


From: 
To: [Norfolk Vanguard](#)
Subject: Norfolk Vanguard Project. EN10079.
Date: 02 May 2019 20:33:20

Dear Planning Inspectorate,

The visual mitigation of the substation still seems vague.

Viewpoint 7. Ivy Todd Road East is Interesting. Looking at figure 29.29c. the converter halls of Vanguard and Boreas can be seen, and show their massive scale, considering they are 889m away from the viewpoint. Figure 29.29d. shows the same view with mitigation planting. This view has the converter halls completely concealed by trees, at exactly the right height. How was this achieved?

The only methodology reference I have found, attempting this result is back in the consultation summary document autumn 2017, where on page 38 a map shows the proposed layout, including new tree planting. To the south of Vanguard substation they show planting close to the project, which is the mitigation for viewpoint 7. Using Google Earth Pro the area where the east converter hall is intended is at 70m above sea level, and the new tree planting, near Lodge Farm is at 66m, and yet these trees manage to conceal a 19m high construction. This seems unlikely in the extreme

The result in figure 29.29d. must be achieved by a totally revised method, which has not been disclosed. We all want the result shown, but realistically, this can only be achieved by planting the trees closer to the viewpoint, or planting them on a substantial earth bank, both of which would put new demands on the relevant land owners at this stage of the process.

I also notice table 29.12. Potential Impacts During Operation of Onshore Project Substation and National Grid Extension, mentions Vale House access in the baseline description of the viewpoint, but in the sensitivity section Vale House is not included, only road-users. I think the residents would be unhappy to know, they were not worth mentioning as sensitive to the view, as it is totally visible from their property. Of course it blights our land, and views from Holme Hale.

The same map diagram in the Consultation Summary Document shows the National Grid extension with no visual mitigation. How is the applicant going to mitigate the south and east of the N.G. extension?

If the resultant visual mitigation does not resemble the photomontages, what recourse is possible?

Viewpoint 2 Lodge Lane South scenario2. and viewpoint 3 Lodge Lane North scenario2 photomontages also concern me. Firstly they seem to be incorrectly titled Norfolk Boreas HVDC Substation, when they are I hope Norfolk Vanguard. Then comparing the views provided reveals an inconsistency that has a massive effect on the end result.

Starting with the lowest viewpoint, 2 Lodge Lane South, at stream level, at the ford, both converter halls are clearly visible. Then move to viewpoint 3 Lodge Lane North, which is up a considerable gradient, and closer to the Halls, and the east hall is barely visible, hidden behind a virtual 3D mound. On the same page as the 3D image, the baseline photograph does not show this mound, but the land consistently falling away from the lane. The baseline photograph looks correct, and the 3D image looks faulty. If the 3D images only are compared, starting again with viewpoint 2, the lane and gradient which you travel along to view point 3 is clear, and it is clear that viewpoint 3 would be a better vantage point to see the halls more completely and in more detail, but when you arrive at 3D image viewpoint 3. the land behind Lodge Farm has dropped 10m, and a mound has formed to

the left of the lane, both features make the view of the halls worse than viewpoint 2. and are nonexistent, and do not manifest as you travel up Lodge Lane. The subsequent mitigation montage looks based on the 3D image, which shows it seriously over effective, also taking into account the land rises 4-5m behind Lodge Farm, the 3D image looks, or is totally wrong, for whatever reason.

I would like to mention that there has been no communication regarding the easements and rights of way over the substation and national grid extension land, apart from asking if we had any documents regarding the said easements.

Thank you for your attention,

Colin King.

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