

First and foremost I would, once again, emphasise that we are NOT Nimbys, Naysayers or Blockers. Nobody along the Norwich to Tilbury route would deny that there is a need for more electricity but National Grid's 20th century technology pylons are not the way to do it in the 21st century. Forwards, not backwards!

I would like to refer to the Heritage Asset numbered 1147743, which is one of the worst affected by this proposed project. The boundary of this rural Grade 2 Heritage Asset is just ten metres from the boundary of National Grid's substation site in Ardleigh. The Asset itself is a mere 34 metres from National Grid's boundary.

National Grid's invasive infrastructure will surround it on nearly three sides: underground cables; substations connecting to the North Falls and Five Estuaries Wind Farms; the towering four-storey Tarchon Interconnector; and **no fewer than five 50m pylons – TB1, TB2, 3, 4 and 5** – will all loom over this Asset.

The Asset is mentioned in F H Erith's book, "Ardleigh in 1796", on page 58. It is a building of historical interest to the village and to the area. National Grid is severely downplaying its importance, and is failing to assess its true value.

The origins of this Grade 2 Heritage Asset date back to the sixteenth century, and buildings then had very little foundations. What will happen when National Grid's heavy machinery moves into the area? How can such a structure withstand the **ground disruptions, years of noise, relentless lighting, and vibrations** caused by this project? How will National Grid mitigate for large cracks in the walls and the potential instability to a Heritage Asset?

The current owners have tried to engage in dialogue with National Grid. A meeting took place with representatives from National Grid and Fisher German on 19th June 2024, during which National Grid promised to address their concerns within weeks. To this date there has been no response. National Grid has failed to consult and communicate, and has done nothing to consider how to ameliorate the disastrous effects of the proposed project on this Grade 2 Heritage Asset.

This particular building is not just a Grade 2 Heritage Asset, but has been a much loved family home for nearly 40 years. The current owners, as guardians of a listed building and Heritage Asset, have maintained it in good condition during this period. A home is a place where one should feel safe and secure, and National Grid has destroyed this feeling and has made no effort to show any attempt at constructive mitigation. Why is this being allowed to happen? [REDACTED], [REDACTED]. The effect on their physical and mental health is obviously considerable. They urgently need to move to a smaller home, but for nearly a year the Asset has been on the market with no interest – because who wants to buy a home surrounded by pylons, substations and industrial machinery?

This effective imprisonment of elderly and unwell people in their own home is unfair, it is unjustified and it should not be allowed.

National Grid is totally and utterly responsible for this problem. It is responsible for the lack of interest shown in this Grade 2 Heritage Asset and for the blight caused to it. It is responsible for the effective imprisonment of elderly and unwell people in their own home. How does National Grid intend to resolve this problem?

Planning Inspectorate, please listen, where National Grid has not.

