

Dear Sir / Madam

We write on behalf of our client in respect of the proposed underground cable works required for the relining of existing infrastructure associated with the Norwich to Tilbury Project. These representations are submitted further to our earlier correspondence and raise ongoing concerns regarding route justification, engagement failures, the lack of procedural clarity and unresolved issues.

Necessity and appropriateness of the proposed route

On 22nd September 2025 our client and myself met with National Grid's agent, a graduate surveyor from Fisher German. We were advised the proposed underground cable was required by UK Power Networks (UKPN) to alter the current infrastructure to accommodate the National Grid Project.

Our client maintains that it is neither necessary nor appropriate for the underground cable route to traverse their productive arable land as a viable and more suitable alternative exists within the adjoining field. This adjoining field is already encumbered by the wider project infrastructure and is owned by a landowner who we have been advised is amenable to the proposal for the underground cables to traverse his land.

Use of that adjoining parcel would avoid imposing new and avoidable burdens on our client's agricultural operations. It remains unclear why this alternative route has not been properly assessed, or why no response has ever been provided to our client's representations submitted to Fisher German when there was a meeting with them.

Lack of engagement and procedural clarity

Template Heads of Terms were issued to our client by Fisher German under cover of a letter dated 30 July 2025, naming National Grid as the Grantee. However, we understand from our meeting on 22nd September 2025 with Fisher German that the party actually intended to take the grant is UKPN.

We subsequently held an initial meeting with Fisher German on 23 January 2026 to formally commence negotiations. At that meeting, Fisher German advised that UKPN would be appointing their own agents (anticipated to be Dalcour Maclaren) who would act separately from both Fisher German and National Grid. However, they were unable to clarify the mechanism through which negotiations would proceed, nor explain how UKPN's involvement as a third party integrates with a project otherwise being promoted under a National Grid Development Consent Order (DCO).

Given that the relevant works fall within the scope of a National Grid DCO, our client reasonably expected that engagement and consultation, route alignment discussions, and all compensation and land rights negotiations would be coordinated through a single, consistent, and accountable framework. Despite our efforts to establish clarity, progress has stalled. Dalcour Maclaren confirmed on 10 February 2026 that they had been instructed, although no personnel had yet been assigned. Our client has received no communication from UKPN or their representatives. The prolonged absence of a designated point of contact has prevented any meaningful progression of discussions or resolution of substantive issues. This situation has left our client without a clear negotiation pathway.

Our client seeks confirmation on:

- Defined responsibilities among National Grid, UKPN, Fisher German, and Dalcour Maclaren;
- Assurance that the engagement process aligns with the National Grid DCO framework;
- An indication when their representations will be acknowledged or addressed.
- When they will have a formal opportunity to engage with the Applicant.
- When meaningful discussions will take place so our client can protect their interests and contribute to achieving the best possible outcome.

Impact on the proposed route and issues to be resolved

If the route is not removed from their landholding, our client requires assurance that all landowner specific concerns, particularly those affecting agricultural operations, route location, soil handling, and reinstatement, will be addressed before any route is agreed.

The details needed are (list is not exhaustive):

a. Cable Depth

Sufficient burial depth is required to avoid long term constraints on cultivations, drainage maintenance, and soil infrastructure.

b. Jointing Bays and Link Boxes

These should not be located in productive arable fields; land sterilisation must be minimised.

c. Field Drainage

Full drainage survey, protection and reinstatement are required, with accountability for future failures attributable to construction.

d. Soil Handling, Reinstatement and Aftercare

A detailed soil management plan is required covering stripping, handling, storage, reinstatement, and aftercare to restore full productivity.

e. Flood Risk and Water Management

All compounds, haul roads, and storage areas must not increase runoff or alter local hydrology.

f. Dust, Irrigation and Crop Quality

Dust control measures, protection of irrigation systems, and compensation for crop losses must be secured.

g. Access Routes to the Order Limits

All construction access must be agreed with the landowner to avoid undue compaction, disturbance, or loss of productive area.

h. Access to Land

Safe uninterrupted agricultural access must be maintained at all stages.

i. Restrictive Rights and Operational Constraints

Any easement must not impose unnecessary long term restrictions on agricultural activities, drainage, cultivation depth, or future land use.

Conclusion

The proposed route, in its current form, presents significant risks to our client's farming business, infrastructure, and long term productivity.

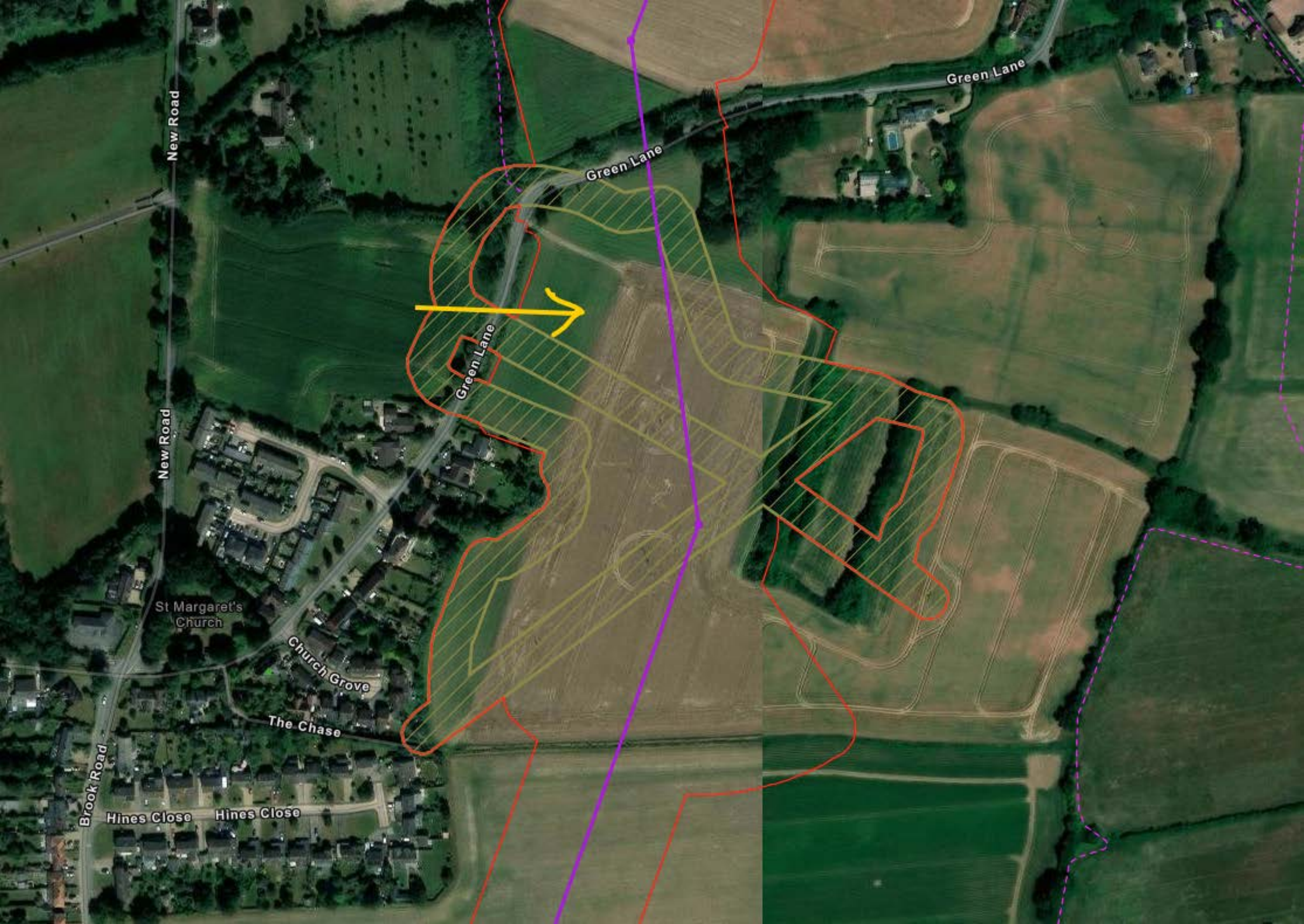
We therefore respectfully request that the Examining Authority seek the following from National Grid:

1. Clear justification for not using the adjoining, already affected field as the preferred alternative route.
2. Clarification of roles, responsibilities, and lines of communication between National Grid, UKPN, Fisher German, and UKPN representative.
3. Confirmation of the procedural mechanism for integrating third party works within the National Grid DCO framework.
4. Immediate appointment of named representatives, with a defined timeline for responding to existing submissions.
5. A structured timetable for engagement, ensuring all landowner issues are resolved before any route is confirmed.
6. The opportunity for our client to present oral representations during the Examination should it be necessary.

Our client remains willing to engage constructively. However, without coordinated engagement and procedural clarity, progress cannot be made appropriately.

Your faithfully

██████████ MRICS FAAV FALA



New Road

Green Lane

Green Lane

Green Lane

St Margaret's Church

Church Grove

The Chase

Brook Road

Hines Close

Hines Close

