

I comment on Appendix F to National Grid's document 8.4.12.2 Response to ISH2 Action Point 27 - Masterplans. Item 3 of the Constraints Plan claims views from the conservation area within Great Waltham "would be largely filtered and screened by existing buildings and vegetation" which ignores the fact that the numerous listed and heritage buildings at Minnow End are within the conservation area and will suffer overbearing views of the pylon line from proximity to the Project.

Item 9 of the Constraints Plan states that the Chelmer Vallet is "shallow" at this location. The land rises 20m from the river to the location of pylon TB143 adjacent to Balls Farn which will be 70m or more above the river bank and a dominating presence seen from afar - a circumstance repeated north of the river with pylon TB136.

National Grid seeks to justify the Project here by reference to street lighting and traffic signage on the B1008 (Little Waltham by-pass) a single carriageway rural road. The street lighting is part-time only (save at the junction) and together with the signage extent is a redundant legacy of the 1970s construction of the highway as an A Road since downgraded and should itself be removed (the new A road, Essex Regiment Way, now by-passes Little Waltham to the east and was constructed without such lighting, (save at roundabouts).

Contrary to National Grid's claim, the route at this location is not compliant with Holford Rule 2.

The proposed slight deviation to mitigate the effect on Langleys, unforgivably brings the Project within the estimated extent of the Pre-Belgic Iron Age Settlement in respect of which the Scheduled Monument is a nearby marker. This again proves the unsuitability of this location packed with heritage assets of national importance for the Project.

Finally there is reference to an opportunity for "connective blue infrastructure enhancements" - I have no idea what this jargon is meant to signify but the watercourses identified are subject to cultivation and harvesting of bat willows for the local rural cricket bat making industry which must be respected.