

**RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank  
South (West) Limited**

**RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank  
South (East) Limited**

**Dogger Bank South Offshore  
Wind Farms**

**National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc  
Statement of Common Ground (Revision 2)  
Submission for Deadline 4**

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### Revision Change Log

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02	11	2.2	Updates to Consultation and Engagement Summary

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## Glossary

Term	Definition
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for one or more Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
Order Limits	The limits within which the Projects may be carried.
The Applicants	The Applicants for the Projects are RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited. The Applicants are themselves jointly owned by the RWE Group of companies (51% stake) and Masdar (49% stake).
The Projects	DBS East and DBS West (collectively referred to as the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms).

## Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
DBS	Dogger Bank South
DCO	Development Consent Order
ExA	Examining Authority
NGET	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc
NHHM	North Humber to High Marnham
PINS	Planning Inspectorate
RR	Relevant Representation
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

1. The Application is for development consent for the Applicants to construct and operate the proposed Projects under the Planning Act 2008. Further description of the Projects is available in **Chapter 5 Project Description, Figure 5-1 [APP-072]**.
2. This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared between RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Ltd and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Ltd, ('the Applicants') and National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc (NGET) to set out the areas of agreement and disagreement between the two parties in relation to the proposed Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the Dogger Bank South ('DBS') West Offshore Wind Farm and DBS East Offshore Wind Farm, collectively known as DBS Offshore Wind Farms (herein 'the Projects').
3. In drafting this SoCG, the Applicants have had regard to the following guidance: *Planning Act 2008: Examination stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects* (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, 2024).
4. The need for a SoCG between the Applicants and NGET is set out in the Rule 6 letter issued on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024 by the Planning Inspectorate following acceptance of the DCO application for examination.
5. This SoCG is intended to provide the Examining Authority (ExA) with a clear summary of discussions between the parties and has been structured to reflect topics which are of interest to NGET and which have been raised within the **NGET Relevant Representation [RR-035]** to the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms DCO that has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate pursuant to the Planning Act 2008.
6. It is the intention that this document will facilitate further discussions between the Applicants and NGET and will provide the ExA with a clear overview of the level of common ground between both parties. This document will be updated throughout the Examination process.
7. The following application documents have informed the discussions with NGET and address the elements of the Projects that may affect the interests of the NGET.
8. This SoCG has been developed during the pre-examination and examination phases of the Projects in accordance with discussions between the Applicants and NGET.

9. The structure of this SoCG is as follows:
- **Introduction:** background to the development of the SoCG.
  - **Consultation:** a summary of consultation to date.
  - **Agreement Log:** a record of the Applicants' position alongside those of NGET relating to topics discussed between parties and the status of agreement on those topics.

## 2 Consultation and Engagement

### 2.1 Introduction

10. NGET has been consulted on the Projects throughout the pre-application stage, as well as via non-statutory and statutory consultation under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008.
11. NGET is a statutory undertaker for the purposes of the Planning Act 2008. NGET owns, operates and maintains the high-voltage electricity transmission network in England and Wales.
12. NGET owns and operates a 400kV overhead line that is located within and in close proximity to the Order Limits for the Projects and has a number of interests within the Order Limits as listed within the **Book of Reference (Revision 03)** [AS-043]. Details of this overhead line are:
  - 4ZR 400kV OHL – Creyke Beck - Thornton 1 - Creyke Beck - Thornton 2 (and associated cable fibres).
13. NGET has stated within its Relevant Representation that as a statutory undertaker, its primary concern is to meet its statutory obligations and ensure that any development does not impact in any adverse way upon those statutory obligations. As such, NGET has a duty to protect its position in relation to infrastructure and land which is within or in close proximity to the Order Limits.

### 2.2 Consultation and Engagement Summary

14. **Table 2-1** summarises the consultation that the Applicants have undertaken with NGET as statutory or non-statutory consultation during the pre-application and post-application phases.

**Table 2-1 - Summary of pre-application and post-application consultation with NGET**

Date	Form of consultation	Meeting Title/Topic	Summary of Consultation
<b>Pre – Application</b>			
13/09/2022	Meeting	Project Intro/Engagement	DBS/NGET project intro discussion/cumulative assessments request.
02/11/2022	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET updates meeting.
01/03/2023	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
21/03/2023	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.



Date	Form of consultation	Meeting Title/Topic	Summary of Consultation
11/04/2023	Email to NGET	Consultation	Introductory email to Ellie Laycock providing project updates and notification of upcoming statutory consultation.
18/04/2023	Emails with NGET	Project Interactions	Further plans and details provided to NGET asset protection team and NGET asset plan provided.
19/04/2023	Email from NGET	Asset Protection	Provision of line profile drawings.
24/04/2023	Email to NGET	Protective Provisions	Request for NGET's standard form Protective Provisions for consideration by DBS.
25/04/2023	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
17/05/2023	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
05/06/2023	Letter	Consultation	Notification of statutory consultation and information.
06/06/2023	Email to NGET	Offshore Interactions	Email to asset protection and Jake Stevens for meeting to discuss crossing requirements including agreements for offshore assets (EG2, TGDC and E4L5).
14/06/2023	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
27/06/2023	Email from NGET	Offshore Interactions	Confirmation from Ellie Laycock of contacts for offshore asset interactions.
12/07/2023	Letter/Email	Consultation	Response from NGET to Section 42 statutory consultation confirming asset interactions and considerations.
15/07/2023	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
15/08/2023	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
06/09/2023	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
05/10/2023	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
09/11/2023	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.

Date	Form of consultation	Meeting Title/Topic	Summary of Consultation
10/11/2023	Letter	Consultation	Notification of targeted statutory consultation.
30/11/2023	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
11/01/2024	Email to NGET	Offshore Interactions	Request to Kate Kingston for further information on offshore requirements and propose meeting to discuss.
07/02/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
09/02/2024	Email from Addleshaw Goddard	Project Interactions	Request from Addleshaw Goddard (solicitors for NGET) to provide a summary and plans showing extent of the proposed interactions.
14/02/2024	Email to Addleshaw Goddard	Project Interactions	Summary and plans of proposed interactions provided to Addleshaw Goddard.
28/02/2024	Meeting	Project Interactions	DBS/Burges Salmon/Addleshaw Goddard to discuss interactions.
13/03/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
14/03/2024	Email from Addleshaw Goddard	Project Interactions	Further clarification queries raised on the summary and plans provided.
19/03/2024	Email to Addleshaw Goddard	Project Interactions	Response to clarification queries provided.
01/05/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
03/07/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
07/08/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
<b>Post – Application</b>			
28/06/2024	Email from Addleshaw Goddard	Protective Provisions	Draft Protective Provisions provided.

Date	Form of consultation	Meeting Title/Topic	Summary of Consultation
05/07/2024	Email from NGET	Project Interactions	Request for updated plan interactions.
09/07/2024	Email to NGET	Project Interactions	Provision of plans and update on status.
23/07/2024	Letter	Consultation	Section 56 notice issued.
04/09/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
02/10/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
06/11/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
06/11/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET meeting to discuss protective provisions
04/12/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
05/02/2025	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
05/03/2025	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
12/03/2025	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET meeting to discuss protective provisions
02/04/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.
04/04/2024	Email	Project Updates	HoTs from NGET's solicitor circulated regarding the co-operation side agreement
07/05/2024	Meeting	Project Updates	DBS/NGET project updates.

## 3 Agreement Log

### 3.1 Overview

15. The following sections of this SoCG summarise the level of agreement between the parties for each relevant topic.
16. In order to easily identify whether a matter is 'agreed', 'not agreed' or 'under discussion', a colour coding system red, amber, green (RAG status) is used respectively within the 'status' column as set out in **Table 3-1**.

**Table 3-1 - Agreement logs position status key**

Position Status	Colour Code
The matter is considered to be agreed between the parties.	Agreed
The matter is neither 'agreed' or 'not agreed' and is a matter where further discussion is required between the parties, for example where relevant documents are being prepared or reviewed.	Under discussion
The matter is not agreed between the parties, however the outcome of the approach taken by either the Applicant or NGET is not considered to result in a material impact to the assessment conclusions. Discussions have concluded.	Not agreed – No material impact
The matter is not agreed between the parties and the outcome of the approach taken by either the Applicant or NGET is considered to result in a materially different outcome on the assessment conclusions.	Not agreed – material impact

## 3.2 General

Table 3-2 - General Topics agreed, in discussion or not agreed with NGET

SoCG ID	The Applicants' Position	NGET's Position	Position Status
<b>Engagement</b>			
1.	<p>The Applicants have adequately consulted with NGET throughout all stages of the Projects to date and the summary of Consultation (section 2.2 of this SoCG) is a fair and accurate record of pre-application consultation.</p> <p>NGET did not raise any issues on this subject throughout discussion or within their Relevant Representation. It is therefore considered by the Applicants that this is agreed.</p>		
<b>NGET Future Infrastructure</b>			
3.	<p>Monthly meetings have been held with NGET, including the new infrastructure project teams for the proposed North Humber to High Marnham overhead line, Birkhill Wood Substation and Wanlass Beck Substation extension, to discuss project interactions and coordination. The Applicants will continue to engage whilst all projects develop to ensure ongoing collaboration.</p>	<p>NGET has identified that the proposed Order Limits overlap with or are in close proximity land required for the following future NGET infrastructure which are required for future generation connections (subject to obtaining the necessary consents and land rights):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extension of the existing Creyke Beck substation (Wanlass Beck Substation Extension);</li> <li>Construction of a new substation (known as Birkhill Wood 400kV substation) to the north-</li> </ul>	

SoCG ID	The Applicants' Position	NGET's Position	Position Status
		<p>west of the existing Creyke Beck substation including the construction of an access road from the existing Creyke Beck substation via the Birkhill Wood Substation to the A1079 (Access Road); and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of a new high voltage electricity transmission line between the new Birkhill Wood Substation and a new substation at High Marnham in Nottinghamshire (known as the North Humber to High Marnham project) (NHHM Project).</li> </ul> <p>NGET requires protective provisions to be included within the DCO to ensure that its existing and future assets and interests are adequately protected, as well as to ensure compliance with relevant safety standards.</p>	
<b>Protective Provisions</b>			
4.	<p>Protective Provisions for the benefit of electricity, gas, water and sewerage undertakers have been included within the draft DCO [APP-027] at Part 1, Schedule 15.</p> <p>The Applicants and NGET are engaging and continuing discussion in respect of the Protective Provisions for the benefit of NGET.</p>	<p>NGET requires protective provisions to be included within the DCO to ensure that its existing and future assets and interests are adequately protected, as well as to ensure compliance with relevant safety standards.</p>	In discussion

## 4 Summary

17. This SoCG has outlined the consultation that has taken place between the Applicants and NGET during the pre-application phases. The agreement logs present the position reached at the point of Deadline 1 between the Projects and NGET in relation to relevant onshore matters.
18. This SoCG will be updated as discussions progress and made available to PINS as requested through the DCO examination phase.

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