151426 / Para 5.0.3], offshore is regarded as better for at least 4 reasons here, in brief:

1. HVDC flows easier to control
2. In case of faults, AC would need higher capacity
3. HVDC much lower lifetime costs
4. Long onshore AC line carries much higher delivery risk
5. For these 4 reasons, above, OHL discounted.

I trust you will allocate further Single Issue Hearings to the better Alternatives, which is at the root of the problems.

NATIONAL GRID

There were a couple of phrases I heard which well sum up my feelings about National Grid and their project: "our very own HS2" and "mendacious obfuscation" particularly applied to their behaviour towards us, their customers.

It is worrying that NG consider that URGENCY SPEED and PUBLIC BENEFIT OUTWEIGH private loss. I think I understood that Urgency overrides the Human Rights Act. Bulldozing springs to mind.

It appeared that NG had trouble answering many their questions, which seemed as though – bearing in mind they must have had their top team there, not only in the room but at screens on other floors – it could not be said they were on top of their briefs. We've had 4 years to try to understand, and could sometimes have answered for them; they've had much longer, it's their job, and they should have done better. It is the attitude and lack of information we've been fighting against all the time. Complacent and uninformed.

I'm glad you have insisted on more precise costings from NG, we've asked time and time again. They should also be working to the Treasury Green Book, to balance the natural and social capital together with economic cost/benefits.

NG funding: if they funded pylons correctly, they would be far more expensive. TGB cost/benefits should be adhered to, when they would need 40% contingencies, not 10%. Proper compensation will be exorbitantly expensive and not accounted for, ditto correct BNG, possibly now more than 10% more, so also more expensive.

Not convinced by "explanation" as to why not Colchester Stadium in February. NG must organise to reserve it for the whole week in April. They have two months' notice.

NG appears to be as dilatory with regard to coordinating with other utilities: LTC, Highways, crucial Oil Pipeline, as they have been with engaging with those of us who have been attempting to deal with them for 4 years.

T pylons: not a great alternative to 50m steel lattice: they need permanent haul roads, larger base, and more of them ...  
ALDHAM, Essex

There was a mention in the ISH on Friday 13th Feb, where NG explained how pylon TB55 has been limited in placement position because of its proximity to Aldham Hall Wood. All they have done is taken their claimed 50m leeway around the planed centre line down to about 48m between TB55 and TB56 – and we are supposed to accept that as evidence of NG's flexibility and engagement.

However they are perfectly happy for the project limits to encroach quite a way into our garden & a grade 2 listed building. Brick Cottages. TB57

Aldham (Ford Street) There is a flood plain behind (to the East) of Ford Street, near a proposed pylon placement, and also near a proposed equipment compound, which might require CPO of large part of resident's garden.

Thank you for your time.

ENDANGERED BIRDS RED LIST UK 26 Feb. 2026

We have lived in this rural corner of North Essex (Aldham) since 1972. I've been a keen birdwatcher and recorder all my life, and am devastated to have seen the enormous loss of species/numbers within species over that period. We cannot afford to lose yet more in this nature-depleted country of ours, which used to be a haven.

We are also not far from the East Atlantic Flyway (migration route), which deserves our protection not a mesh of wires to take our feathered visitors unawares.

Change is inevitable, but the prospect of the damage this pylon scheme would cause to our wildlife just breaks my heart. The upheaval of installation of 500+ pylons is unimaginable over a prolonged period, yet HVDC underground would be narrower, quicker and much less destructive.

Easier construction, thousands fewer trees/hedges removed, lanes/paths less disturbed.

Birds BTO of Conservation Concern (Red List) in our area are as follows: Turtle dove, cuckoo, lapwing, marsh and willow tits, skylarks, house martin, starling, mistle thrush, fieldfare, spotted flycatcher, house sparrow, yellow wagtail, green finch, linnet, redpoll, yellow hammer.

Amber list: kestrel, swift, meadow pipit, stock dove, dunnock.

Chaffinches are also now becoming a rarity, and all the above used to be common in the area.

Spotted flycatchers used to nest in our garden every year.

Swallows came to nest in a shed every year for 50+ years, till last year when they didn't turn up, nor this year.

**THIS MUST BE STOPPED**, and sensible alternatives proposed. Enough is enough.