

Project: EN020027 — Norwich to Tilbury

Interested Party Reference: [REDACTED]

Submission: Comments on application — further representations

Previous submissions: [REDACTED] (Deadline 1) and [REDACTED] (Deadline 2)

I write to make further representations in connection with the above application and to comment on matters arising from National Grid's Deadline 2 response.

1. The purchase of The Gables and routing at RG081

National Grid's Deadline 2 response confirms that the fields associated with The Gables Farm, Roydon, lie within the project's redline boundary and are subject to permanent infrastructure in the form of the conductor oversail between towers RG081 and RG082. This directly contradicts the statement made in National Grid's letter of 6 August 2025, in which it was stated that the purchase of The Gables was unrelated to the project.

I respectfully ask the Examining Authority to require National Grid to explain how the routing decision at RG081 was made independently of its ownership of The Gables land, and to confirm that the routing was determined on technical and environmental grounds rather than influenced by land availability.

2. The right of access through Woodcrest Barn

National Grid's Deadline 2 response confirms that the right of access claimed through my property is for survey and maintenance purposes only and is not incorporated into the project design. This commitment is now on the examination record. However National Grid has not addressed the physical workability of the claimed access route. At a site meeting on 12 March 2026, I demonstrated to Fisher German, acting for National Grid, that the position of the hedgerow and ditch makes the access route as described in the 2014 Deed physically unworkable. No written response has been received since that meeting.

I ask the Examining Authority to require National Grid to confirm its position on the physical workability of the claimed access, given that its examination commitments assume the access route is available.

3. Discretionary purchase and impact on Woodcrest Barn

National Grid's Deadline 2 response does not address the question of whether Woodcrest Barn meets the criteria for discretionary purchase, hardship support or mitigation, despite this being specifically requested in my earlier submissions. Woodcrest Barn is physically attached to The Gables. It is closer to the proposed alignment than The Gables. Two independent estate agents have confirmed a significant reduction in value and advised that the property is currently unsaleable as a direct consequence of National Grid's activities. The property was purchased as a retirement investment with a holiday let business generating growing annual revenue. National Grid's purchase of the adjoining property has materially damaged that investment without any compensation or explanation.

I ask the Examining Authority to require National Grid to answer directly whether Woodcrest Barn meets any criteria for discretionary purchase or hardship support, and if not, to explain the basis on which two physically attached properties affected by the same project have been treated differently.

I intend to address these matters at the Open Floor Hearing on 23 June 2026 and have registered to attend virtually.

Russell Matthews

[REDACTED]