

Suffolk County Council meeting Thursday 7 July 2022, vote taken on Motion 1.

Motion 1 – Proposed by Councillor Matthew Hicks and seconded by Councillor James Finch.

Motion Text: 'Suffolk County Council has been lobbying for strategic electricity networks since 2011.

Suffolk County Council, both alone and in partnership with others, continues to lobby and engage with Government on the development of coordinated offshore transmission, and the coordination and planning of energy infrastructure generally, to minimise the impacts on our communities, natural environment, and protected and sensitive landscapes.

It is in this specific context that Suffolk County Council wishes to state its opposition to National Grid Electricity Transmission's (NGET) proposal for the East Anglia GREEN project as it stands. The project, if approved, would see a new 400kv pylon run cutting Suffolk in two, running north/south through East Anglia for 111 miles between Norwich and Tilbury.

The Council feels that NGET have failed to make the strategic case for an onshore, rather than offshore, link and believes there are serious shortcomings within the submitted proposal.

The Council's clear preference is for a coordinated, offshore centred approach, delivered at pace, to minimise onshore infrastructure in Suffolk. If this approach can deliver an alternative to East Anglia GREEN in a timely manner, without risking wider Net Zero, renewable generation, and decarbonisation targets, it would be welcomed by the Council and the many of the communities it represents.

The Council is clear that any offshore solution must reduce the impacts on the county of Suffolk and would not be supportive of proposals that require significant additional onshore infrastructure in East Suffolk or additional pylons on the Bramford to Sizewell line.

If, notwithstanding the Council's preference for an offshore alternative, NGET choose to proceed with East Anglia GREEN, substantial and significant amendments must be made to this project to reduce the adverse impact on the communities and the environment of Suffolk and realise the potential additional benefits that could accrue from this project. These include but are not exclusive to; further undergrounding, the removal where possible of existing 132kv pylons, effective mitigation of residual impacts, and an effective scheme of community benefits.

Therefore, the Council will:

1. Continue to oppose the East Anglia GREEN project, as it is currently proposed.

2. Write to NGET asking that they publish clear and detailed information setting out what an offshore centred alternative, to their onshore East Anglia GREEN proposal, would entail.'

Total results	
For	40
Against	
Abstain	

Conservative Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Edward Back			
Peter Beer			
Bobby Bennett			
Stuart Bird	For		
Elaine Bryce			
Stephen Burroughes			
Nadia Cenci	For		
Jenny Ceresa			
Chris Chambers			
Judy Cloke			
Andy Drummond			
Robert Everitt	For		
Philip Faircloth-Mutton	For		
James Finch	For		
Jessica Fleming			
Mick Fraser			
David Goldsmith	For		
Peter Gould			
Georgia Hall	For		
Liz Harsant	For		
Ryan Harvey			
T-J Haworth-Culf			
Matthew Hicks	For		
Rachel Hood	For		
Beccy Hopfensperger			
Christopher Hudson	For		
Michael Ladd	For		
Stuart Lawson			
Joe Mason			
Debbie McCallum			
Patti Mulcahy	For		
Sam Murray	For		
David Nettleton			
Graham Newman	For		
Alexander Nicoll	For		
Colin Noble	For		
Kay Oakes	For		

James Reeder	For		
Andrew Reid	For		
Debbie Richards	For		
Craig Rivett			
David Roach	For		
Keith Robinson	For		
Richard Rout			
Richard Smith MVO	For		
Karen Soons			
Heike Sowa			
Joanna Spicer	For		
Lance Stanbury			
Jamie Starling			
Peter Thompson	For		
Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro			
Paul West	For		
Steve Wiles			
Nathan Wilson	For		

Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Jessie Carter	For		
Annette Dunning			
Simon Harley	For		
Richard Kemp	For		
Robert Lindsay			
Inga Lockington			
Victor Lukaniuk	For		
Peggy McGregor			
Andy Mellen	For		
Penny Otton	For		
Caroline Page			
Keith Scarff	For		
Andrew Stringer			
Caroline Topping			
Keith Welham			

Labour Group

Councillor's Name	For	Against	Abstain
Sarah Adams	For		
Rob Bridgeman	For		
Elizabeth Johnson	For		
Sandy Martin	For		
Bill Quinton	For		