

From: Fey Jones

Sent: Mon 22/06/2026 11:14

To: Norwich to Tilbury NorwichtoTilbury@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Subject: Re: Open Floor Hearing 4

Dear Sir,

I am afraid I shall not be able to speak at the meeting tomorrow, but would like to submit my views regarding the Protected Lane, Water Lane, adjacent to my property, in writing, as follows. If this is appropriate could it be read out in my place. If not please let me know another procedure for submitting my views.

Dear Sir,

I am mainly concerned about two points.

1.

Water Lane, Langham is one of only a handful of Protected Lanes in Essex, and the alteration to the route of the undergrounding through Dedham Vale was taken with scant knowledge of the new ground to be covered, which now includes Water Lane. Having lived by the lane for 40 plus years we have a special interest in preserving it as is. It is a deep sided lane, with elm hedges, frequently with water flowing down it at the far end, wooded in places, no passing places, moss covered at times and frequented largely by walkers, runners, cyclists and wildlife. Many animals including hares, bats in season, and stag beetles can be seen and use the space. If the proposal goes ahead, as I understand the plan, there will be a breach in the lane south of our property for water to be diverted. To do this I am assuming heavy construction traffic will have to use the lane, which is unsuitable for such traffic. Sight lines are restricted and any vehicles approaching from opposite directions involves multiple complex maneuvers, often incurring damage to lane banks or verges. The landscape will change and an attainment pond on the other side of the lane will change the present water flow down the lane.

The haul road and construction of undergrounding to the north of our property will destroy the wildlife corridors across the present set aside. A piece of land, not far from the lane, near the proposed haul road, appears to be a permanent access point for the cables. The positioning of this implies access from the lane, as the haul road is 'temporary'. Obviously not ideal. The access point is also right in the middle of our coveted, uninterrupted view across Dedham Vale. It has been hard to obtain any details of this access point and even to ascertain its existence. If the proposal goes ahead it would be preferable if the access point could be moved to its original position to the east of the property, in an unoverlooked field, where access would be possible from the wider Dedham Road.

2.

The rerouting was done hastily without adequate timing to do necessary ecological/wildlife surveys. Without some form of prior investigation ecological damage may be done. We see bats but have not identified them, we hear owls but don't know the nest sites, we have snakes and stag beetles in the garden, invertebrates, small mammals.... etc. We presumed that such work would be done in a timely manner and so the results could be acted upon as necessary. As yet there has been little evidence of this.

Yours,

Fey Jones