

I remain deeply concerned about the overwhelming scale of the proposed project in a small village of Little Bromley. The impacts cannot be considered in isolation from other proposed developments ie Five Estuaries, North Falls and Tarchon. This whole project will ruin Little Bromley and the surrounding countryside.

There has been no proper demonstration of why the obvious solution of an offshore grid that takes renewable power directly to where needed has been dismissed despite it being cheaper and in line with National Grid's strategy in other parts of the country.

Major decisions regarding the location of the project were made before meaningful consultation with the local community. The proposed EACN site is

situated on prime agricultural land within an area of unspoilt countryside.

Brownfield and previously developed industrial land should have been properly prioritised before productive agricultural land.

Why has Tarchon been located on the other side of Little Bromley rather than elsewhere entirely?

Prime agricultural land including high value horticultural sites is being used for these developments instead of brownfield sites. This is likely to affect food security and prices which are already high.

The proposals would result in an excessive amount of traffic on the rural roads around Little Bromley. These roads are currently used by cyclists, horse riders, runners, walkers, local residents and buses travelling to and from Manningtree.

The effects of this project cannot properly be understood without knowing how construction traffic and infrastructure associated with National Grid's proposals will interact with the proposed Five Estuaries, North Falls and Tarchon projects.

There is particular concern about the Little Bromley church and War Memorial which are a listed structures of special architectural or historic interest.

Opposite the War Memorial is a historic heritage hedge which also appears to be at risk of removal.

Document APP-256 identifies only five properties as having the potential to experience damage from construction noise and vibration – this cannot be true.

There are other properties within Little Bromley, including our Grade II listed house, whose lack of foundations and traditional construction makes it vulnerable to vibration damage.

To make matters worse, National Grid have recently changed the routing of the Permanent Access Road bringing it hundreds of metres closer to the majority of Little Bromley's homes on Shop Road and to our house on Ardleigh Road.

This will not only worsen the impact on vulnerable properties but also make life even more miserable for residents who will suffer disruption, noise, dust and other pollution. And this road will remain in place after construction has been completed.

Numerous native species will be adversely affected including buzzards, owls, bats, house martins, swallows, garden birds; hares, badgers, hedgehogs, newts and others.

We are also anxious about the effect of the proposals on our homes and property values.

Prices in Little Bromley have already been affected, with one resident reportedly reducing an asking price by approximately £150,000 and still being unable to sell.

Whether or not every individual loss can ultimately be attributed to the project, the concern is genuine and should not be dismissed.

There has also been insufficient clarity for affected residents regarding compensation. If residents and property owners suffer financial losses or are unable to sell their homes because of the development, there needs to be a clear, transparent and properly discussed compensation mechanism.

A few pounds off electricity bills is frankly insulting.

Jacqueline Somani

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