

From: [Francis Prosser](#)
To: [BramfordtoTwinstead](#)
Subject: Additional question for Planning Inspectorate regarding subsea network studies
Date: 12 December 2023 17:51:25
Attachments: [Additional question for Planning Inspectorate 121223.pdf](#)

Good evening,

I don't know where this fits in to the process / agenda – I'm a little lost on the whole thing now to be honest - which documents / which events cover what..

Nevertheless I am submitting this question on the basis that this arises from essentially new/ recent information that I believe has a bearing on the proceedings: that the Government supports a study into subsea cabling for the parallel line from Norwich to Tilbury. Such a study could have a wide-ranging effect on the way that the whole network in this area is assessed and planned for.

As such it is a question I would raise if I could at an open hearing but if there is an appropriate point at which to raise (eg via the website procedure) then please let me know and I will do my best to comply.

Many thanks

Kind regards

Francis Prosser

**Additional question for Planning Inspectorate / National Grid
Re Subsea Cable Study**

12/12/23

I refer to the recent announcement of the Government's support of a study into the viability of using offshore cables in respect of the proposed Norwich to Tilbury line, something which campaigners, including respective MPs and Councils have been urging for some time. This is essentially new/recent information that I believe has a bearing on the proceedings:

The Bramford to Twinstead line is of similar major importance. And the same campaigners and MPs (including Ministers) and councils were also proponents of offshore routes during the consultation processes for this line. The various environmental bodies would also consider support for them.

With the government recognising the need for a re-think of similar proposals surely this means that the B-T line proposals should now be included in the studies.

There is also a chance to stop perpetuating the short term, piece-meal and reactive approach to development of our transmission network, which will unnecessarily devastate parts of the country as clearly outlined in very many consultation and examination submissions.

Further there could well be something that comes to light from these new studies that would have a bearing on the B-T line specifically. How would it be if the alternatives we have all been urging for some time were shown to be even more worthwhile, just months after this planning process had finished?

So, should the Planning Inspectorate consider postponing this process in order to combine with the new studies and encourage a more 'joined-up' approach to these projects?

If it did then this would also allow National Grid to consider how best to minimise the harm these projects will do to people and the environment in the very long-term. Given its commitment in other areas to environmental offset / mitigation, this could also provide an opportunity to include a similar full updated review of undergrounding, something we know is outdated in the current plans and rationale.