

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Please find below a response from some of the Broomfleet residents regarding the EIA scoping sent via The Broomfleet Parish Council.

Broomfleet village would like to ensure that their concerns are being taken into consideration during all stages of the planning process. The following impacts which will need addressing were discussed at a recent village meeting with regards to the proposed proximity of the additional National Grid pylons.

The landscape and habitat through which the possible transmission line will pass is highly regarded and contains several protected areas and other sites of historic interest.

The area is a key part of the Yorkshire Wolds and Natural England is intending to designate part of this as an area of AONB.

The emerging preferred corridor also runs alongside a number of conservation areas whose character would be altered significantly by the addition of new pylons, in conflict with Holford rule number 6 which states in flat, sparsely planted areas like the Humberhead levels National Charter Area (NCA), there is a need to avoid a concentration of wires creating a 'WIRESCAPE'

Dramatic negative impact on visual amenity of this area of the Yorkshire Wolds. The additional pylons would be a jarring intrusion marring the unspoiled charm of this beautiful green space, with an industrial corridor of steel.

The whole section of corridor, especially Broomfleet, should be underground, extreme North or better still off shore via an integrated grid.

We are concerned that National Grid is urging the Government to finalise a National Policy statement that would effectively mandate the Planning Inspectorate to approve the proposals and would shorten the 7 year consultation process to 3.5 years. We see this as unacceptable and effectively tipping the balance to allow National Grid to more easily disregard residents' dissenting views and make any judicial review of the project far more difficult to undertake.

## Potential Impacts/Concerns raised by the villagers at a Public meeting held in July 2023

- **Migration of birds**
  - The Humber region is also part of the UNESCO East Atlantic highway, a primary migration route for birds over Western Europe and there are concerns that the lines could become an ecological trap for migrating birds.
  - The East Coast Wetland, including the Humber Estuary is also one of the seven sites around the UK being backed by the Government to win World Heritage Status from UNESCO.
  - The UNESCO Flyway is a coastal network of wetlands from RSPB Blacktoft Sands on the Humber Estuary to RSPB Wallasea Island, Essex. It is visited by millions of birds annually. World Heritage are in the process of making the Humber a World Heritage Site - this has been put forward by the government
  - Farmers are given funds for feed and hedges to support the migration
  - Bird casualties - due to cables in the flight path, at present geese & swans often fly into the cables. Doubling the number of cable plus the new cables would be thicker and the possible emitting a higher magnetic field - could impact the flight path casualties further
- **Water Levels**
  - Land searches show that the area around Broomfleet is a flood plain with links to Market Weighton Canal through watercourses and dykes
  - Fields are used as water soaks
  - Possible impacts of flooding in the village due to climate change if flood plains & water soaks are compromised
- **Impact on nature**
  - Local bird life, birds of prey, owls, geese, swans, deer etc could all be materially impacted
  - Natural England is intending to designate part of this as an area of AONB.

- Negative impact on wildlife - local bird life such as Marsh Harriers, Red Kites and the thousands of migrating geese to name but a few.
- **Historic area of interest**
  - Roman area of historical interest
  - Provenance Farm was once a hamlet, and artefacts have been found around both it and Providence Farm, one of which dates back to Roman times and held the museum in Hull
- **House Prices**
  - This may have an impact on house prices in the area
  - Saleability of property may reduce
- **Pennine Trail/visitors to the area**
  - Impact to walkers & cyclists - both visually & the road/path infrastructure
  - Government green book states the impact on the environment needs to be minimised - alternate such as offshore routes should be evaluated
- **Possible Health Issues**
  - If overhead pylons go ahead the cables will be thicker and possibly increasing the EMF
  - Possible negative impact on health due to an increased EMF - there is growing evidence of adverse effects of EMF on health.
  - Surrounding the village or running further pylons in close parallel proximity would further increase the level of EMF on the village and therefore increase the risk of adverse health issues.
  - No current/recent government studies on the effect on the community from EMF
  - The last EMF study was completed in 2013, an up to date study is required of current EMF levels in village - the village needs to lobby MP David Davis to ensure this study is completed before any further changes are made
  - Independent studies have been conducted in Italy and other countries similar concerns around the impact of EMF and child leukaemia
  - **Consider the Question:** Do we believe we have disproportionate health issues in the village caused by EMF and would the increase put us under further risk?
- **Disruption** (both during construction and longer term)
  - Farms and businesses for the whole of the proposed line not just Broomfleet could cause a detrimental effect on quantities of crops grown during this time could feed into impact prices across the food chain
  - **Infrastructure impact during the construction phase**
    - Level of traffic increase on roads which are single track
    - Traffic has already increased with National Grid assessing pylons - issue with limited passing places
    - Roads are used by farmers, walkers, cyclists, runners and the movement of sheep
- Other Considerations

**Underground Cables** - the unanimous preference expressed was that if transmission lines had to come close to the village and surrounding settlements, there they should be underground to help safeguard the visual amenity of the surrounding countryside

It was felt that the National Grid ESO report on the benefits of a coordinated integrated offshore grid to transmit the North Sea wind-farm energy south the area of demand should be further explored as a priority to avoid the destruction of the local landscape with archaic and visually impactful additional pylons.

Regards  
Broomfleet Village Representatives