

Norwich to Tilbury pylon route

Summary

This representation objects to the cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development in combination with the Norwich to Tilbury pylon route and the consequential increase in size of the Norwich Main substation. These include cumulative landscape and visual impacts, change of landscape character, additional construction traffic, and the displacement of local traffic onto narrow country lanes.

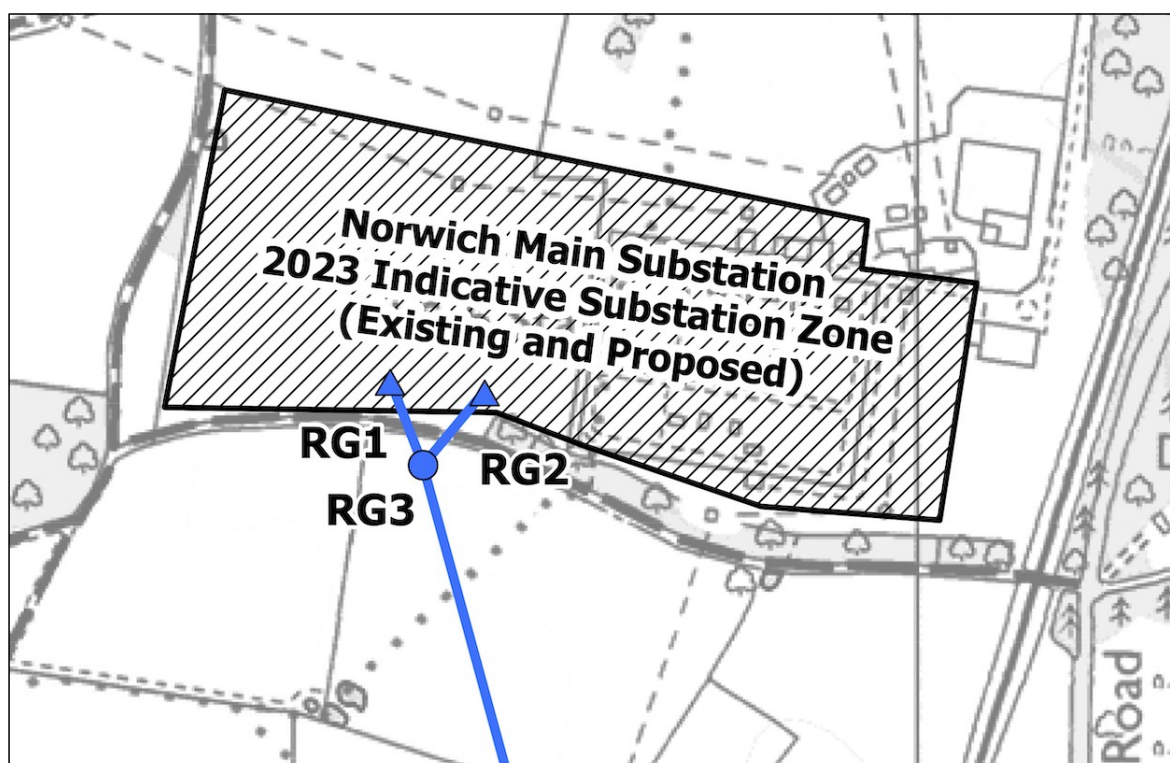
Cumulative impacts

Given the duties placed on the Secretary of State by the Climate Change Act 2008, and recognising the urgent need for renewable energy, it is reasonable to assume that the maximum project output is required and justified. The applicant has explained that an output of 900MW is feasible and may be adopted post-consent without a material amendment of the DCO, and that in the specific case of a grid connection at Norwich Main, this increased output is dependent upon the Norwich to Tilbury pylon route. The planned expansion of the Norwich Main substation and the start of the pylon route at the grid connection point of the Proposed Development are both shown in the diagram below.

National Grid began its Statutory Consultation for the pylon route DCO application (EN020027) on 27th June 2023 and has published the preferred route alignment and the planned expansion of the Norwich Main substation. This provides sufficient detail for an evaluation of the cumulative effects.

The issue of associated development has already been raised in REP5-099 (EN010109-001678), and the applicant responded in REP6-022 (EN010109-001863). The relationship of the pylon route and substation expansion to the Proposed Development is shown in Attachment 1, which supersedes the corresponding attachment in REP5-099.

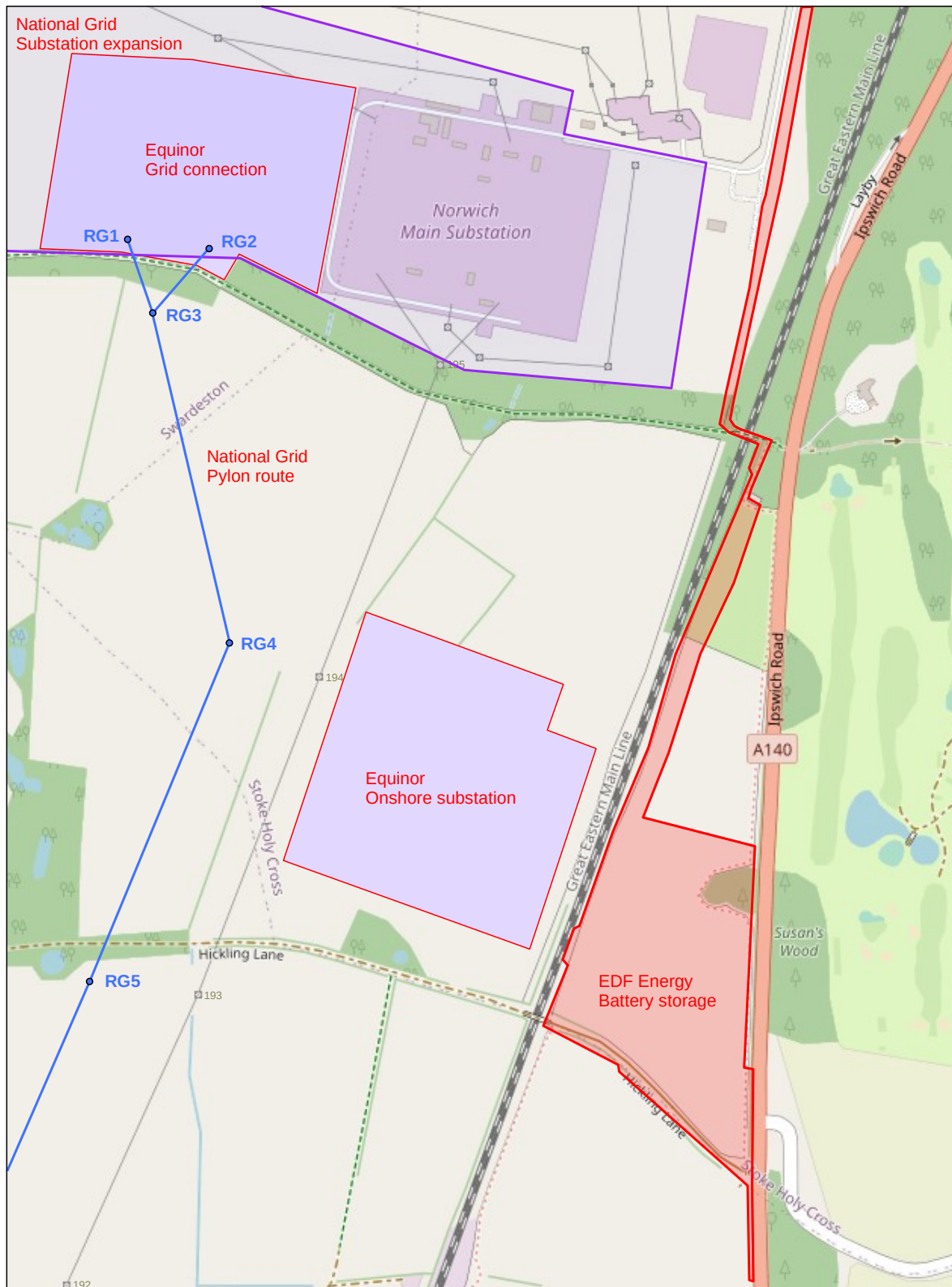
Attachment 2 shows the preferred alignment of the pylon route within the county of Norfolk.



Source: National Grid Norwich to Tilbury Statutory Consultation documents, as published on 27th June 2023.

Substation expansion at Norwich Main

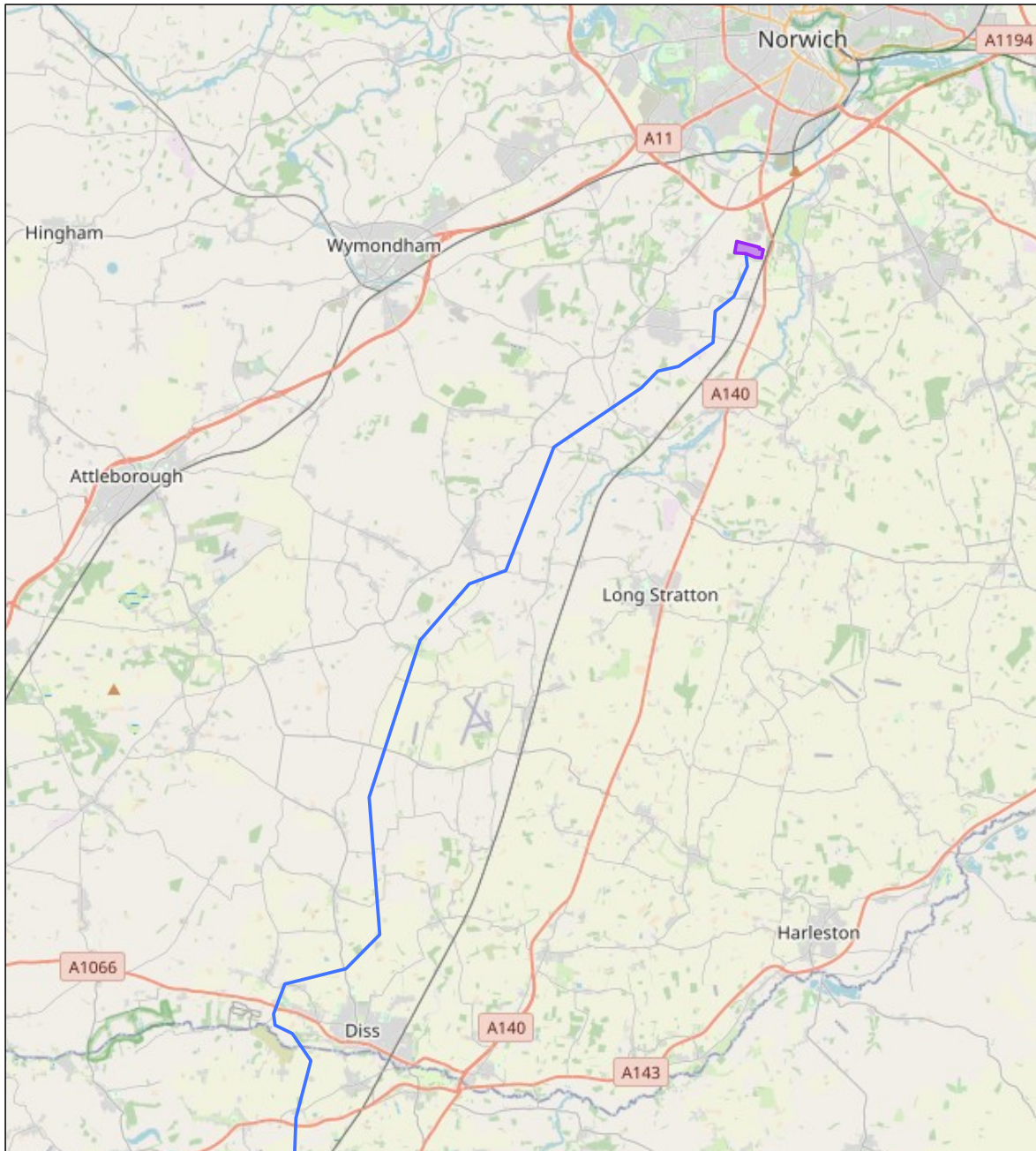
The preferred alignment of the proposed Norwich to Tilbury pylon route has now been published by National Grid as part of the Statutory Consultation. The project includes a significant expansion of the existing Norwich Main substation, and overlaps the Proposed Development as shown below.



Source: Dudgeon and Sheringham Shoal extension projects DCO application, EDF Energy (ref. 2023/0617), and National Grid Norwich to Tilbury Preferred Draft Alignment Section A, as published on 27th June 2023.

Norwich to Tilbury pylon route

The Preferred Draft Alignment of the proposed Norwich to Tilbury pylon route in Norfolk extends southwards for approximately 30km as shown below. The proposed route continues to Bramford in Suffolk and finally to Tilbury in Essex, with a total onshore route distance of approximately 180km.



Source: National Grid Norwich to Tilbury Preferred Draft Alignment Section A, published on 27th June 2023.