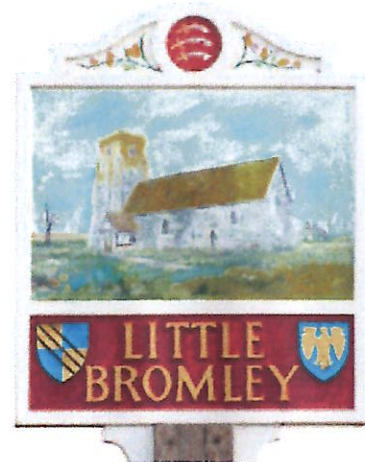


LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Copy of letter sent to Sir Bernard Jenkins / Cllr Neil Stock / Cllr Carlo Guglielmi and National Grid

East Anglian Green Energy Enablement

Little Bromley Parish Council would like to make you aware of our strong opposition to the National Grid East Anglia Green Energy Enablement proposal. This proposal particularly affects the village of Little Bromley and neighbouring village of Ardleigh, with its plans for 50 metre tall electricity pylons and the location of a 23 plus Hectare electric substation. Additionally, we understand that offshore energy providers, North Falls and Five Estuaries, will be running its onshore connections to their own new electric substations within the vicinity of the National Grid substation (indication from National Grid is that these will be around 1km from its substation). This will further increase the land demand for both additional substations, pylons and underground cable routes. There are also plans for a battery farm under consideration in the same area.

These proposals if they go ahead will be a permanent disfigurement of the East Anglian countryside, remove valuable Grade 1 arable land from production necessary for food-security, generate significant noise, affect residents and communities amenities and potentially drive down property values for a large swathe of the affected area. Our current precious rural landscape will be industrialised by massive substations and 50 metre high pylons.

Tourism contributes £1m a day in Tendring and this area is very popular with walkers and cyclists using the rural roads and lanes. Much of this area will be under threat if these developments go ahead impacting on livelihoods and businesses.

The National Grid proposal needs a complete rework. They are Consulting on a single solution only. When challenged as to why other approaches are not under review they state Cost as the only metric. There seems to be no regard for the long term implications or environmental, ecological and sociological impact of such a scheme. The quality of life for residents and impact on villages needs to be a prime consideration.

With Offshore electric generation a strategic National Grid undersea power-grid or ring-main needs to be designed and built for East Anglia. This will allow offshore generators to deliver their energy to areas of the country that require it. We are advised that East Anglian Green is designed to connect to Tilbury – and to do this through electric pylons will wreak havoc on the East Anglian countryside. We are also advised that the proposed National Grid electric substation at Little Bromley / Ardleigh is there to connect the offshore energy provider substations into the Grid. If an offshore under-sea power grid is built for transmission of electricity to areas of the country that have the greatest need, then there is no need for these developments. And if designed with expansion in mind, then further offshore energy providers and nuclear plants can be added as they come on stream with no impact on the East Anglian countryside.

It seems ironic that with Off-Shore wind generation now being the preferred route for Green wind energy over On-Shore turbines, that On-Shore power distribution through pylons is even considered. Electric pylons were initially designed in 1928 with the first deployments being in 1938. Green Energy in the 21st Century should not rely on a 1920/ 1930 distribution solution with its enormous impact on the environment, wildlife and communities. The

benefits and value of a 21st Century under-sea power grid far outweighs any cost uplift and will allow the UK to demonstrate to the country and the world its leading expertise in this area.

Subsea cables are now proven technology – National Grid have powered up a 700km subsea cable between the UK and Norway and we understand are designing a 3,800km subsea connection between the UK and Morocco.

The use of an offshore under-sea power grid will also provide a standard for offshore energy providers to adhere to, ensuring a more joined up solution. Our understanding is that the two current offshore providers, North Falls and Five Estuaries are designing in isolation up to their connection into the National Grid. They are choosing their own cables routes and their own electric substation sites. This duplication will cause increased pressure on the Tendring area and increased disruption to communities. An under-sea power grid will negate this.

It is worth reflecting in more detail on the impact that the current pylon and substation approach will have on the local Tendring area of Little Bromley and Ardleigh.

- The area designated for the National Grid substation is remote and rural with no major roads to allow immediate access. The associated installations and facilities such as temporary access roads, contractor facilities, equipment storage and more will be disruptive for many years.
- We question the decision to site in such a location rather than closer to main roads, on a brownfield site, and nearer to the onshore cable entry points from the Offshore generators.
- The potential area proposed for the National Grid substation stretches to within 0.5 miles of Little Bromley village. The area directly impacts and ‘swallows’ many remote properties on the edge of the village. Residents quality of life will be diminished and property values will be affected.
- The pylon routing in and out of the substation has a huge impact on our neighbouring village of Ardleigh.
- There will be a noise impact – electric substations ‘hum’ and pylons crackle and hiss especially in cold or damp weather.
- The Grade 1 agricultural land selected is key for our food security. This is a precious resource that needs to be protected. And it is a huge area – over 23 Hectares for the National Grid substation alone.
- We question the health impact on humans from these 400KV power lines and electric substations.

Little Bromley Parish Council asks that you support us in Opposing this proposal, lobbying to ensure that it is stopped, and that a strategic under-sea solution is designed and implemented.

Yours Sincerely

Chairman for Little Bromley Parish Council