



FAO: Planning Department,  
**Babergh / Mid Suffolk District Council**

Ref: DC/21/05611  
Date: 12/05/2022

## HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION ADVICE

Dear Sir / Madam,

### **RE: Norwich to Tilbury.**

Built Heritage Advice pertaining to an application for: East Anglia Green Energy Enablement (GREEN).

East Anglia GREEN is a proposal by National Grid Electricity Transmission (National Grid) to reinforce the high voltage power network in East Anglia, in order to meet future energy transmission demands. The proposals relate to several districts between South Norfolk and Tilbury, Essex.

Whilst the following Built Heritage Advice relates solely to the proposals which fall within the Mid Suffolk and Babergh Districts, the scheme should be considered holistically when developing the proposals to ensure a high-quality project which is sympathetic to the historic built environment. The following advice is designed to inform the next steps in developing the proposals including the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and statutory consultations.

The EIA should include a Heritage Desk-Based Assessment (DBA), the objective of which is to identify all heritage assets which have the potential to be impacted by the proposals and which should therefore be taken forward for further assessment. A methodology for this should be provided and it is recommended that this is informed by *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 12: Statements of Heritage Significance* and *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (Second Edition)*, which provides for a staged approach to proportionate decision-taking as follows:

**Step 1:** Identify which heritage assets and their settings are affected

**Step 2:** Assess the degree to which these settings and views make a contribution to the significance of the heritage asset(s) or allow significance to be appreciated

**Step 3:** Assess the effects of the proposed development, whether beneficial or harmful, on the significance or on the ability to appreciate it

**Step 4:** Explore ways to maximise enhancement and avoid or minimise harm



## **Step 5:** Make and document the decision and monitor outcomes

In identifying which heritage assets and their settings may be affected (Step 1) it is recommended, given the scale and nature of the proposals, that a study area of 5km from the graduated swathe boundary is adopted. All heritage assets within this study area including Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens, and non-designated heritage assets should be identified.

The National Planning Policy Framework notes that the extent of a heritage asset's setting is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. As such, heritage assets that are landmark buildings or buildings located on a higher topography may be situated outside of the study area but still require assessment. Therefore, it is recommended that a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) is established. A ZTV overlaid with a Designations Map showing the location of all Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens, and non-designated heritage assets would be considered valuable in identifying those heritage assets which should be taken forward for further assessment.

Should it be determined that a heritage asset should be scoped out and not taken forward for further assessment, a clear and convincing justification for this should be provided.

Once all of the identified heritage assets which have the potential to be impacted by the proposals have been identified, the degree to which their settings and views make a contribution to the significance of the heritage assets or allow their significance to be appreciated, should be assessed (Step 2). This should seek to establish a heritage baseline for each asset.

The DBA should seek to demonstrate a sound understanding of historic use/land use and ownership, and identify which farm(s)/field(s) the heritage assets were historically and/or functionally associated with, in order to fully assess the impact of the proposals on the historic, architectural, and associative value of the heritage assets.

Furthermore, the views from and to each heritage asset should be carefully considered. The following would be considered valuable in establishing a heritage baseline:

- A ZTV overlaid with a Designations Map and a Viewpoint Location Plan, naming all Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens, and non-designated heritage assets

The methodology for the views and visual representations should be in accordance with the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA3) and guidance notes provided by the Landscape Institute. It is further recommended that views be undertaken during winter months at a minimum, to reflect and consider the 'worst case scenario.' All viewpoints should be consulted and agreed.

The following publications and advice notes from Historic England are also useful guidance:

- Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning 2: *Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment*

- Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3: *The Setting of Heritage Assets – (Second Edition)*
- Historic England Advice Note 7: *Local Heritage Listing – Identifying and Conserving Local Heritage (Second Edition)*
- Historic England Advice Note 10: *Listed Buildings and Curtilage*
- Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 12: *Statements of Heritage Significance*

Any heritage assets which are identified as being potentially impacted by the proposals should be taken forward for further assessment during which the effects of the proposed development, whether beneficial or harmful, on the significance of the heritage asset or on the ability to appreciate it, should be assessed (Step 3).

The third stage of any analysis is to identify the effects a development project may have on settings and to evaluate the resultant degree of harm or benefit to the significance of the heritage assets. Again, the guidance provided in *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3: The Setting of Heritage Assets (Second Edition)* should inform the methodology for analysis.

Given the scale and nature of the proposals, it is recommended that the evaluation extend to include an assessment of cumulative impacts which may arise from other large-scale developments or similar schemes. Furthermore, complex impacts arising from the development which may not be solely visual should also be assessed.

Once the extent to which heritage assets are impacted by the proposals, through change within their setting, is fully understood, ways to maximise enhancement and avoid or minimise harm should be explored (Step 4). There may be design amendments which could mitigate any identified harm, and these should be carefully considered.

Should the proposals result in residual 'less than substantial' harm, despite mitigation efforts, then paragraph 202 of the NPPF would be a relevant consideration and the Local Planning Authority is required to make a balanced judgement between the level of harm and the public benefits.

Paragraph 199 should also be considered as this gives great weight to the conservation of heritage assets, as well as the statutory duty of Section 66 and 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 under which local planning authorities should have special regard to the desirability of preserving the settings of listed buildings and the character and appearance conservation areas.

It is recommended that further pre-application discussions are sought after the heritage assessment is completed.

Yours sincerely,

Samantha Pace IHBC  
Historic Environment Team  
Place Services

*Note: This letter is advisory and should only be considered as the opinion formed by specialist staff in relation to this particular matter*

**From:** BMSDC Planning Area Team Pink <PlanningPink@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 16 May 2022 08:14:02

**To:**

**Cc:**

**Subject:** FW: Planning Consultation Request - DC/21/05611 - NSIP

**Attachments:** ufm3\_Standard\_Consultation.pdf

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**From:** Environmental Health <Environmental@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 13 May 2022 15:23

**To:** BMSDC Planning Area Team Pink <PlanningPink@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Planning Consultation Request - DC/21/05611 - NSIP

Dear Sirs,

**PLANNING CONSULTATION: DC/21/05611**

**OUR REFERENCE: WK306503**

**PROPOSAL: Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project - interest into entering a PPA with National Grid for the East Anglia GREEN Project (ATNC/AENC)**

**CONSULTEE COMMENTS IN RESPECT OF: NOISE, ODOUR, LIGHT, DUST ONLY**

We write with regard to the above planning consultation. Having reviewed the documentation provided in respect of the project we understand that:

- National Grid is proposing to reinforce the transmission network between existing substations at Norwich Main in Norfolk, Bramford in Suffolk, Tilbury in Essex and connect new offshore wind generation.
- This would be achieved through construction of a new 400 kV electricity transmission line approximately 180km in length and the creation of a new 400 kV connection substation.
- The works would predominantly comprise of overhead lines (including pylons and conductors) and underground cabling through the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and a new 400 kV connection substation in the Tendring district.
- The new substation would be fenced and contain high voltage electrical equipment, such as transformers, circuit breakers and shunt reactors, support structures, control buildings, a permanent access road and parking.
- Works would be required at existing 400 kV substations at Norwich, Bramford and Tilbury. Cable Sealing End (CSE) compounds would be required to connect sections of underground cable with the overhead lines.
- Each compound would be fenced, and contain electrical equipment, support structures, a small control building and a permanent access track.
- Other ancillary activities would be required and including temporary land for construction activities including areas for construction equipment, machinery, site offices, welfare, storage and access; and land required for mitigation, compensation and enhancement of the environment as a result of the environmental assessment process and Biodiversity Net Gain.

Having regard to the above information, Environmental Protection would wish to see further detailed information in respect of subsequent consultations in respect of the following areas:

**CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SCHEME**

The submission of a detailed construction management plan to include;

- Locations and scheduled timing/phasing of the works together with the overall construction period.
- Construction operating times including measures in the event of emergency works.
- Specific methods of construction and operation together with mitigation measures proposed in this regard.
- Means of access, traffic routes.
- Lighting.
- Location and nature of compounds, portaloos and storage areas (including maximum storage heights) and factors to prevent wind-whipping of loose materials.
- Dust management measures.
- Noise and vibration management (to include arrangements for monitoring throughout the construction period).

**The applicant should have regard to BS 5228:2009 Code of Practice of Noise and Vibration Control on Construction and Open Sites in the CMP.**

## **NOISE**

We would require a noise assessment to be undertaken and submitted with regard to noise levels associated with both the construction phases of the proposal and resulting from operational noise. Methodology of the assessment to be agreed with the Local Planning Authority once specific details of the proposal are known.

## **LIGHTING**

A lighting assessment to include:

- Details of all lighting proposed during construction phases of the development.
- Details of operational lighting for the finished scheme.
- Details of mitigation proposed in relation to lighting.
- Demonstration that that all lighting (including resultant sky glow, light trespass, source intensity and building luminance) fully complies with the figures for the relevant environmental zone having regard to the nature of the area and advice specified in the Institution of Lighting Professionals Guidance Note for the reduction of obtrusive light 2021.
- The inclusion of a polar luminance diagram (based on the vertical plane).

## **NON IONIZING RADIATION**

A site specific risk assessment to include calculations of the maximum possible levels of non-ionizing radiation at the nearest residential properties at various floor levels. The values obtained shall then be compared to the current guidelines of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) limits for exposure to electromagnetic radiation. The levels quoted shall be during operation at maximum capacity/power. A valid ICNIRP certificate must also be submitted to the local planning authority with the planning application.

Environmental Protection  
Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils

-----Original Message-----

From: [planningpink@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:planningpink@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk) <[planningpink@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:planningpink@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk)>

Sent: 22 April 2022 10:09

To: Environmental Health <[Environmental@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Environmental@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk)>

Subject: Planning Consultation Request - DC/21/05611 - NSIP

Please find attached planning consultation request letter relating to planning application - DC/21/05611 - East Anglia GREEN, , ,

Kind Regards

Planning Support Team

Emails sent to and from this organisation will be monitored in accordance with the law to ensure compliance with policies and to minimize any security risks. The information contained in this email or any of its attachments may be privileged or confidential and is intended for the exclusive use of the addressee. Any unauthorised use may be unlawful. If you receive this email by mistake, please advise the sender immediately by using the reply facility in your email software. Opinions, conclusions and other information in this email that

do not relate to the official business of Babergh District Council and/or Mid Suffolk District Council shall be understood as neither given nor endorsed by Babergh District Council and/or Mid Suffolk District Council.

Babergh District Council and Mid Suffolk District Council (BMSDC) will be Data Controllers of the information you are providing. As required by the Data Protection Act 2018 the information will be kept safe, secure, processed and only shared for those purposes or where it is allowed by law. In some circumstances however we may need to disclose your personal details to a third party so that they can provide a service you have requested, or fulfil a request for information. Any information about you that we pass to a third party will be held securely by that party, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and used only to provide the services or information you have requested.

For more information on how we do this and your rights in regards to your personal information and how to access it, visit our website. [ufm3\\_Standard\\_Consultation.pdf](#)



19/05/2022

## **East Anglia Green Energy Enablement (GREEN) – DC/21/05611 Ecology comments**

These comments relate to the East Anglia Green proposal and the scheme design including corridor options to minimise ecological impacts.

### Current route and design

We have reviewed the Corridor and Preliminary Routeing and Siting Study Report and appendices as well as the Public Consultation Strategy (all National Grid, April 2022). This provides comments on the North East Anglia connection (Norwich to Bramford) and the South East Anglia connection (Bramford to Tilbury).

We note that the routeing constraints in Tables 3.1 only refer to statutory designated sites and we strongly recommend that non-statutory designated sites e.g. County Wildlife Sites (CWS) are also included as mapped ecological constraints although many are ancient woodland, an irreplaceable habitat. We welcome that the substation siting constraints in Table 3.2 include Priority habitats but again recommend that non-statutory designated sites e.g. CWS are also included to avoid significant ecological impacts as this could trigger the need to deliver compensatory habitat.

We highlight that any undergrounding in visually sensitive areas such as AONBs, may result in increased ecological impacts from trenching and construction of Cable Sealing End (CSE) compounds and we are willing to be involved in fine tuning the locations and methodologies, with site visits as considered appropriate.

We appreciate that the details for ecological survey & assessment for protected and Priority species likely to be present in the Preferred Corridor and would be affected, will come at a later stage.

We note that if any ecology constraints are scoped out of the Options Appraisal, they would still be covered in the Environmental Statement for assessment.

### Norwich to Bramford – Sections C-E

We note that the Corridor and Preliminary Routeing and Siting Study Report identifies that the A14 crossing near Needham Market is likely to need a complex assessment which will need to include impacts on the River Gipping and various adjacent waterbodies. Where it is considered that the alignment will need to divert around constraints, we highlight that the aim should be to avoid pylons being placed near to hedgerows and associated hedgerow trees which would consequently be affected.

We welcome the statement in 4.5.27 that all options avoid ancient woodlands (Holford Rule 5) however there is little description of the potential impacts on Redgrave and South Lopham Fens Ramsar which is also part of Waveney and Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC.

Based on the information provided, we support the graduated swathe for Norwich to Bramford based on **Option NB1 as the preferred option**.

### Bramford to East Anglia Connection (EAC)

We understand that the route in this section, as well as the substation site, will need to fit in with other projects e.g. Bramford to Twinsted NSIP, and we would welcome the opportunity to input local knowledge to this element of the project.

We note that para 5.5.3 recognised that from a Biodiversity and Ecology perspective, Options BE1 and BE2 were considered to perform more poorly than other options due to the potential for a Likely Significant Effect (LSE) on the Stour and Orwell Estuaries SPA and supporting Cattawade Marshes SSSI (which forms part of the SPA). We welcome this as NPS- EN5 states that particular attention will be needed to minimise the likelihood of large birds such as swans and geese colliding with overhead lines associated with power infrastructure particularly in poor visibility.

We recommend that crossing the Suffolk/Essex county boundary needs careful consideration as Swans are a qualifying feature of the Stour & Orwell Estuaries SPA which includes Cattawade Marshes SSSI. We highlight that this would trigger a requirement for a shadow HRA screening report to assess impacts from EA GREEN, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects.

We note that, overall, western options (Options BE3 and BE4) are preferred from a Biodiversity and Ecology perspective as they would not be likely to result in LSEs on these designations. However, with the exception of Option BE3, which contains (though does not route through) the Hintlesham Great Wood SSSI, all options avoid smaller areas of high amenity value or scientific interest (Holford Rule 2). Whilst Options BE3, BE4 and BE5 do contain more areas of woodland than the other options, the corridors are considered to be of sufficient width to allow the identification of alignments which would avoid such woodland. We agree that further work is required as part of the detailed routing process to refine an alignment to comply with this rule as far as possible. Whilst more westerly options are preferred from a Biodiversity and Ecology perspective, Option BE5 is assessed to have the least potential of those that pass through the Dedham Vale AONB to have potential for effects resulting in LSEs on the designations of the Orwell Estuaries SPA and Cattawade Marshes SSSI (part of the above SPA).

Based on the information provided, we support the graduated swathe for Bramford to EAC based on **Option BE5 is the preferred option.**

### **Other matters**

We are concerned that more information is needed to understand the impacts on hedgerows along the route, particular those that could be important for bat foraging and commuting routes for Barbastelle bats or Dormouse.

### **Next Steps**

We seek to inform choices on species options for restoration planting schemes as well as securing temporary mitigation measures during construction.

If you have any queries regarding the above matters, please contact us.

Best wishes

### **Sue Hooton CEnv MCIEM BSc (Hons)**

Principal Ecological Consultant

Please note: This letter is advisory and should only be considered as the opinion formed by specialist staff in relation to this particular matter.





24/05/2022

## East Anglia GREEN

East Anglia GREEN is a proposal by National Grid Electricity Transmission (National Grid) to reinforce the high voltage power network in East Anglia, in order to meet future energy transmission demands. The proposals relate to several districts between South Norfolk and Tilbury, Essex.

Whilst the following Landscape Advice relates solely to the proposals which fall within the Mid Suffolk and Babergh Districts, the scheme should be considered holistically when developing the proposals to ensure a high-quality project which is sympathetic to the natural environment. The following advice is designed to inform the next steps in developing the proposals including the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and LPA consultations.

### Current route and design

We have reviewed the Corridor and Preliminary Routeing and Siting Study Report and appendices as well as the Public Consultation Strategy (all National Grid, April 2022). This provides comments on the North East Anglia connection (Norwich to Bramford) and the South East Anglia connection (Bramford to Tilbury). We also note the references to the Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy – EN1 and EN5, which references landscape and visual factors.

1. We note that the routeing constraints in Tables 3.1 and substation siting constraints only refer to nationally designated sites and residential properties. However, we recommend that locally designated sites and similar e.g. Special Landscape Areas are also included as mapped landscape and visual constraints. It would also be beneficial for valued landscape qualities for landscape character areas to be analysed as these would be particularly useful in ensuring landscapes outside of designations are appropriately reviewed and impacts minimised as far as practicably possible by routeing revisions, design options and mitigation measures.
2. Para 3.2.10 states that the potential to route parallel in close proximity to existing 400kV overhead lines is a principal opportunity and would restrict the geographic extent of environmental effects associated with such infrastructure. Earlier indications of the proposed power line corridor showed this was the case, however, under the new proposals, a large section of the new overhead lines will be over 4km west of the existing line, introducing landscape visual impacts in areas where the baseline landscape has not yet been affected by electricity infrastructure. We note that the Holford and Horlock rules have been used as a guide to routeing and siting of new infrastructure, however we would advise further details on the existing constraints are provided to justify the new routeing proposals.
3. The location of Cable Sealing End (CSE) compounds and proposed substations must not only be carefully considered in terms of impacts on visual amenity and landscape character, but also in regard to the setting of the AONB. The Dedham Vale AONB Position Statement (revised Nov 2016) states that “The setting of the Dedham Vale AONB does not have a geographical border. The location, scale, materials or design of a proposed development or land management activity will determine whether it affects the natural beauty and special qualities of the AONB. A very large development may have an impact even if some considerable distance from the AONB boundary.” and “Adverse impacts might not be visual. The special qualities of the Dedham Vale AONB include tranquillity. A development which is noisy may well impact adversely on tranquillity even if not visible from the AONB.” It is therefore considered that different locations of CSE

compounds at extended distances from the AONB are explored to fully understand impacts on setting and natural beauty.

4. We also highlight that any undergrounding in visually sensitive areas such as AONBs, may result in increased landscape impacts from trenching and construction of Cable Sealing End (CSE) compounds and we would expect a full audit of the landscape features and habitats on site to be undertaken to inform the alignment and mitigation proposals.
5. The National Grid's Landscape Enhancement Initiative, which is part of the Visual Impact Provision project, is very much relevant to the AONB area. However, we would advise a similar framework approach is applied to the project as a whole given the evidence available that demonstrates the overall sensitivity of the landscape. Therefore, the extant and rationale for offsite planting and landscape improvement works should align with this initiative.

#### Norwich to Bramford – Sections C-E

6. We note that the Corridor and Preliminary Routeing and Siting Study Report identifies that the A14 crossing near Needham Market is likely to need a complex assessment which will need to include impacts on the River Gipping and various adjacent waterbodies. Where it is considered that the alignment will need to divert around constraints, we highlight that the aim should be to avoid pylons being placed near to hedgerows and associated hedgerow trees which would consequently be affected.

#### Bramford to East Anglia Connection (EAC)

7. The landscape response to cumulative impacts at and around the Bramford Sub-station needs to be carefully considered. Currently there is a number of live and upcoming applications in and around the Bramford area of an industrial character, that will have a detrimental impact on the landscape and Bramford as a settlement. Mitigation measures such as the reinforcement of historic field boundaries, restoring and planting hedgerows, as well as increasing the stock of hedgerow trees are important measures to consider on site.

We would expect preliminary consultations on other national grid schemes to be provided at the earliest opportunity to allow us to understand the cumulative impacts and assess whether there are opportunities for cumulative mitigation measures both on and off site.

#### Next Steps

The National Planning Statement (NPS) EN-1 Section 5.9 also sets out recommendations and requirements in relation to landscape and visual impact. These are detailed below in *italics*:

*The landscape and visual assessment should include reference to any landscape character assessment and associated studies as a means of assessing landscape impacts relevant to the proposed project. The applicant's assessment should also take account of any relevant policies based on these assessments in local development documents in England (NPS EN-1 Para 5.9.5).*

In Suffolk, the primary source of information for the landscape baseline is the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment, which has informed the district level BMSDC Landscape Guidance (2015) and the Managing a Masterpiece LCA.

On this basis it is recommended that the Suffolk LCA provides the overarching framework for the baseline study, with further reference to the BMSDC Guidance and Managing a Masterpiece Study for localised details on local character and cultural heritage within the AONB and the Stour Valley project area.

*The applicant's assessment should include the effects during construction of the project and the effects of the completed development and its operation on landscape components and landscape character (Para 5.9.6).*

GLVIA3 recognises that landscape value is not always signified by designation: 'the fact that an area of landscape is not designated either nationally or locally does not mean that it does not have any value' (paragraph 5.26).

In determining landscape value, TGN 02-21 'Assessing the Value of Landscapes Outside National Designations' has recently been published and builds on the details within GLVIA3 and the assessment of value (GLVIA3 Box 5.1).

For instance, Table 1 of the TGN provides a range of factors that can be considered when identifying landscape value. This includes the incorporation of cultural associations (natural heritage and cultural heritage) into consideration of landscape value, which is greatly supported.

*Given the proposal would be located within the Dedham Vale AONB, substantial weight also needs to be given to the conservation of the natural beauty of this landscape and therefore any application should include an assessment of:*

- *the need for the development, including in terms of national considerations, and the impact of consenting or not consenting it upon the local economy;*
- *the cost of, and scope for, developing elsewhere outside the designated area or meeting the need for it in some other way; and*
- *any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.*

As well as those already referred to above, it is expected that the following reference/guidance documents are considered and used as part of any future assessment. This includes:

- Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Management Plan
- Dedham Vale AONB Natural Beauty and Special Qualities and Perceived and Anticipated Risks (July 2016)
- Managing a Masterpiece Evaluation Report (Dec 2013)
- Valued Landscape Assessment Stour Valley Project Area (March 2020)

If you have any queries regarding the above matters, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Ryan Mills BSc (Hons) MSc CMLI  
Principal Landscape Consultant

Please note: This letter is advisory and should only be considered as the opinion formed by specialist staff in relation to this particular matter.

# **National Grid Electricity Transmission – East Anglia Green Energy Enablement (GREEN)**

**Public Consultation April 2022**

## **Socio-economic response (Skills, Economic Development, Tourism & Visitor Economy)**

### **Economic Development & Skills:**

As an individual project, National Grid Electricity Transmission – East Anglia GREEN, offers no substantial economic benefit in its own right. However, it should be viewed as one of the many individual projects that National Grid Plc via NGV and NGET are delivering in region and we should be working with National Grid Plc to deliver a package of training, skills and growth opportunities that engages with the local supply chain strategically across all local projects eg; Bramford to Twinstead and Norwich to Tilbury overhead lines, Suffolk to Kent marine link, Nautilus, and Eurolink interconnectors alongside this project, East Anglia GREEN.

It is essential that we seek to maximise the inward investment, socio-economic and skills benefits of these projects, ensuring the best possible deal for the communities that are hosting this vital Net Zero transmission, connection and generation infrastructure which has significant impact on them and their environment.

### **Tourism & Visitor Economy**

The pre-covid Visitor Economy in Suffolk was worth over £2bn a year to the local economy, and whilst reduced by almost 60% during 2020, we are expecting a strong recovery due to the strength of the staycation market and the rich and varied tourist offer including heritage assets, landscape designations and promoted areas, such as, two designated AONBs, the Dedham Vale, Stour Valley, Waveney Valley and Suffolk's Wool Towns.

The Government has spent billions supporting these businesses and attractions throughout the pandemic, alongside support from VisitBritain/VisitEngland to encourage people to holiday at home and explore coast and countryside destinations across England, and we must ensure that this recovery is not negatively impacted by this, or any other, national infrastructure programme without being fully managed and mitigated.

In order to manage these anticipated challenges, this project and its associated infrastructure will need to fully assess their direct and indirect impacts on the wider tourism, cultural and visitor economy and particularly the extent to which the physical infrastructure will impact and detract from the environmental quality of an area for recreational activity.

The proposed route will also directly impact some of the key visitor attractions within Babergh and Mid Suffolk such as Needham Lake (the most visited free attraction in Suffolk), Hintlesham Hall, RSPB Wolves Wood, Dedham Vale, Constable Country, Stour Valley and more broadly, the wider landscape within the AONB and listed buildings and conservation areas within the market towns.

It is also imperative that the project considers its part in the cumulative impact on the perception and propensity of people to visit the area during the works period.

Please note that when considering the pylon routes some routes will be more sensitive than others due to the businesses located on the route. I have not gone into this detail at this stage but can do when necessary and there is likely to be a requirement for environmental and/or economic mitigation measures to reduce the impact of this development on the local economy should it proceed.

**From:** BMSDC Planning Area Team Pink <PlanningPink@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 31 May 2022 08:32:07

**To:**

**Cc:**

**Subject:** FW: DC/21/05611, Air Quality

**Attachments:**

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**From:** Jennifer Lockington <Jennifer.Lockington@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 30 May 2022 08:52

**To:** Bron Curtis <Bron.Curtis@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>; BMSDC Planning Area Team Pink <PlanningPink@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>

**Cc:** BMSDC Planning Mailbox <planning@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>

**Subject:** DC/21/05611, Air Quality

Dear Bron

YOUR REF: 21/05611

OUR REF: 307633

**SUBJECT:** Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project - interest into entering a PPA with National Grid for the East Anglia GREEN Project (ATNC/AENC).

**Please find below my comments regarding air quality matters only.**

Thank you for your consultation on the above application. I understand that this application is similar to a Scoping Opinion, to determine which matters need to be assessed in the application.

I would recommend that an Air Quality Assessment is provided with the application. This should focus on the risk from the cabling through Dedham Vale, construction traffic, and any other matters that the applicant considers necessary to assess in relation to Local Air Quality Management. Alternatively, if the applicant considers that an Air Quality Assessment is not necessary, I recommend that a justification is provided.

Regards

**Jennifer Lockington (Mrs)**

Senior Environmental Management Officer

**Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils - Working Together**

tel: 01449 724706

[www.babergh.gov.uk](http://www.babergh.gov.uk) [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk)

Please note - I work Tuesdays and Wednesdays