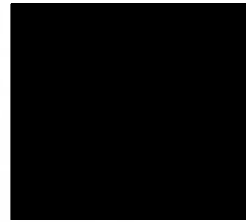


National infrastructure
C/o Quadrant
69 Buckingham Avenue
Slough
SL1 4PN

A C Macadam



7th May 2026



South of the proposed Babergh pylons is part of the setting of Dedham Natural Landscape. The ridgeline is elevated land (Pylon 27 is 49 metres AOD (Above Ordnance Datum) and the point in the compound where the cable goes underground is 47 metres). Why not T pylons to mitigate harm to the landscape setting, as at Hinkley outside the AONB.

Lattice pylons impact significantly on the setting of [REDACTED], and can be easily seen from the churchyard and Tithe Barn, all historic sites.

The email I received on the 8th April 2026 says the National Grid are required to use lowest-cost option that is acceptable. Under the 1979 Ancient Monuments and Archeological Areas Act quote 'Any proposed change (to the monument or it's setting) must be fully and explicitly justified. The monument at [REDACTED] provides a material record of history.

Savills Land Agents have submitted an alternative route north of Brimlin Wood (which is 400 years old). There is room despite Anglian Waters protective corridor around it's water main, to run electricity supply above ground if pylons are sensitively constructed. There are many examples where surface conduits run close. There is 175 metres between Charit Farm and Upper Birches, could this be a possibility? No 527 pylon therefore as the line is straight towards Bramford in line with the Holford Rules.

Consequences of the South Bebergh Pylon line being built:

We sell up [REDACTED]?

Result would be a huge loss of tranquility

The Capel St Mary inhabitants (approx. 4000) would lose a vital amenity for recreation.

Asset strippers would buy all the best things, breaking up the historic whole site destroying it for future generation. Harm would be substantial

At a recent enquiry my husband [REDACTED] spoke at 10 minutes to 5pm, without any time to hear a reply from the Applicants. Also I had no offer to speak. It was hurried and not fairly allowed time to speak our case. Mr Harris K.C. spoke at least 3 times about the pylon line having to be built as quickly as possible. Is this in the Gunning Principles? Something so major for our family should not feel this way, it has left me in tears many times over the last 4 years.

It is a scandal to let a scheduled monument and its setting be harmed in any way and is NOT acceptable. There is already a clear view of the Bramford to Twinstead pylon line which is 3km away!

I look forward to your comments.

Best regards

Alexandra Macadam



Contact Norwi...

8 Apr



to me ▾

Dear Mrs Macadam

As promised, we're following up with the answers to your additional questions regarding the proposed route of the Project and the use of T-Pylons.

We looked at a wide range of options in this area, including to the north of Brimlin Wood. However, when we looked at this, the design would bring the route much closer to other homes, for example between Charit Farm and The Birches, where there is only a narrow gap between properties. It would also mean the line would need to angle around the north of the woodland, rather than running in a straight line into the proposed cable sealing end compound.

You also asked about using a mix of T-pylons and traditional lattice pylons. National Grid has used a combination of pylon types on other projects, such as the Hinkley Connection. However, T-pylons are more expensive, and under Ofgem's funding rules we are required to use the lowest-cost option that is acceptable. They are also less flexible across different types of land, often needing more complex design and access arrangements.

We also need to think carefully about where different pylon types would change along the route. Because the need for alternative design measures depends on the surrounding area, any visual break or change in pylon style would need to be carefully justified and positioned. Our assessments show that, where overhead

----- Forwarded message -----

From: camilla macadam

(NG/FG/N-T/354)

To: [REDACTED]

Little Wenham Castle, actually a fortified house, and a national scheduled monument, is of special interest because it is one of the first brick built buildings in the UK and is protected by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeology Act 1979. Every expert, Pevsner, Historic England, the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology, rate it highly. Historic England, in their written submission have termed it highly valuable. The castle is in very good condition and habitable if you don't mind living in 1260 conditions.

Secondly, the Setting of the Castle is important. The 1979 Act makes clear that it protects not only a building but also the Setting. In this case the Castle sits among 7 other Listed buildings, a Grade 1 listed church (known as St Lawrence or All Saints) built at the same time as the castle, a Grade 2 star tithe barn, and 5 grade 2 buildings, including the farmhouse, all within a few hundred yards of each other. It is acknowledged as one of the best examples of the development of 15th and 16th domestic farm architecture in the UK.

In ExQ1, HE1.8 the Inspectors have noted that National Grid have acknowledged that harm is done to multiple assets. In their assessment National Grid have said that Little Wenham Castle would experience a lower level of less than substantial harm. Historic England disagree with that in ES 6.11.A7 2.60 when they agree that there is not substantial harm but assess it as mid level. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires consideration of the setting which can cause less than substantial harm if it diminishes an asset's significance and goes on to say that the threshold for acceptable harm is exceptionally high for scheduled monuments. Given the requirements of the 1979 Act and the NPPF guidance it cannot be right for National Grid to set the benchmark at substantial harm.

National Grid appear not to have noticed that the view from the Castle north ~~west~~ looks straight at the J27 Angle Tower across completely flat agricultural land which is a direct contravention of the Holford Rules. It is clear from the visual reproduction submitted by National Grid (7.12.F209_HE3e Viewpoint 8E3 Little Wenham Castle) that other pylons to the north and south of J27 are also clearly visible. There is also a more limited view of the J35 cable sealing end. Historic England say, rightly, that the views from the castle roof "should not be underestimated" because most visitors will judge the setting from there. The "partial screening" cited by National Grid is merely high bushes along an old railway line and provides very little screening in relation to the high pylons. It is unfortunate for National Grid that the surrounding Suffolk farmland is so flat so high pylons are visible for a long way.

National Grid have not commented on the number of people who use the local footpaths and therefore whose views of the Little Wenham complex would be affected. There are about 4.5 miles of footpaths and bridleways on the farmland owned by the Little Wenham Farm partnership and crossed by the pylon line, surrounding the Little Wenham complex, and they are heavily used by the

residents of Capel St Mary, population 3500, which borders Little Wenham and which is expanding fast. The present local plan commits to a further 500 houses in Capel St Mary in the next 20 years.

We have suggested a number of ways of mitigating the harm to the Little Wenham complex and the Castle all of which have been rejected by National Grid.

Move the line from the cable sealing end J35 northwards behind or through Brimlin Wood which would not only mitigate its effect but also straighten the line and do away with the angle tower J27. National Grid say this would have a negative effect on existing dwellings.

Use T pylons instead of the lattice pylons, which are lower and less visible. National Grid say that T pylons have (unspecified) disadvantages but are also more expensive. However there are examples in the UK of pylons being used outside areas of outstanding natural beauty. We have been told (in writing) that National Grid are required by law to accept the lowest cost.

Underground the line north of the J35 sealing end to north of J21. National Grid acknowledge that the south of Babergh area is within the setting of the Dedham Vale natural landscape but undergrounding further north would clearly be more expensive. It was interesting to hear Raydon Wings make the same suggestion yesterday on the grounds of aircraft safety.

In 100 years time, Little Wenham Castle and its surrounding listed buildings will still be there as important heritage assets for the UK. Imagine someone standing on the top of the castle looking north west and exclaiming “ Who on earth built that “, and finding that it was built because National Grid said they had an obligation to build the cheapest option and could disregard the legal protections for scheduled monuments. It would be a scandal.