

Little Bromley Parish Council – Formal Objection to the Tarchon Interconnector Proposal

Little Bromley Parish Council submits this objection in response to Tarchon’s pre-application consultation. The Council’s position is one of **strong and unequivocal opposition** to the proposal as currently presented. The scale, uncertainty, and cumulative impact of the Tarchon Interconnector—when combined with other major energy infrastructure planned for the area—pose **unacceptable and irreversible harm** to Little Bromley and its surrounding parishes.

As stated in the consultation document, *“the location for the converter station is not fixed yet, and a 5 km area has been designated for the site search”*, with the refined search area *“centred around Little Bromley.”* This alone creates a level of uncertainty that is incompatible with meaningful public consultation or proper assessment of local impacts.

1. Lack of Defined Site Location and Resulting Uncertainty

The proposal does not identify a specific site for the converter station or HVAC route. Instead, a broad 5 km search area has been outlined, with Little Bromley at its centre. This lack of clarity:

- Prevents residents, landowners, and the Parish Council from understanding the direct impacts on homes, farmland, roads, and community assets.
- Undermines the ability to assess environmental, visual, and transport effects.
- Creates prolonged anxiety and uncertainty for the village, which is already under pressure from multiple other infrastructure schemes.

A nationally significant infrastructure project should not proceed to this stage without a defined location. The current approach is **premature, incomplete, and procedurally unfair** to affected communities.

12. Severe Cumulative Impacts with Other Major Energy Projects

Little Bromley is already facing the prospect of hosting or being adjacent to:

- The **National Grid East Anglia Connection Node (EACN)** – a major new 400 kV substation hub.
- The **North Falls Offshore Wind Farm substation**, proposed next to the EACN.
- The **Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm substation**, also proposed in the same cluster.

Together, these developments would create **over 30 hectares of permanent industrial infrastructure** across Little Bromley, Ardleigh, and neighbouring areas. As your document states, *“The combined infrastructure will have significant cumulative effects... irrevocably alter the rural landscape... [and] fragment agricultural land.”*

This is not cumulative impact — it is **cumulative overload**.

3. Environmental and Landscape Harm to Little Bromley

The introduction of multiple substations and a converter station in close proximity would:

- Industrialise a rural landscape currently characterised by open farmland and historic settlement patterns.
- Introduce buildings up to **30 metres high**, plus lightning masts and associated infrastructure.
- Result in the loss of **Grade 1 agricultural land**, some of the most productive in the country.
- Create long-term ecological disturbance, habitat fragmentation, and altered drainage patterns, increasing flood risk.
- Generate years of construction traffic on narrow rural roads that are not designed for HGV movements.

As your document notes, *“this concentration of infrastructure will permanently alter the village’s skyline... turning it from a rural community into an industrialised zone.”*

This is a transformation that cannot be mitigated or reversed.

4. Over-Concentration of Energy Infrastructure in a Single Rural Parish

Little Bromley is a small rural village with limited road capacity, no strategic transport links, and a landscape that is highly sensitive to industrialisation. It is wholly inappropriate to concentrate multiple nationally significant energy projects in such a location.

The Parish Council objects to the **principle** of siting the Tarchon Interconnector in or around Little Bromley, given the existing and proposed infrastructure burden. No justification has been provided for why this area should host such a disproportionate share of regional and national energy infrastructure.

Conclusion

Little Bromley Parish Council **formally objects** to the Tarchon Interconnector proposal in its current form. The project:

- Lacks a defined site, preventing proper assessment.
- Adds to an already overwhelming cluster of major energy developments.
- Would cause permanent and unacceptable harm to the landscape, environment, agricultural land, and community.
- Represents an unjustified over-concentration of infrastructure in a single rural parish.

Until a **full, integrated, and cumulative assessment** of all concurrent energy projects is undertaken—and until alternative, less constrained locations are properly evaluated—the Parish Council will continue to oppose the Tarchon proposal in the strongest possible terms.