

From: Dedham Parish Council

To: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020027>

By: 27 November 2025

Your Reference: EN020027

### **National Grid's Norwich to Tilbury transmission line**

Dedham Parish Council wants to register its objection to National Grid's proposed development of a transmission line from Norwich to Tilbury. Dedham is located at the heart of the Dedham Vale National Landscape. The special qualities of the Dedham Vale are associated with John Constable and the landscape he painted is still recognisable today. The traditional character of the Dedham Vale comes from historic villages, such as Dedham, with timber framed housing and prominent churches. There is a sense of history and tranquillity in Dedham that has remained unspoiled and attracts visitors from all over the country and beyond. Unfortunately, the proposed pylons and related infrastructure in surrounding villages is entirely incompatible with the setting and will do significant and, most importantly, irreversible harm to this protected landscape.

The situation is made more problematic by the proposed concentration of infrastructure by Ardleigh (on Grade 1 agricultural land) just to the south of Dedham (which inexplicably includes pylons re-tracing the route of underground cables) and will lead to unacceptable visual impact on the setting of the Dedham Vale from pylons, sealing end compounds, wirescapes and substations. Moreover, the area south of Langham Estate down to the Black Brook, just west of Dedham, will have almost 1,000 trees, some of which are hundreds of years old, felled causing further massive impact to the views from within the protected National Landscape. In addition, the locations selected for construction compounds, construction laydown sites and access roads will be clearly visible from the National Landscape, and many listed buildings, without proper shielding from view. Finally, the disruption and danger to residents that will be caused by the re-routing of significant volumes of traffic during the construction phase onto roads that are neither suitable for HGVs nor always even able to allow two-way traffic (such as Dedham Village centre) does not appear to have been appreciated or mitigated in any way.

In our opinion, the public consultation had fundamental deficiencies by not adhering to the Gunning Principles and our preference remains for an integrated offshore grid or underground HVDC; however, if this project is to avoid irreparable damage to the Dedham Vale, significant mitigations are needed and Dedham Parish Council fully supports the position of the Dedham Vale National Landscape on this.