

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [SizewellC](#)  
**Subject:** National Grid Sizewell C connection  
**Date:** 07 May 2021 08:31:09

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Dear case team, I wish to draw to your attention the attached article which was in the local East Anglian Daily Times 6th May 2021.

This relates to a highly contentious grid connection "enhancement " which is alluded to as part of EN6 Sizewell policy at C8.5.

I noted that there were few questions related to the National Grid yet this is a most controversial matter because the 400 kv existing grid at Sizewell will be potentially carrying an enormous amount of power from 3 wind farms plus 4.8 gigawatt from nuclear. I understand networks may be part of EN5 but it would appear that there is a need to fully understand the implications of this matter. eg undergrounding of cabling and climate change may not be safe. Grid stability at times of low demand. Single reactor and single turbine design of the EPR compared to Sizewell B which has two turbines one of which was switched off last year.

Please can you consider an additional enquiry or extra questions of National Grid?

Regards Mike Taylor

Sent from [Outlook](#)



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# Minister backs calls for fewer pylons in Suffolk's Stour Valley

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**Environment minister Lord Gardiner has joined calls for National Grid to put more of its cables underground as it creates a new power route across south Suffolk.**

The minister wrote to Robert Erith, president of the Dedham Vale Society, saying that the National Grid should not restrict its underground cables on the Bramford to Twinstead route to the official Stour Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

He said: "I share your passionate concerns of the significant impact that this option will have for the landscape value of the Stour Valley.

"The government's formal 'Planning Practice Guidance' underlines the importance of this duty and makes it clear that it also applies to development schemes in areas which provide the complementary setting to an AONB and contribute to upholding its statutory purpose.

"The section of the Stour Valley affected by this scheme should come into that category."

South Suffolk MP James Cartlidge said Lord Gardiner's intervention should force the National Grid to rethink its plans for the route of the power lines.

He said: "In National Grid's proposal to reinforce pylons on the Bramford-Twinstead transmission route, the only undergrounding of cabling that they refer to is where the pylons would go through countryside formally designated as AONB.

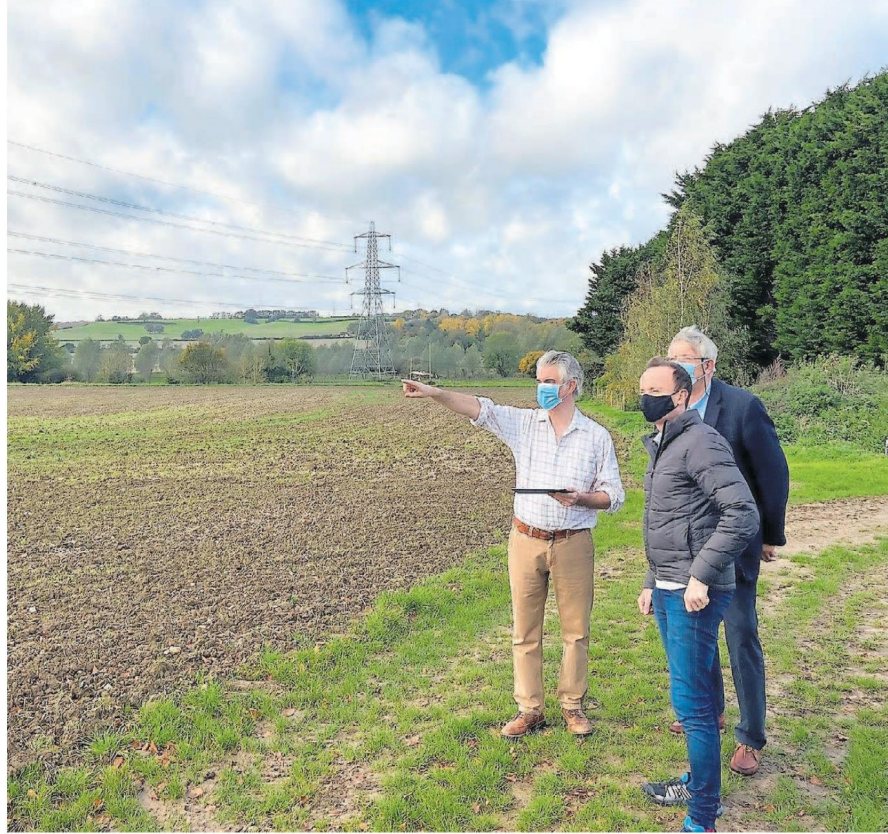
"In reality this would mean that most of the route would remain above ground, and many constituents have contacted me to express their alarm at such a prospect.

"However, Lord Gardiner's letter is quite clear that National Grid has a duty under the Electricity Act 1989 to do what it can to 'reasonably mitigate' the impact of its infrastructure on the



natural environment.  
"I believe that this is a significant intervention by a government minister. I have previously accepted that with offshore wind output growing at such pace there is a case for reinforcing the capacity of the National Grid.  
"However, if we have to have continued onshore infrastructure reinforcement then I agree with Lord Gardiner that undergrounding should play a

much more significant role.  
"While I recognise and very much support the role East Anglia plays in helping the UK move towards net zero, I will continue to make the case with colleagues for doing everything possible to avoid the harmful impact of large-scale infrastructure upgrades to the electricity transmission grid."  
The National Grid has said that the link between Bramford and Twinstead is vital to its work in bringing power from the North Sea turbines to the rest of the country.  
It is carrying out a consultation and has urged people to take part in this.



James Cartlidge with local councillors on the route of the proposed power lines. Inset below, Robert Erith  
Pictures: OFFICE OF JAMES CARTLIDGE/SUFFOLK COASTS AND HEATHS



Environment minister Lord Gardiner  
Picture: PAUL GEATER

# Minister joins calls for fewer valley pylons

Calls to protect area of natural beauty



The pylons would be built in the Stour Valley

A row over plans to put electricity pylons in the picturesque Stour Valley has taken a twist – after a minister backed campaigners’ concerns.

Opponents say the National Grid’s plans could harm an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Environment minister Lord Gardiner told opponents he shared their concerns – and that the use of underground cables

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should not be restricted.

South Suffolk MP James Cartlidge said Lord Gardiner’s letter showed the National Grid had a duty to “reasonably mitigate” the impact of pylons on the environment.

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