

Further to my written submission to the Inspectorate, in which I was critical of National Grid's (NG) dastardly plan to ruin 180km of English countryside from Norwich to Tilbury without mentioning alternatives* I would also like to point out: in this area of north west Essex in the Parish of Gt Tey on the edge of Colchester City and Braintree District councils, there is a population of the protected species, Hazel Dormice, that would be devastated by the wholesale destruction of hedgerows and trees planned by NG.

Hazel Dormice are listed as a European Protected Species under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, making it illegal to intentionally kill, injure, disturb, or capture them, or damage their breeding/resting places.

I have seen no proposals for their protection as required by law.

*Not only has NG failed to deal with alternatives, it has been underhand in removing from its website a positive report about an undersea cable alternative that previously appeared on its web-site (just as NG has been underhand in omitting historic listed buildings and sites from plans submitted to the Inspectorate, as reported by 2 presenters at the 2nd morning of the hearings on 11 February in Ipswich). Undersea cables are loved by NG for power lines from North Scotland to Yorkshire and Denmark and Holland to Lincolnshire and would save thousands of Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk residents a great deal of worry and expense.