

Tiffany Bate
Development Liaison Officer
Customer Connections
Land, Planning and External Affairs

www.nationalgrid.com

Submitted electronically to:
WhitestoneSolarfarm@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

30 May 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

APPLICATION BY WHITESTONE SOLAR FARM (THE APPLICANT) FOR AN ORDER GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR THE WHITESTONE NET ZERO LTD (THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT)

SCOPING CONSULTATION RESPONSE

I refer to your letter dated 24th April 2025 regarding the Proposed Development. This is a response on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC (NGET).

Due to the proximity of some of our existing or future assets, NGET wishes to express their interest in further consultation while the impact on our assets is still being assessed.

Where the Promoter intends to acquire land, extinguish rights, or interfere with or work within close proximity to any of NGET's apparatus and land, this will require appropriate protection and further discussion on the impact to its apparatus and rights.

NGET assets form an essential part of the electricity transmission network in England and Wales. Please continue to consult NGET in regards to this development.

NGET will require an adequate form of Protective Provisions included within the Order.

Existing Infrastructure

Substation

- Thurcroft 275 kV Substation
Thurcroft 66 kV Substation
Associated overhead and underground apparatus including cables
- Brinsworth 400 kV Substation
Brinsworth 275 kV Substation
Associated overhead and underground apparatus including cables

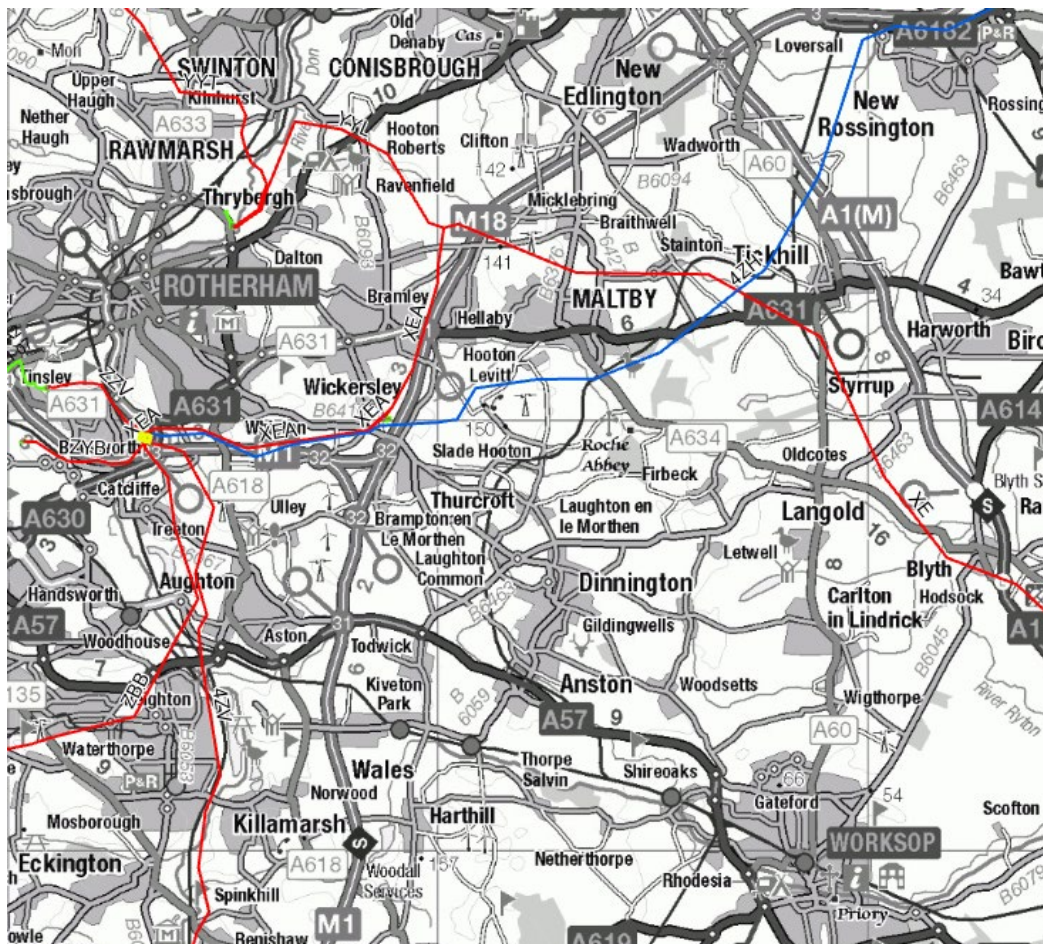
Overhead Lines

YYL 275 kV OHL	HIGH MARNHAM - THURCROFT - WEST MELTON ALDWARKE – BRINSWORTH
XEA 275 kV OHL	HIGH MARNHAM - THURCROFT - WEST MELTON ALDWARKE – BRINSWORTH
4ZH 400 kV OHL	BRINSWORTH - THORPE MARSH 1 BRINSWORTH - THORPE MARSH 2
4ZV 275 kV OHL	BRINSWORTH - CHESTERFIELD 1 BRINSWORTH - CHESTERFIELD 2
ZBB 275 kV OHL	BRINSWORTH - JORDANTHORPE BRINSWORTH - NORTON LEES - SHEFFIELD CITY
ZZV 275 kV OHL	BRINSWORTH - TEMPLEBOROUGH 1 BRINSWORTH - TEMPLEBOROUGH 2

Underground Cables

- BRINSWORTH - TEMPLEBOROUGH PILOT
- Cable Fibre 4806

I enclose the below plans showing the location of NGET's apparatus in the scoping area.



National Grid is a trading name for:
National Grid Electricity Transmission plc
Registered Office: 1-3 Strand, London WC2N 5EH
Registered in England and Wales, No 2366977

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New Infrastructure

Please refer to the Holistic Network Design (HND) and the National Grid ESO website to view the strategic vision for the UK's ever growing electricity transmission network. <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/future-energy/the-pathway-2030-holistic-network-design/hnd>

Brinsworth to High Marnham Upgrading Project

Our Brinsworth to High Marnham project will transport clean energy from the North of England to homes and businesses in the Midlands and beyond, and play an important role in building a more secure and resilient future energy system.

We need to build and operate three new substations – one near Brinsworth in Rotherham, South Yorkshire; another near Chesterfield in Derbyshire and a third in High Marnham, near Normanton on Trent in Nottinghamshire. The new substations will allow us to safely carry more energy between the North of England and the Midlands and beyond.

The proposed substations would also enable us to upgrade the existing Brinsworth to Chesterfield and Chesterfield to High Marnham overhead electricity lines and connect future electricity transmission network projects as part of The Great Grid Upgrade. By getting greater capability out of the existing network, it will allow more electricity to pass through the transmission network and help accelerate the connection of clean energy projects. Further Information: <https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/brinsworth-high-marnham-uprating>

It should be noted that there may be further interactions with additional new strategic infrastructure where the projects are in their early development.

NGET requests that all existing and future assets are given due consideration given their criticality to distribution of energy across the UK. We remain committed to working with the promoter in a proactive manner, enabling both parties to deliver successful projects wherever reasonably possible. As such we encourage that ongoing discussion and consultation between both parties is maintained on interactions with existing or future assets, land interests, connections or consents and any other NGET interests which have the potential to be impacted prior to submission of the Proposed DCO.

The Great Grid Upgrade is the largest overhaul of the electricity grid in generations, we are in the middle of a transformation, with the energy we use increasingly coming from cleaner greener sources. Our infrastructure projects across England and Wales are helping to connect more renewable energy to homes and businesses. To find out more about our current projects please refer to our network and infrastructure webpage. <https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects>. Where it has been identified that your project interacts with or is in close proximity to one of NGET's infrastructure projects, we would welcome further discussion at the earliest opportunity.

These projects are all essential to increase the overall network capability to connect the numerous new offshore wind farms that are being developed, and transport new clean green energy to the homes and businesses where it is needed.

The following points should be taken into consideration.

Electricity Infrastructure:

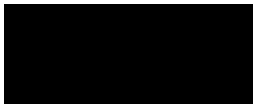
- National Grid's Overhead Line/s is protected by a Deed of Easement/Wayleave Agreement which provides full right of access to retain, maintain, repair and inspect our asset
- Statutory electrical safety clearances must be maintained at all times. Any proposed buildings must not be closer than 5.3m to the lowest conductor. National Grid recommends that no permanent structures are built directly beneath overhead lines. These distances are set out in EN 43 – 8 Technical Specification for “overhead line clearances Issue 5 (2019)”, which publicly available..
- If any changes in ground levels are proposed either beneath or in close proximity to our existing overhead lines, then this would serve to reduce the safety clearances for such overhead lines. Safe clearances for existing overhead lines must be maintained in all circumstances.
- The relevant guidance in relation to working safely near to existing overhead lines is contained within the Health and Safety Executive's (www.hse.gov.uk) Guidance Note GS 6 “Avoidance of Danger from Overhead Electric Lines” and all relevant site staff should make sure that they are both aware of and understand this guidance.
- Plant, machinery, equipment, buildings or scaffolding should not encroach within 5.3 metres of any of our high voltage conductors when those conductors are under their worse conditions of maximum “sag” and “swing” and overhead line profile (maximum “sag” and “swing”) drawings should be obtained using the contact details above.
- If a landscaping scheme is proposed as part of the proposal, we request that only slow and low growing species of trees and shrubs are planted beneath and adjacent to the existing overhead line to reduce the risk of growth to a height which compromises statutory safety clearances.
- Drilling or excavation works should not be undertaken if they have the potential to disturb or adversely affect the foundations or “pillars of support” of any existing tower. These foundations always extend beyond the base area of the existing tower and foundation (“pillar of support”) drawings can be obtained using the contact details above
- National Grid Electricity Transmission high voltage underground cables are protected by a Deed of Grant; Easement; Wayleave Agreement or the provisions of the New Roads and Street Works Act. These provisions provide National Grid full right of access to retain, maintain, repair and inspect our assets. Hence, we require that no permanent / temporary structures are to be built over our cables or within the easement strip. Any such proposals should be discussed and agreed with National Grid prior to any works taking place.
- Ground levels above our cables must not be altered in any way. Any alterations to the depth of our cables will subsequently alter the rating of the circuit and can compromise the reliability, efficiency and safety of our electricity network and requires consultation with National Grid prior to any such changes in both level and construction being implemented.

NGET requests to be consulted at the earliest stages to ensure that the most appropriate protective provisions are included within the DCO application to safeguard the integrity of our apparatus and to remove the requirement for objection. All consultations should be sent to the following email address: box.landandacquisitions@nationalgrid.com

I hope the above information is useful. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. In the meantime, we look forward to receipt of further information and consultation relating to potential impacts on our assets.

The information in this letter is provided notwithstanding any discussions taking place in relation to connections with electricity customer services.

Yours faithfully



Tiffany Bate
Development Liaison Officer
Commercial and Customer Connections
Land, Planning and External Affairs