

Submission to Examination Authority

Re EN020002 – Bramford to Twinstead

Unique Ref BTTR-AFP256

Or Registration Identification Number 20039897

- 1 My name is Robert Arthur David Cowlin. Together with my 3 stepdaughters, (Katherine Holden, Angie Comer and Alice Dilnot) we are the freehold owners of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] This submission is made on behalf of us all.
- 2 I am a retired Chartered Surveyor. I have lived at [REDACTED] since 2003. During that time I have run the farm principally as a private nature reserve, encouraging and creating as much variety of habitat as possible. The principle farming activity now is grazing for cattle, which provides a good habitat for wild life, especially Barn Owls. In order to convert the previous arable fields to pasture for grazing cattle, I have planted numerous hedges with native species in the last 20 years (with Government grants), which are now nearing maturity.
- 3 I do not object to the principal of this proposal, that is the demolition and replacement of the original 1960's overhead National Grid Pylons and line with increased capacity modern pylons.
- 4 I do object to the temporary access routes proposed across my land because at the west end it will create an unnecessary break in the hedge and fence line which I created and at the east end will cross land which is rare upland freshwater marsh which I know is very unstable and of low bearing capacity.
- 5 Both I and my agent, Chris Leney of Brooks Leney, have pointed this out to Bruton Knowles, National Grid's agent,

inviting them to inspect the site and to enter into discussions, but no inspection or meaningful discussion has taken place.

- 6 I pointed my objections out by email on 20 March 2023 to Bruton Knowles, suggesting the following variations:
- 7 At the east end, use the existing gate access to the north into the field. That would avoid making a new break in the hedge and fence, which is undesirable because the existing hedge and fence (which I planted in 2012) was designed to have no break and to shield cattle in the field from public view. I am particularly concerned because I have had two instances of youngsters interfering with gates, deliberately leaving them open allowing the cattle to escape and I do not want another gate here, when an existing one can easily be used.
- 8 At the west end, there is a steep wooded bank leading down from the cattle field (OS Grid ref TL93374511) to the upland marsh (TL93375513) which will be difficult to navigate. At the lower level the marsh is soft as my fencing contractor found out when his 4 wheel drive tractor sank upto its axles in it, and had to be winched out, even at the end of a dry summer. I suggest an access from the field to the north to the old tower to be demolished would be much easier and cheaper and avoid interfering with so much of the marsh. Any attempt to harden up an access route is bound to affect the natural drainage, which I would wish to avoid.
- 9 I respectfully suggest serious consideration be given to these alterations.