

Once again National Grid has attempted to lump together and ride rough-shod over the views of people who have made the effort to try and communicate with them.

I refer to the document Norwich to Tilbury, Volume 8: Examination Documents, Document :8.4.1 Applicant's Comments on Relevant Representations, Final Issue A, February 2026, Planning Inspectorate Reference EN020027,P79-80 which states "The Applicant has also sought to reduce the concern or uncertainty about the proposals through inclusive and transparent engagement with residents, communities and stakeholders throughout the development of the project."

I would thoroughly dispute this, as mentioned in my statement to the Inspectorate at Ipswich on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026. My husband and I live in a Grade 2 listed building in Ardleigh, with our boundary just ten metres across a narrow lane from the boundary of National Grid's proposed substation site. We met with a representative from National Grid and a representative from Fisher German, together with our agent, on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024, to put our very natural concerns to them. The origins of our home date back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and, as was customary with properties of that period, certain parts of it have little or no foundations. National Grid promised to come back to us with some answers within two weeks. Since that date, twenty-one months ago, we have heard nothing from either National Grid or Fisher German. They have failed to "reduce the concern or uncertainty" and there has been no "inclusive and transparent engagements with residents" as far as we are concerned. What will happen to our Grade 2 Listed home when building work to the substation commences? It is likely that large cracks will appear in this listed heritage landmark. At present National Grid has rendered our home unsaleable, proved by the point that it has been on the market since 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025 and only one person has viewed it during that ten month period. We have been blighted, and the physical damage to our home is potentially enormous and will further blight it.

The Inspectorate will also have heard many other objections to the lack of consultation and engagement by other concerned parties like us. We ourselves were made very aware of these on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026, and through speaking to other affected residents and communities. National Grid has bulldozed its opinions through and stated their policy of a predetermined pylon route all the way through this process. Any reference to consulting and engaging with residents and communities has simply been a question of paying lip service and box ticking on their part. They have failed to communicate and engage, despite their vain and feeble protestations.

The Inspectorate must please remember that everybody (all these residents and communities) along the whole of the proposed Norwich to Tilbury route would agree that there is a need for more electricity to take the country forward into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, but there are better ways to go about it than National Grid's pylon proposals which would simply take the country backwards to the 20<sup>th</sup> century!