

**FOSSE GREEN ENERGY PROJECT
 DEADLINE 5A (12 MAY 2026)
 RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINING AUTHORITY’S THIRD WRITTEN QUESTIONS
 NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PLC**

1. National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (“NGET”) is a statutory undertaker for the purposes of the Planning Act 2008.
2. NGET assets which have been identified as being within or within close proximity to the proposed Order limits are:
 - (a) Substations:
 - (i) Proposed Navenby 400kV Substation;
 - (ii) Associated Cables;
 - (iii) Associated fibre cables;
 - (b) Overhead lines:

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 - (i) 400kV Bicker Fen – Spalding North – West Burton;
 - (ii) 400kV Bicker Fen – Walpole – West Burton;
3. Further to NGET’s Relevant Representations which were received by the Examining Authority on 24 October 2025, NGET’s Written Representations for Deadline 1 which were received by the Examining Authority on 19 January 2026, NGET’s Written Representations and response to the Examining Authority’s First Written Questions for Deadline 2 which were received by the Examining Authority on 6 February 2026, NGET’s response to the Examining Authority’s Second Written Questions for Deadline 3 which were received by the Examining Authority on 20 March 2026, and NGET’s Written Representations for Deadline 4 which were received by the Examining Authority on 31 March 2026, NGET continues to liaise with the Applicant in relation to the Protective Provisions that it requires be included within the DCO to ensure that its current and future interests are adequately protected.
4. NGET has reviewed the Examining Authority’s third written questions and requests for information issued on 23 April 2026. NGET notes that questions GC.3.03, GC.3.04 and DCO.3.13 are directed at NGET. NGET’s responses to these questions are as follows:

| Question Reference | Question | Response |
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| GC.3.03 | Proposed Navenby Substation a) Clarify whether a planning application for the proposed Navenby substation has been | NGET can confirm that a planning application for the proposed Navenby Substation was submitted to North Kesteven District Council on Friday 1 May |

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| | <p>submitted and if a planning application has not been submitted advise on when it is expected such an application will be submitted.</p> <p>b) If by examination Deadline 5A (12 May 2026) a planning application has been submitted to NKDC then copies of: the site location ('red line') plan; a block plan; and elevational drawings for the proposed substation should be submitted to assist other interested parties and the ExA's understanding of the relationship between the proposed substation and the proposed development.</p> | <p>2026 however this planning application is still awaiting validation.</p> <p>NGET expect that the planning application for the proposed Navenby substation will be validated imminently. NGET will provide an update to the Examining Authority, along with copies of the information requested in GC.3.03(b) once the planning application for the proposed Navenby substation has been validated.</p> |
| GC.3.04 | <p>Implications for the proposed development were the proposed Navenby substation not to be consented and/or constructed</p> <p>NGET in responding to ExQ1 GC.1.14 has commented "<i>NGET considers that the deliverability of the proposed solar farm in the event that the proposed Navenby substation did not receive planning permission or was not built is a matter for the Applicant to clarify</i>" [REP2-051]. The applicant's response to ExQ1 GC.1.14 included in [REP2-029] states "...<i>Under the commercial agreement between the Applicant and NGET, should no new substation at Navenby be available, it would fall to NGET to find an alternative point of connection for the Proposed Development. This connection point would then be pursued by the Applicant subject to a separate consent, as is not uncommon in the offshore wind context ...</i>".</p> <p>The answers to ExQ1 GC.1.14 appear to be inconsistent with one another and the parties should confirm what the situation would be should the proposed Navenby substation not be consented and/or</p> | <p>NGET does not consider that the answers to ExQ1 GC.1.14 are inconsistent.</p> <p>NGET has a commercial agreement with the Applicant that requires NGET to provide the Applicant with a point of connection for the Proposed Development.</p> <p>In the event that the proposed Navenby substation does not come forward, NGET would be required to provide the Applicant with a reasonable alternative connection point but it would be for the Applicant to get to that alternative connection point and secure all appropriate consents.</p> <p>The deliverability of the Proposed Development in the event that the Applicant was required to connect into an alternative connection point is a matter for the Applicant to clarify however NGET agrees with the Applicant that this situation is not uncommon.</p> <p>As previously set out by NGET in its Written Representations for Deadline 1 and in its response to ExQ2 GC.2.01, a substation in the location of the proposed Navenby substation is critical for providing additional capacity on the transmission</p> |

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| | <p>constructed, particularly whether NGET would be bound by the terms of the commercial agreement that the parties have entered into to make an alternative point of connection available to the undertaker for the proposed development.</p> | <p>network in order to meet wider customer demand.</p> |
| <p>DCO.3.13</p> | <p>Part 8 of Schedule 14 (Protection of National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc as electricity undertaker)</p> <p>a) Both - in paragraph 85(3) (Application) what does the reference to “... <i>(but without prejudice to 11(3)(b))</i>” mean?</p> <p>b) Both - in paragraph 86 (Interpretation) what does the abbreviation “NGESO” stand for? Although the abbreviation is used on several occasion it has not been stated in long form in paragraph 86. Why is it necessary to make any reference to NGESO, given the only reference to it is within paragraph 86?</p> <p>c) Applicant - Paragraph 90(2) states “<i>Regardless of any provision in this Order or anything shown on the land plans, the undertaker mu[s]t not unless otherwise agreed in writing acquire any land forming part of the Navenby Site</i>”.</p> <p>Given the wording of paragraph 90(2) and the expectation that works relating to the construction of the proposed Navenby substation by NGET would precede the construction of the proposed development, explain why it would be necessary for the undertaker to be granted powers of compulsory acquisition relating to the site for the proposed Navenby substation because such powers could not be used in</p> | <p>a) Reference to paragraph 11(3)(b) is an error and should be a reference to paragraph 95(4)(b). NGET confirms that it is happy for the Applicant to make this amendment in the next draft of the DCO;</p> <p>b) The abbreviation should be updated to “NESO” and NESO stands for the “National Energy System Operator”. Reference to NESO is required to ensure that the origins of the System Operator Transmission Owner Code are clear given the importance of this document to securing the safe and efficient operation of the electricity transmission system. NGET considers that wording to clarify the long form of NESO should be added to the next draft of the DCO and confirms that it is happy for the Applicant to make this change.</p> <p>c) Whilst question DCO.3.13 is directed at the Applicant, the drafting of paragraph 90(2) is of particular importance to NGET and should be retained as drafted within the DCO.</p> <p>This drafting ensures that it is clear on the face of the order that the undertaker cannot acquire any land forming part of the Navenby Site without the agreement of NGET.</p> <p>The ability of any party to use compulsory acquisition powers over land forming part of the Navenby Site would undermine the</p> |

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| | <p>connection with the implementation of the proposed development without the use of that land being agreed with NGET, in effect negating any benefit of the acquisition powers sought? It appears that a commercial agreement entered into by NGET and the undertaker pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 90 could obviate the need for the compulsory acquisition of land forming part of the site for the proposed Navenby substation.</p> <p>d) Both - Within paragraph 95(4)(b) (Indemnity) a cross reference is made to Article 35 (Consent to transfer the benefit of the Order). However, under Article 34 (Benefit of the Order) in respect of proposed Work No. 5B (high voltage connection works for the proposed Navenby substation) NGET is intended to be a beneficiary of any made DCO for the proposed development. Is there a need to amend paragraph 95(4)(b) so that either Article 34 is referred to rather than Article 35 or both Articles 34 and 35 are cited?</p> | <p>safe and efficient operation of the electricity transmission system and create a risk to infrastructure that is critical to ensuring the security of electricity supply. The drafting of paragraph 90(2) removes any risk of that happening.</p> <p>d) NGET agrees that both Article 34 and Article 35 should be referred to within paragraph 95(4)(b). NGET confirms that it is happy for the Applicant to make this amendment in the next draft of the DCO.</p> |
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5. NGET also notes that the Examining Authority's schedule of proposed changes to the Applicant's draft Development Consent Order was issued on 23 April and contains one point of relevance to NGET. The Examining Authority has proposed adding a definition for NGET within Article 2 of the DCO given that there is reference to NGET within Article 34. NGET agrees that this change should be made and that the definition of NGET within paragraph 86 in Part 8 of Schedule 14 should be amended to cross refer to Article 2.
6. NGET will continue to liaise with the Applicant with a view to concluding matters as soon as possible during the DCO Examination, keeping the Examining Authority updated in relation to these discussions.

CMS CAMERON MCKENNA NABARRO OLSWANG LLP

12 MAY 2026