

National Grid Norwich to Tilbury (N2T) project.

3rd August 2026

Dear ExA

Interested party reference number: [REDACTED]

Ahead of deadline 8, I would like to take this opportunity to make my final comments submission for your consideration, please.

As a severely affected landowner, resident and business owner, the proposed **N2T** project continues to progress according to National Grid's (NG) own agenda, whilst ignoring the concerns from those affected.

It has been very noticeable at the hearings that NG has struggled throughout to answer questions clearly and knowledgeably, often having to revert to answering in writing by the next deadline, which is unacceptable!

The issues and concerns I raised in my previous responses remain, but have not been sufficiently addressed by NG:

- I continue to appreciate the need for the grid system to be upgraded, but NG has still not provided convincing evidence that the 180km overhead power line route is overall cheaper than offshore, HVDC underground cabling or upgrading the existing lines.
- I have an additional concern regarding hot summers and high voltage overhead power lines (especially with three proposed substations, an interconnector and a battery storage area close by). The potential risk of a fire occurring is now much higher and I question how NG intends to mitigate this possibility.
- NG's comments (Rep 7/481) state that land-take and agricultural activities were based on data at the time, and by means of a desk top survey (How unacceptable for such a major NSIP)! When (dates)? How many times (dates)? What data and where was it actually sourced?
- Stated (Rep 7/481) that NG (the applicant) sought to minimize impacts on BMV land, so why choose Ardleigh (and Little Bromley)? This further demonstrates that NG has failed to implement mitigation measures to protect soil resources, minimize impacts on Grade 1 BMV land and work with affected landowners!
- NG still fails to provide sound evidence as to why the EACN should be sited in Ardleigh/Little Bromley (only 10% of land currently built on), where flat open landscape dominates and access to an A road (A120) is a minimum of 2.4 km (1.3 miles) away in a straight line! NG continues not to provide sufficient evidence that alternative brown

field sites have been investigated thoroughly or to acknowledge that a large rural community could become a massive industrial area. I refer at this point to the **Holford Rules**, which have **NOT** been met!

- NG fails to accept that pylons are archaic, unsightly and would be out of character with what already exists.
- Construction practice – proposed soil mitigation measures will never allow for the land to return to its current top quality status! NG still fails to recognise the importance of National Food Security and the need for BMV land to be retained for the UK to be as self sufficient as possible!
- Air Quality – (Rep 7/481): NG states that during construction, there will be a negligible effect from dust beyond 250 metres of the order limits, but no mention or consideration for those living or working within the order limit!. Currently, there's nothing to compare it with! No mention either, of dust damage to crops, which would be affected quite significantly (eg: growth, quality and size).
- Ecology – (Rep 7/481): NG states that the route was selected to avoid (as far as practicable) known habitats and features of ecological values. It also states that the route will continue to be adjusted at the detailed design stage (post – consent). How can that be right? Additionally, it states that replacement replanting will be provided where there has been temporary removal of habitats. NG has failed to consider the impact on the wildlife we've encouraged onto the farm over the years (including Barn Owl and Little Owls, stoats and badgers), or to explain where it expects such creatures to move to in the meantime! The cultivated areas we have as part of operation turtle dove (currently on the red list of endangered species) will disappear! The East Atlantic Flyway crosses our land where the pylons and high voltage power lines are proposed. Wildlife has no voice against such infrastructure, so it's up to custodians of the countryside to protect it!
- It still remains uncertain as to how long the proposed project could take, and as a consequence, the disruption to the lives of communities affected.
The **N2T** project to date, has already, and continues to have a massive impact on the health and wellbeing (especially mentally) of residents living along the entire route, but for residents living in Ardleigh and Little Bromley (the **N2T nucleus**), this takes on a higher level of distress and uncertainty, which NG continues to be dismissive of.
- Through Fisher German, we are currently negotiating terms regarding a licence for more survey work (both non and intrusive) that NG wishes to have carried out on our land. These are surveys that have already been carried out, so I question why necessary?
- The Heads of Terms remain unfit for purpose! NG is now working on its fourth attempt!, but as yet, our Land Agent is not happy with the wording and is still advising us NOT to sign!

The future for my family, our home, our land, our businesses and a great rural community that we love and are proud to be part of continues to hang in the balance, as does our position as custodians of the countryside to protect the flora and fauna around us.

Thankyou.

Mrs Jayne Marshall

