

**

[Your Full Name][Your Address] [Your Email / Contact Number] Date:
[Insert]

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally object to the Weston to East Leicester electricity transmission proposal, due to be submitted under the Planning Act 2008 as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

This proposal presents a disproportionate and unjustifiable impact on the rural communities, landscapes, and economies of South Lincolnshire and Leicestershire. I urge the Examining Authority to reject or substantially revise the scheme for the reasons outlined below.

Section 1: Cumulative Impact and Procedural Failures

The proposal does not adequately assess the cumulative impacts alongside other energy infrastructure developments in the region — including the Grimsby to Walpole corridor, solar farm expansions, interconnectors, and carbon capture projects.

EIA Regulations 2017 (Schedule 4) require cumulative effects to be identified and mitigated. This proposal isolates its impacts, creating artificial silos and masking regional saturation.

Section 2: Visual, Landscape and Amenity – Holford and Horlock

Rules

The scheme breaches established planning principles for transmission infrastructure, notably:

- Holford Rules – ignoring skyline intrusion, failing to minimise impact on high amenity areas
- Horlock Rules – poor site selection for substations, lack of visual integration or screening.

EN–1 paras 5.9.8–5.9.9 reinforce these obligations. No clear compliance strategy is offered.

Section 3: Economic Justification – Green Book Compliance

No meaningful cost-benefit analysis is provided for this specific route. Alternatives (including offshore routing and undergrounding in sensitive zones) have not been fairly appraised.

HM Treasury’s Green Book requires public value decisions to be evidence-based. The absence of transparency violates this framework.

Section 4: Farming and Agricultural Impact

The route intersects productive farmland and threatens soil health, drainage, and food security.

NPPF para 174(b) and DEFRA’s Food Strategy 2022 require development to protect soil and food-producing land. Long-term

trenching and substation footprint introduce irreversible damage.

Section 5: Tourism, Community and Heritage

Local tourism will suffer due to construction traffic, visual blight, and disrupted access.

- The A55 roadworks case study in North Wales (2017–2019) illustrates how tourism damage persists long after construction ends.
- NPPF para 84 and 93 require rural economies and community services to be protected.

Section 6: Roads and Access Infrastructure

Construction traffic will overload narrow rural roads, causing safety concerns, delays, and damage.

- Blind bends, poor gritting, subsidence risks
- Bus routes, emergency access compromised

Highways Act 1980, s.130 and NPPF para 111 require safe, suitable access.

Section 7: Local Impact [CUSTOMISABLE]

[Please replace this paragraph with details about your local area.]

In my locality of [e.g. Spalding], the proposal will directly affect:

- [Tourist events], such as the Spalding Flower Parade, which brings thousands of visitors annually
- [Road network] such as the A151 Weston bypass, which will face congestion from construction traffic
- [Wildlife], including birds of prey, bats, and migratory wildfowl
- [Farming/Heritage] sites that contribute to South Holland's cultural and economic vitality

Section 8: Conclusion

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the proposal:

- Reject or substantially revise the proposed corridor
- Ensure full compliance with the EIA Regulations, Green Book guidance, Holford Rules, and the NPPF
- Demand transparency regarding cumulative impacts, substation siting, and design alternatives.

Yours sincerely,

[Your Name]