

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind

Statement of Common Ground with National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)

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Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Abbreviations / Acronyms | 4 |
| Definitions | 4 |
| 1 Introduction | 5 |
| 1.1 The Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (ODOW) Project | 5 |
| 1.2 The purpose of this Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) | 5 |
| 1.3 Topics addressed in this Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) | 5 |
| 1.4 Identification of items agreed / not agreed / in discussion. | 6 |
| 1.5 Consultation undertaken to date | 6 |
| 2 Statement of Common Ground | 10 |
| 2.1 Plant protection and safety aspects | 10 |
| 2.2 Weston Marsh Substation | 10 |
| 3 Signatures | 12 |

List of tables

| | |
|---|----|
| Table 1 Topics included in this SOCG | 5 |
| Table 2 Colour coding of items | 6 |
| Table 3 Engagement with National Grid | 7 |
| Table 5 Plant protection and safety | 10 |
| Table 6 Weston Marsh Substation | 11 |

Abbreviations / Acronyms

| Abbreviation / Acronym | Description |
|------------------------|---|
| CBA | Cost Benefit Analysis |
| CION | Connections and Infrastructure Options Note |
| EGL | Eastern Green Link |
| G2W | Grimsby to Walpole |
| GW | gigawatt |
| HND | Holistic Network Design |
| NGESO | National Grid Electricity System Operator Ltd |
| NGET | National Grid Electricity Transmission plc |
| ODOW | Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind |
| OnSS | Onshore substation |

Definitions

| Term | Definition |
|---------------|--|
| The Applicant | The Applicant is GTR4 Limited (a joint venture between Corio Generation and, TotalEnergies and Gulf Energy Development), trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind. |
| The Project | Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind, an offshore wind generating station together with associated onshore and offshore infrastructure being developed by GT Round 4 Ltd. |

1 Introduction

1.1 The Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (ODOW) Project

1. Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (“The Project”) is a proposed offshore windfarm, with an Array Area located approximately 33 miles (54 km) off the coast of Lincolnshire. The Project has a total installed capacity of 1.5 GW which is roughly equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of over 1.6 million UK households.
2. The Project includes the offshore and onshore infrastructure required to transmit the power generated by the wind turbines to an onshore substation (OnSS) at Surfleet Marsh and subsequently into the National Grid Transmission System at Weston Marsh - the grid connection point specified by National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) - in its grid connection offer for the Project.

1.2 The purpose of this Statement of Common Ground (SOCG)

3. National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) owns and operates the electricity transmission network in England and Wales. There will be an interface between the Project and NGET at locations where the Project intersects with existing NGET apparatus and where the Project’s grid connection will be made into a new substation that NGET proposes constructing at Weston Marsh. There may be interfaces between the Project and the Grimsby to Walpole Project at locations other than Weston Marsh. There may also be interfaces between the Project and EGL 3 and 4, north of the River Welland. It is possible that the Project and the G2W and EGL 3 and 4 projects could be under construction at the same time and so cooperation between the projects will be required in order that programs are coordinated.
4. The Applicant has accepted a grid connection offer for the Project for a connection at Weston Marsh.
5. This SOCG has been prepared by the Applicant and National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET). It identifies topics that are relevant to NGET’s statutory role and its assets and states whether relevant matters are agreed, not agreed or still in discussion.
6. The SOCG has been prepared with due regard to the Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2024).

1.3 Topics addressed in this Statement of Common Ground (SOCG)

7. Table 1 sets out the matters addressed by the SOCG between the Applicant and NGET, which relate to NGET’s statutory undertaking. The topics referred to are referenced against the relevant chapter of the Environmental Statement (ES), or other DCO application plans or documents.

Table 1 Topics included in this SOCG

| Topic | Application Documents (Application numbers) |
|--------------------|---|
| Project Assessment | ES Chapter 4 Site Selection and Alternatives (REP5-013) |

| Topic | Application Documents (Application numbers) |
|--|--|
| | Onshore Cumulative Effects Approach (REP5-066) |
| The protection of NGET's existing plant and apparatus | ES Project Description: Crossing Schedule (REP4a-067) DCO Onshore Crossings Plan (REP4a-005) Outline Code of Construction Practice (REP5-113) Draft Development Consent Order (Document 3.1 version 10) |
| The protection of NGET's proposed works and/or apparatus | N/A |
| Weston Marsh Substation | ES Chapter 4 Selection and Alternatives (REP5-013) DCO Works Plan Onshore (REP4a-002)) ES Chapter 3 Project Description (REP5-009) |

1.4 Identification of items agreed / not agreed / in discussion.

8. This SOCG identifies the topics that are relevant to NGET and identifies them as agreed, not agreed or in discussion and uses a colour coding system. The system used throughout this document is summarised in Table 2 below.

Table 2 Colour coding of items

| Classification | Meaning |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Agreed | Agreement has been reached between the parties |
| In discussion | This matter has not been 'agreed' or 'not agreed' but discussions are continuing, or information is to be provided with the intention of reaching agreement. |
| Not agreed (No material impact) | This matter has not been agreed, but discussions have been concluded and it is considered that it does not have a material impact upon the conclusions of the assessment. |
| Not Agreed | This matter has not been agreed, but discussions have been concluded. It is considered that it does have a material impact upon the conclusions of the assessment. |

1.5 Consultation undertaken to date

9. **Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.** sets out the meetings held with NGET (the transmission system owner) and / or members of the Grimsby to Walpole (G2W) and Eastern Green Link (EGL) projects, to date and the key discussion points, following the acceptance of the Grid Connection offer. The Project has been engaging with NGET Customer Connections since 2021 and regarding grid connection options since 2022.
10. The Applicant currently has a monthly meeting with NGET, in particular the G2W and EGL project team members as required.

NGET have taken a lead to initiate the Lincolnshire Energy Projects Forum, which will encourage the major energy (and waste) projects in Lincolnshire to collaborate, coordinate and discuss opportunities to minimise cumulative impacts across the region. ODOW together with G2W and EGL 3 and 4 are participants in this forum which was launched in October 2024 and has a working Terms of Reference.

Table 3 Engagement with National Grid

| Consultee (NGET Project team) | Engagement Date | Key Discussion Points | |
|---|-----------------|--|--|
| Customer Connections | 2021-2022 | Initial engagement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project overview Grid connection options |
| Lincolnshire Green project (predecessor of G2W) | 24/05/2022 | Project introductions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview, drivers and status of Lincolnshire Green project. Substation siting methodology |
| Lincolnshire Green project | 21/07/2022 | Holistic Network Design (HND) outcome | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HND recommendations presented to ODOW. Status update from Lincolnshire Green team. |
| Lincolnshire Green project | 14/10/2022 | HND outcome update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status update on impact assessment of HND recommendations on Lincolnshire Green. |
| Lincolnshire Green project | 17/11/2022 | HND outcome update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lincolnshire Coastal Node design update Update on status of NGET system studies. NGET contracting and delivery strategy. |
| Lincolnshire Green project | 22/12/2022 | Status update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lincolnshire Green status update ASTI impact |
| Customer Connections | 20/01/2023 | Post HND Connection Infrastructure Options Note (CION) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NGET system studies update |
| Customer Connections | 27/04/2023 | Post HND CION | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBA update |
| G2W | 15/05/2023 | Project interface management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team introductions and overview of NGET (G2W) and |

| Consultee (NGET Project team) | Engagement Date | Key Discussion Points | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--|---|
| | | | <p>ODOW development activities and planned activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ |
| G2W | 07/08/2023 | Project interface management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NGET G2W project and ODOW project status updates ▪ Public engagement and landowner engagement ▪ Consenting interfaces including cumulative impact assessment. ▪ Technical interfaces including colocation of underground cables. ▪ Weston Marsh site selection. |
| G2W | 22/08/2023 | Technical Collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical parameters including alignment of permanent and temporary works, traffic and access, site selection methodology, interface arrangements, programs |
| G2W | 19/09/2023 | Technical Collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As above |
| G2W | 01/11/2023 | Technical collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As above, plus parameters for cumulative assessment and public consultation FAQs |
| G2W | 01/12/2023 | Technical and consenting collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As above, plus survey data sharing, consultation feedback, Statement of Common Ground and communications plans. |
| G2W | 28/02/2023 | Technical and consenting collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interfaces between the Project and G2W |
| EGL | 13/05/2024 | EGL update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EGL Non-statutory consultations ▪ EGL / the Project interfaces |

| Consultee (NGET Project team) | Engagement Date | Key Discussion Points | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--|---|
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EGL / the Project construction programs |
| G2W | 20/05/2024 | Monthly - Technical and consenting collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Data sharing ▪ Technical interface |
| G2W | 24/06/2024 | Monthly - Technical and consenting collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Data sharing ▪ Data sharing ▪ Project updates ▪ Interfaces |
| G2W | 11/09/2024 | Monthly - Technical and consenting collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project updates |
| G2W | 28/11/24 | Monthly - Technical and consenting collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project updates ▪ Interfaces |
| G2W | 24/02/25 | Technical and consenting collaboration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project updates ▪ Interfaces |

2 Statement of Common Ground

2.1 Plant protection and safety aspects

11. The following topics relate to NGET's existing apparatus, it's safety and the safety of those carrying out the Project in close proximity to it.

Table 4 Plant protection and safety

| Ref | ODOW Position | NGET Position | Status |
|---|--|---------------|--------|
| Identification of NGET's existing apparatus | | | |
| NGET1 | The crossing schedule (Volume 1, Chapter 3 Project Description, Appendix 2, and Onshore Crossing Plans included in the application accurately identify NGET's existing apparatus within the ODOW application boundary. | | Agreed |
| Plant protection and safety | | | |
| NGET2 | NGET has provided the Applicant with safety information in its Section 42 consultation response, including the relevant guidance in relation to working safely near to existing overhead lines contained within the Health and Safety Executive's (www.hse.gov.uk) Guidance Note GS 6 "Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Electric Lines" which the Applicant has incorporated into the outline Code of Construction Practice | | Agreed |
| Protective Provisions | | | |
| NGET3 | Protective provisions have been agreed. These include a framework for co-ordination between the Applicant and NGET to minimise any conflict between their respective projects and a restriction on the acquisition of land without consent from NGET. | | Agreed |

2.2 Weston Marsh Substation



12. The following aspects relate to the grid connection at the substation that NGET intends to build at Weston Marsh.



Table 5 Weston Marsh Substation

| | Current Position | NGET Position | Status |
|---|--|---------------|--------|
| NGET's Infrastructure Consenting Strategy | | | |
| NGET4 | NGET will consent and build its own infrastructure with the Project 400kV cables connecting to the new NGET substation. | | Agreed |
| No conflict | | | |
| NGET5 | As set out in NGET6, protective provisions have been agreed. These include a framework for co-ordination between the Applicant and NGET to minimise any conflict between their respective projects and a restriction on the acquisition of land without consent from NGET. | | Agreed |
| Land rights | | | |
| NGET 6 | As set out in NGET6, protective provisions have been agreed. These include a framework for co-ordination between the Applicant and NGET to minimise any conflict between their respective projects and a restriction on the acquisition of land without consent from NGET. | | Agreed |
| Co-operation | | | |
| NGET 7 | As set out in NGET6, protective provisions have been agreed. These include a framework for co-ordination between the Applicant and NGET to minimise any conflict between their respective projects. | | Agreed |

3 Signatures

The above statement of common ground has been prepared by Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind and NGET and is agreed on the date below.

| | |
|---|---|
| Signed for NGET |  |
| Name |  |
| Position | Development Liaison Officer |
| Date | 03/04/2025 |
| Duly authorised for and on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission | |

| | |
|--|---|
| Signed for Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind |  |
| Name |  |
| Position | Development Manager |
| Date | 03/04/2025 |
| Duly authorised for and on behalf of Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind | |