26 July 2023

To: Planning Inspectorate

Following meetings and discussions about the location of additional pylons on our land, specifically at ███████████████████████, I have to say that I think it is disgraceful that a large national company like National Grid considers it appropriate when re-organising power supplies to leave surplus old pylons littering the countryside, especially when a cluster of new, joining old, are in close proximity.

In today's world surely we should be thinking of underground for new power lines, but no, being treated as a third world country, we not only have pylons, but more than we need when new lines go up near old ones. Thinking Green? No … Thinking salvage of lost of metal? … No.

The position of Pylon 7 has resulted in us being able to farm 15% less of the field because of its position. After a recent site visit to New Farm, Skelton, York, I understand the proposed Pylon 6 will be positioned 150m away from this, moving further south onto more productive land. The purpose of pylon 7 and its position was to allow wires to cross the railway line. This run of wires are being removed which means Pylon 7 is no longer necessary and should be removed.

It is simply not good enough. We have had enough with water companies pumping sewage into rivers, now we have National Grid littering the countryside unnecessarily with pylons that could be removed, and allow more arable production, if there was the will on their part.

Arguments as to distance involved are disputable and do not compute from measurements we have examined. It is shameful, National Grid need to adjust their priorities, cost should not be the only over-riding factor, but the environment and a more appealing countryside view.

As a guardian of the countryside and having taken great care in improving the condition of the soil over many, many, years, not only is my land going to be trampled on and degraded over many fields, but I am losing more land to pylons and having unnecessary pylons left behind. The attitude of National Grid is unacceptable.

Marion & David Blacker