

The applicant seems to have no idea how inserting pylons into a rural landscape represents a stark conflict between human industrial necessity and the preservation of natural aesthetics. While these towering steel lattices are vital components of modern infrastructure, their presence significantly alters the countryside. The negative effects of pylons on a rural landscape can be understood through three primary lenses: visual pollution, ecological disruption, and the devaluation of cultural and economic heritage.

1. Visual Pollution

The most immediate and jarring impact of pylons is visual. Rural landscapes are often defined by their organic lines, in East Anglia it's flat and has uninterrupted horizons. Pylons introduce rigid, industrial geometry and massive vertical scale into environments that are otherwise characterized by natural harmony.

Because pylons must stand tall to safely clear trees and structures, they often dominate the skyline, drawing the eye away from natural focal points like. This creates what is a scenic view into an industrial corridor. The cumulative effect is a loss of the sense of wildness and tranquility that draws people to rural areas.

2. Ecological Disruption and Habitat

Beyond the aesthetic damage, the construction and presence of pylons impose physical scars on the land. Setting up an electrical grid requires clearing "right-of-way" corridors through woodlands and fields, felling ancient trees that will take years to replace. Although the applicant says there will be replacement planting, who will look after these trees and water them in what we believe to be a dryer weather system? This process results in habitat fragmentation, breaking up contiguous ecosystems into isolated patches, which can disrupt the movement and breeding patterns of local wildlife.

Furthermore, these overhead transmission lines pose a direct physical hazard to avian populations. Large birds, such as waterfowl, raptors, and migratory species, often fail to see the thin grounding wires in low-visibility conditions, leading to fatal collisions. The maintenance of the corridors beneath the pylons also frequently involves chemical clearing or heavy machinery, which can alter local plant communities and invite invasive species.

3. Economic and Cultural Devaluation

The degradation of a rural landscape has tangible economic consequences, particularly for communities reliant on tourism and recreation. Landscapes that lose their pristine, untouched character become less appealing to hikers, photographers, and holidaymakers. This decline in aesthetic value directly translates to reduced revenue for local hospitality, guiding, and the tourism businesses.

Additionally, pylons can negatively impact rural property values. Homes with prominent views of industrial infrastructure face reduced market demand, as buyers generally seek rural properties for their scenic beauty and peace. Despite what the applicant says, these pylons are having a real effect on property with some mortgages being turned down because of them

. Culturally, these structures erode the historic character of

ancient landscapes, imposing a modern, utilitarian identity onto areas that may have retained their traditional appearance for centuries. RH128-RG130 will erode such a view which hasn't changed for six hundred years. The ancient deer parks will be littered with industrialisation when there is a way to update the grid without this destruction.