

Norwich to Tilbury pylons in formal Consultation

23rd February 2025

Recently it was advised that in our area Gislingham one pylon would be moved by approx 150ft but a corner pylon would have to be added for connectivity .

Whilst this is welcome , especially as you have indicated that screening will shield the pylon from public view .As we have no trees that currently grow to the height of these pylons this is not accurate as at least the top third of the pylon will still be visible .

We would reiterate our request that this project rather than be rushed to meet an unrealistic completion date be slowed to provide an opportunity to make a proper assessment of viable alternatives , in this case and our area underground cabling , which currently you infer is too expensive but by the time your deadline for completion arrives and is passed without finalisation the cost may well be on par for pylons and underground .

The changes proposed simply do not go far enough , as you are taking large areas of grade 2 /3 farmland to add a limited amount of pylons . This will render currently good productive farm land no longer fit for purpose .

The decimation of this proposal will cause major harm to our landscape animal habitat and will have a huge detrimental effect on property prices (something that we are already seeing !!) .

The initial report that Gislingham Parish Council presented was the result of many months of talking with and listening to local residents and farmers . We firmly believe that there can still be a pylon free or at least a reduced pylon solution and we would request that National Grid and Ofgem take our concerns and alternatives seriously and look at the best compromise for all.

The Hiorns Smart Energy Networks report commissioned by Essex County Council in co operation with Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils did strongly suggest that it should be possible for this project to be slowed in order that alternatives may be given full consideration .

We would stress that we are not against cleaner energy providing it offers a benefit for all but in the first instance it cannot be allowed to alter our landscape nor have a lasting negative effect on our farmland and the communities it supports

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Chair

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