



**Bryniau Clwyd a
Dyffryn Dyfrdwy**
Clwydian Range
and Dee Valley

Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy AHNE
Park Gwledig Loggerheads, Yr Wyddgrug, Sir Ddinbych CH7 5LH

Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB
Loggerheads Country Park, Nr. Mold, Denbighshire CH7 5LH

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Cyf | Ref: National Grid VIP

Dyddiad | Date: 6/9/18

Dear Cissie,

Consultation on Ofgem's assessment of National Grid's proposal for reducing visual amenity impacts in the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) are some of the UK's most cherished and outstanding landscapes. The National Association of AONBs supports and helps the development of the 46 AONBs which cover just under one fifth of the UK. AONBs offer a wealth of opportunities for both people and wildlife to benefit from our countryside and as vibrant, living landscapes, they underpin the economy and the health and wellbeing of our society. We are a charity whose membership is made up of AONB Partnerships and Conservation Boards, Local Authorities, environment organisations and enthusiastic individuals who care deeply about our outstanding countryside.

The Dorset AONB is a much-beloved part of the AONB family. From peaceful fields to the drama of the spectacular Jurassic Coastline, its collection of unique and beautiful landscapes gives the AONB a strong sense of place and identity.

We are pleased that National Grid and the regulator Ofgem have recognised through stakeholder consultation that the landscape of our cherished AONBs and National Parks can be further improved through the undergrounding of overhead powerlines. We have engaged with National Grid's Visual Impact Provision project through our representation on its National Stakeholder Advisory Group, have helped shape some of the decisions that led to this application to remove 22 pylons in the Dorset AONB. We are confident that removing these pylons will greatly enhance the local setting and benefit the many visitors who seek to enjoy this striking landscape.

Among the National Association of AONBs aims are the commitment to make things happen, translating vision and national policy into local action and to work with local communities and value their skills knowledge and energy. We believe that the VIP project in Dorset meets and exceeds these aims and are therefore pleased to support it.

Yours Sincerely,

Howard Sutcliffe

Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Officer

On behalf of the National Association for AONBs





