

NG

The day NG decided to post me the details of their proposed pylon route was when my anguish started because I knew if this went ahead it would change everything for my wife and I. That night I could not sleep so I went for a walk of many miles.

I had only just a week before got full planning permission on my two barns which were now going to be under the purple swathe of where the N2T pylon route was proposed.

A sale of one of the barns fell through because of pylons and I have not been able to sell them since.

My wife and I had planned on retiring [REDACTED] and to move closer to our grown up children some 2.5 to 3 hours drive away and spend time with our grandchildren.

Our retirement plan was based on the sale of the barns, our home and small farm of 130 acres.

NG proposed N2T route has been devastating for the value of my barns, home and land.

I hoped when I attended the NG public consultations that there would be some understanding of my and many others situation and that they would listen or discuss the possible alternatives such as underground or off shore, but there only response was not possible and too expensive.

Too expensive for who? My anxiety was getting much worse as I realised the cost was going to full on my wife and I and that the compensation for my losses would be nothing compared to the true financial cost to us, our losses would run into six figures and this would be multiplied all along the pylon route for all individuals and families affected.

The thought of this cost being bared not by the Government or NG but by the people just like me because we happen to live in the wrong place. I know other people just like me who are suffering from anxiety to actual depression a feeling of hopelessness that we are to be written off for what we are told is for the national good.

My farm sits on top of one of Suffolk's high clay ridges, a pylon built on my land will be seen for miles around and we will have two built on our land. The building of pylons on our farm is going to rip the guts out of our farm. NG have marked out an area which means I will lose a third of my farmable land for 3 to 5 years. At this time I have no idea of what I will be compensated for our losses and damage to our property, this does not include what we have been working for many years to improve and enhance the environment and to diversify our farm by planting hedges, trees, digging out ponds and joining the Governments environmental schemes, so now we have a greater number of Red listed birds on our farm. This environment is now at great risk it will certainly be damaged by the pylons and their development.

This again plays into my anxiety a loss of our hardwork and the achievements we have made which was for the better of all not just ourselves, we have many footpaths across our farm and some will be closed for years because of the pylon haul road.

My wife and I are left with assets we will have difficulty selling for a reasonable price (land, home, barns) A farming business which I am going to have to try and keep going for maybe another 5 to 10 years – [REDACTED].

We will have to watch and live with the devastation and destruction of our farm and the environment leaving us with the wires and pylons. If you google ugly things in the countryside pylons are up there near the top.

My anxiety I try to manage which is hard with so much going on and I find stress harder to deal with than I did before, I am thankful for my wife and family;

I have to try and keep it all in a box and concentrate on other things.

It does not help when NG can bully me into letting them on my land, as if I do not agree then they can use statutory powers so what choice do I have? They have carried out numerous surveys on my land and I am not allowed to know the results – why?

I feel this is another tick box exercise with us not being able to check or scrutinise the results.

Also once the pylons are up we will be restricted to how and what we can use our land for – this is not just under the pylons and wires but also either side of them as well – this is yet another area that I will not be compensated for.

Please consider the better alternatives to pylons not just for me but for all who are in their way and for the people who come after us, if not let us have fair recompense and a true justice for our losses.