National Grid's Notes For Guidance - Tree Planting Restrictions On Pipelines

1. Before any tree planting is carried out on the easement, written approval shall be obtained from National Grid. Any approval granted by National Grid to plant trees on the easement shall be subject to retaining the rights to remove, at any time in the future, all trees which in the opinion of National Grid Engineers might become a danger to the pipeline.

2. The written consent to plant trees will state what area may be planted and also the type of tree.

3. The only hardwood plants which can be planted directly across a pipeline are hedge plants such as Quickthorn, Blackthorn, etc., and these shall only be planted where hedge is necessary either for screening purposes or to indicate a field boundary.

4. Poplar and Willow trees shall not be planted within 10 metres of the centre line of the pipeline.

5. The following trees and those of similar size, which may be deciduous or evergreen, shall not be planted within 6 metres of the centre line of the pipeline, e.g. Ash, Beech, Birch, most Conifers, Elm, Maple, Lime, Horse Chestnut, Oak, Sycamore, Apple and Pear trees, also come in this category. The above trees may only be planted as individual specimens or as a single row in the area between 6 and 10 metres of the pipeline. Dense mass planting may only be carried out at distances greater than 10 metres from the pipeline.

6. Raspberries, Gooseberries and Blackcurrants may be planted on the pipeline, but a 4 metre strip, centred on the pipeline, shall be left clear at all times.

7. Dwarf Apple Stocks may be planted up to 3 metres of the centre line of the pipeline.

8. In cases where screening is required, the following are shallow rooting and may be planted close to the pipeline:

   Blackthorn, Broom, Cotoneaster, Elder, Hazel, Laurel, Quickthorn, Privet, Snowberry and most ornamental shrubs.

9. Christmas trees (Picea Abies) may be planted up to 3 metres of the pipeline. However permission is given on the strict understanding that Christmas trees are clear-felled at intervals not exceeding seven years.

For further guidance refer to NJUG 10.