

I am responding to the National Grid (NG) document 8.4.12.2, focusing on Appendix A, Action Point 27, the Waveney Valley Area, where I have been a resident and business owner for the last 5 years.

The Waveney Valley is an area of outstanding beauty and the specific area in the document contains nature reserves and Wortham Ling, an SSSI, which support many red-listed species. The Angles Way historical footpath passes through this area, which also contains a multitude of listed buildings including the Grade 1 round-tower church of St Remigius. The area and its views, wildlife and footpaths are cherished by residents and visitors alike. The proposed construction and erection of the 19, 50 metre pylons, squeezing through this area would cause great harm to its landscape, wildlife and residents, and the proposals drafted by NG in Action Point 27 are poorly considered and would be woefully inadequate. There are several references to existing vegetation and building 'filtering' the views of pylons from some aspects, when it is obvious that no vegetation or buildings in our area would provide any but the barest screening of these monstrous pylons. The Draft Opportunities Plan refers to a few enhancements and plantings but these would be inadequate and appear to have been proposed without research into their true feasibility.

The only solution that could mitigate the devastation to our area that would be caused by the Norwich-Tilbury project would be to reinstate the Waveney Valley Alternative, undergrounding the cables. That this had been presented by NG indicates that they are aware of the sensitivity and importance of our treasured landscape. At the NG roadshow that I attended, residents positively discussed with NG staff that there was a possibility of extending the Waveney Valley Alternative to the north, beyond Roydon. This would mitigate the visual pollution caused by the proposed pylons wrapping around our village and protect the Cherished Views from Darrow Lane (key views 27 and 28). These are referred to in the Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan's Key Views, adopted 16 October 2023.

Document 8.4.12.2 is yet another example of the inadequate communications and responses that residents have received from NG. This document records that it was designed, drawn, checked and approved - all on the 26th of June and it would indeed seem that this has been produced in haste and with the lack of consideration and care for both people and the environment that continues to characterise NG's Norwich-Tilbury project.