

**REPRESENTATION IN RESPECT OF THE BRAMFORD TO TWINSTEAD PROJECT
SUBMITTED BY LAND PARTNERS LLP
AS AGENTS FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
MR P J NOTT OF COLLINS FARM, PEBMARSH, HALSTEAD, ESSEX, CO9 2SQ**

Introduction

Mr Peter Nott is the owner of Collins Farm, Pebmarsh and he farms the land in conjunction with his son, Edmund, trading as Peter Nott and Son Limited. Peter Nott is identified as 'Person with an interest in land [PIL] number 634. We draw the Inspector's attention to the Representation in July 2023 to provide background to the following submission.

Purpose of the Development Consent Order

National Grid are proposing to acquire a permanent right of access (defined as Class 4 – Compulsory Acquisition of Rights – Access) across Peter Nott's land, identified as Land Parcel Nos.; 29-06 and 29-07 (in common with others). This will involve laying a temporary roadway from a new access point off the A131, in an easterly direction, across three arable fields to a point where it will cross Oak Road and run on to a neighbour's land.

The stated purpose of the right to be acquired is to provide access, during the construction period, to the Stour Valley West CSE Compound and provision, in the long term, for access to the site should National Grid have a need to undertake substantial repair or re-building works to the infrastructure in the future.

We set out in the Representation submitted in July the full timeline of Mr Nott's engagement with National Grid and their agents. We highlight that the initial approach discussed a temporary haul road; in January 2023 the temporary haul road requirement was usurped by a 'permanent right' with National Grid requiring the right to return to use the haul road route, following completion of the initial construction period, on the re-installation of the haul road, subject to the service of 3 months' notice. In September 2023, National Grid's agents added further wording to the proposed heads of terms, introducing a provision that would allow their client the right to use the haul road route without full construction on the service of 28 days' notice, save in the case of an emergency. These changes to the rights sought have compounded the uncertainty for Mr Nott and call into question the validity of earlier consultation as the nature of what is being sought has changed significantly. We ask that the Inspector:

- gives due consideration to whether the breadth of the rights now sought is proportionate.
- Clarifies under what circumstances National Grid can exercise the rights sought

We note that subsequent to our previous submission, National Grid have confirmed that they will not accept any amendments to the haul road route as submitted to the DCO. We also note that access has now been taken to Mr Nott's land to undertake some surveys but have not had sight of any survey results.

We have received a further set of heads of terms which includes a plan and we continue to progress negotiations.