

REPRESENTATION - Deadline 8 – Closing Statement – 04.08.26

Norwich to Tilbury Project – Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)

Interested Party Reference: [REDACTED]

Summary of matters raised during the Examination and issues remaining unresolved

We would like to thank the Examining Authority for the opportunity to participate throughout the Examination and for encouraging further engagement between National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) and our household.

During the course of the Examination, our understanding of the proposed scheme and its potential impact on our property has developed as further discussions have taken place. This closing statement summarises the progress made, whilst also identifying the matters which remain unresolved to our satisfaction.

Progress made during the Examination

At the beginning of the Examination, our concerns arose primarily from a lack of property-specific information regarding the proposed use of land adjacent to our home, the potential impacts of the proposed works, and the absence of clarity regarding how those impacts would be assessed and mitigated.

Following encouragement from the Examining Authority, National Grid engaged directly with our household. We welcomed this engagement and appreciate the opportunity to explain our household's protected circumstances and the particular challenges associated with the proposed works.

During discussions with National Grid, we received additional verbal clarification regarding the proposed scheme and its potential impact on our property and household.

National Grid indicated that our land may ultimately not be required and explained that its inclusion within the Order Limits was primarily to maintain visibility for vehicles entering and leaving the construction compound. National Grid also discussed the possibility of entering into a written agreement confirming that our land would not be used.

National Grid also discussed potential measures to help manage the impacts of construction. This included the possibility of exploring on-site noise mitigation measures, such as quieter reversing warning systems for construction vehicles. We welcomed the willingness to consider potential mitigation measures and recognise the importance of exploring practical solutions.

National Grid also suggested the possibility of regular communication throughout the construction period, including advance notice of particularly noisy activities where possible. We welcomed this proposal, as timely communication would assist us in making appropriate arrangements in light of our household's protected circumstances.

Matters which remain unresolved

Whilst the discussions with National Grid were constructive and provided additional understanding of the Applicant's intentions, no corresponding written documentation, formal agreement or other record has been provided to confirm those discussions. As such, there remains no formal mechanism upon which we can rely to demonstrate how these matters will be implemented, monitored and adhered to throughout the construction period.

In particular:

Use of land

Although National Grid has indicated verbally that our land may not ultimately be required, no written agreement or formal confirmation has been provided confirming the intended limitation of use.

The rights sought within the application remain unchanged, and the formal documentation before the Examining Authority does not reflect the additional clarification provided during discussions.

Noise mitigation and construction impacts

Potential mitigation measures have been discussed; however, no further details have been provided regarding what measures may be implemented, how they would be applied in practice, or how their effectiveness would be assessed.

Without further information, it remains difficult to understand the extent to which construction impacts can realistically be reduced or what level of protection such measures would provide.

Communication arrangements

We welcome the suggestion of regular communication throughout construction and recognise that early notification of potentially disruptive works would assist us in managing impacts.

However, no formal communication arrangements or commitments have been agreed. Whilst the proposed approach is welcomed, there is currently no formal mechanism upon which we can rely to provide certainty that such arrangements will continue throughout the construction period.

Outstanding documentation and assessments

Our previous submissions raised concerns regarding the absence of detailed documentation necessary to assess the practical implementation and impacts of the proposed works.

Whilst discussions during the Examination have provided some additional clarification, key documents and detailed arrangements remain unavailable to us.

For example, National Grid confirmed that a Road Management Plan has not yet been prepared. This is not raised as an isolated concern, but as an example of the wider issue that documents demonstrating how potential risks will be managed and mitigated are not currently available for consideration.

Similarly, whilst National Grid has now had the opportunity to understand our household's protected circumstances, no property-specific documentation has been provided confirming how this information has informed assessment, mitigation or implementation arrangements.

Conclusion

We recognise and appreciate the constructive engagement that has taken place during the later stages of the Examination. This engagement has provided additional verbal clarification and has improved our understanding of National Grid's intentions.

However, those discussions have not been accompanied by corresponding written documentation, formal agreements, amendments to the application or secured commitments upon which we, or the Examining Authority, can reasonably rely.

Our position has therefore evolved from one of seeking information and clarification, to one where some clarification has been provided but the underlying certainty required regarding implementation, mitigation and ongoing arrangements remains unresolved.

We respectfully maintain the concerns set out in our previous submissions and ask that the Examining Authority gives appropriate weight to the continuing absence of formal documentation, secured commitments and property-specific certainty when reaching its recommendation.

Finally, we would like to thank the Examining Authority for the careful consideration given to our representations throughout the Examination.