

In previous evidence I have expressed concerns about the effect of the proposed cable route on the environment, in particular in the area from the access point by Parkminster St Hughes Monastery and Oakendene Estate. This has now been made more serious by the proposal to construct a track alongside the planned cable route from the A281 through to the Cowfold stream and beyond. This will certainly further undermine the environment through the destruction of hedgerows and in the area around Cratemans Farm and which is well endowed with birdlife including Nightingales. I am doubtful that this can be fully restored to its normal conditions afterwards. The best way to clarify the credibility of Rampion's claims on environment restoration would be to carry out a full investigation into the Rampion I route to see whether the environment has been fully restored to its original condition. I recommend that this should be carried out urgently.