**Information re East Anglia Green (Pylons) from Ian Spratt. 13th June 23.**

**Rosie Pearson update 5th June 23**

In case you did not receive Ofgem's email today, here it is below. Full response coming from us soon but, in short:

* Treasury Green book is mandatory, despite their waffle here
* From things we have seen NG ET has not made one reference to Treasury Green Book so Ofgem will need to demonstrate where it has been taken into account.
* Ofgem tries to reassure us that 'LOTI' will be followed but knows full well it won't because EAG Pylons are being assessed under 'ASTI' (sorry for all the acronyms). ASTI is rubbish as there is barely any scrutiny.
* **Ofgem knows full-well that in 2020 NG ESO priced up an integrated offshore option and it's £2bn cheaper than piecemeal and pylons**
* **Ofgem also knows that NG ET's so called 'offshore' option is not really an offshore option at all. Nor have details been presented for consultation and nor will they.**
* **What is abundantly clear is that Ofgem and NGET seem to be working more like partners than a project proposer and scrutinising body.**

**THE EMAIL FROM OFGEM:**

Thank you for your correspondence in relation to the East Anglia Green project.

Addressing your questions in turn:

· The Green Book provides standard guidance for evaluating the benefits and outcomes of projects. The Electricity System Operator (ESO) Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) used for LOTI submissions is built on the Green Book principles and the Spackman approach. Ultimately Transmission Owners proposals are subject to independent appraisal by the ESO in line with the Green Book guidance. We expect Transmission Operators to reference the Green Book in their submissions to Ofgem, particularly when providing evidence on the forecast benefit of their projects, however we do not expect or look for an exhaustive implementation of it. The Green Book itself is not a mechanical or deterministic decision-making device. It provides approved best practice tools and models to identify the social and public welfare costs, benefits, and trade-offs of options under consideration. Our processes are both broader in terms of focussing on the needs of consumers and more industry-specific than the scope of the Green Book which is necessarily generic.

· We do not consider Least Worst Regret to be discredited. It is a tool for interpreting results across different CBA scenario results that are Green Book compliant. Least Worst Regret is only one methodology applied when selecting a preferred option. Under LOTI and ASTI when we review the preferred option presented by a Transmission Owner, we look to see that it has been determined through a robust process and is fully justified by the evidence supplied. This does not solely follow a least worst regret approach but is a bottom-up assessment of engineering inputs, estimated capital expenditure, whole lifecycle costs, consumer outputs (typically in the form of reduced constraint costs) and net present value per option.

· We have no evidence to suggest an offshore option would be cheaper, faster to implement or have improved outcomes in the form of constraint costs or carbon emissions. It is possible that an offshore option could also result in delays to delivery, which would have the potential to increase constraint costs and emissions.

· Previous costing analysis by NGET also indicated an offshore route in East Anglia would be more costly. The upcoming ESO study into transmission routing options in East Anglia will provide fully costed analysis into alternatives including an offshore option. Until this is published, we do not recognise previous estimates of savings for an offshore route and it should be noted that cost remains only one metric against which ESO, Ofgem and developers consider a project proposal.

· We are continuing to work closely with NGET and the ESO to consider the East Anglia Green project, and with industry and wider stakeholders on energy infrastructure in East Anglia more generally.

#### This was posted mid-May.

#### NEW! “NORTH FALLS” CONSULTATION! IT MATTERS TO THE PYLONS CAMPAIGN

**Please send an email by copying & pasting the text underneath this background info.**

BACKGROUND. Wind farms ‘North Falls’ and ‘Five Estuaries’ have both been told by National Grid to connect into East Anglia Green PYLONS. We have met with both and they would happily connect offshore instead. Much of National Grid's justification for the pylons is these two wind farms. We therefore need them to connect offshore.

North Falls is running its second consultation NOW, until 14 July.

##### EMAIL TO SEND

To:
contact@northfallsoffshore.com

cc. YOUR MP
Subject: North Falls offshore connection essential

*"Dear Sir or Madam
I support in general terms your proposals to generate green electricity through offshore wind farms.*

*However,****I object in the strongest terms to the unnecessary connection onshore.****This will result in tunnelling and trenching to place underground cables through Tendring, and a sub-station near to Lawford, Ardleigh, very near to the Dedham Vale AONB. That connection is into the unpopular East Anglia GREEN pylons proposal which has many contentious years in the planning system ahead of it.*

*Therefore, we are delighted to see that you are also looking at an offshore connection.*

*In answer to Question 2, in your consultation, “What outcome would you like from the OTNR?”****we are wholeheartedly in favour of your Option 3 Connection, “Offshore electrical connection supplied by a third-party electricity network provider.”, to be identified through the OTNR process.***

***The damaging onshore connection is unnecessary****because both North Falls and Five Estuaries could connect offshore. National Grid ESO has already carried out advanced scenario testing of offshore coordination options.*

*We thank you for the work you have already done with regards to the offshore connection and we look forward to seeing this work bear fruit with the abandonment of the onshore connection.

Yours faithfully"*

Email issued by Rosie Pearson.

Dear all

Wonderful National Grid...

1. It has changed the pylons' project name - now Great Grid Upgrade Norwich to Tilbury instead of East Anglia GREEN. Different kind of propaganda, same bad project.
2. It appears to be running a consultation but its unhelpful video and email do not say exactly when.
3. Lucky homeowners will soon be receiving details of where their nearest pylon will be!
4. They want to listen but they have ignored everything everyone has said so far
5. More bla bla bla it can't go under the sea. YES IT CAN and will save consumers £2bn with an East of England grid alone.

When this mysterious not quite yet a consultation does go live we suggest you do NOT respond until we have got all our ducks in a row. There are likely to be some very leading questions as before (Do you love green energy?), and we MUST keep up the offshore grid fight.

For a patronising video, please click here. Oh, and we need a name to throw back at them - comments below, please... We must never say Great Grid Upgrade. Please fill in... The GREAT G........ .........