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SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY: SouthBrooksSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

09 December 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: APPLICATION BY Blue Planet Solar Limited (THE APPLICANT) FOR AN ORDER GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR THE South Brooks Solar Farm (THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT)

SCOPING CONSULTATION RESPONSE

We refer to your letter dated 11th November 2025 in relation to the above proposed application. This is a response on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC (NGET).

Having reviewed the scoping report, I would like to make the following comments regarding NGET existing or future infrastructure in close proximity to the current red line boundary.

NGET has high voltage electricity substations and overhead transmission lines within close proximity the scoping area. The overhead lines form an essential part of the electricity transmission network in England and Wales.

Existing Infrastructure

Substation

Dungeness 400kV Substation

Associated overhead and underground apparatus including cables

Overhead Lines

4ZJ ROUTE 400 kV OHL DUNGENESS – NINFIELD 1

DUNGENESS – NINFIELD 2

VO ROUTE 400 kV OHL DUNGENESS - SELLINDGE 1

DUNGENESS - SELLINDGE 2

<u>Underground Cables</u> DUNGENESS LYDD Cable fibres

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

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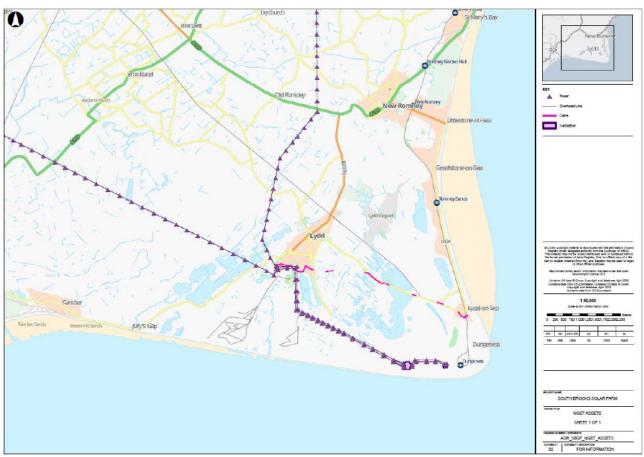


Figure 1: NGET Assets in proposed development area

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Figure 2: NGET Dungeness Substation

New infrastructure

The National Energy System Operator (NESO) took over the electricity network planning responsibility from National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited (NGESO) on the 1st October 2024. Please consult with NESO separately from NGET where further information on the strategic need or capacity is sought.

Please refer to the Holistic Network Design (HND) and the NESO website to view the strategic vision for the UK's ever growing electricity transmission network: https://www.neso.energy/publications/beyond-2030/holistic-network-design-offshore-wind; and https://www.neso.energy/publications/beyond-2030/holistic-network-design-offshore-wind; and https://www.neso.energy/publications/beyond-2030/holistic-network-design-offshore-wind; and <a href="https://www.neso.energy/publications/beyond-2030/holistic-network-design-offshore-wind; and https://www.neso.energy/publications/beyond-2030/holistic-network-design-offshore-wind; and https://www.neso.energy/publications/beyond-2030/holistic-network-design-offshore-wind; and https://www.neso.energy/publications/beyond-2030/holistic-network-design-offshore-wind; and <a href="https://www.neso.energy/publications/beyond-2030/holistic-network-design-offshore-wind; and <a href="https://www.neso.energy/publications/beyond-2030/holistic-network-design-offshore-wind</a

Onshore Infrastructure

Richborough to Aldington (RANC)

Richborough to Aldington is a high-capacity offshore link from Scotland to the South East. This will diversify the renewable electricity supply into the region and make it easier to export surplus electricity to the continent. Our current design also sees a requirement for a new onshore circuit to be delivered from near Richborough to near Sellindge to facilitate the injection of additional power from offshore wind landing in the region. This circuit is in its early stage of development and is required due to the environmental challenges bringing the offshore cable further south. Further information can be found: https://www.neso.energy/publications/beyond-2030

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 the high-voltage transmission of electricity 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.

Specific Comments - Electricity Infrastructure:

- NGET'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. NGET 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)".
- 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 worst 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.
- NGET 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
 NGET 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 NGET 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.

Further Advice

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

We hope the above information is useful. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Land Development Liaison team. 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 not withstanding any discussions taking place in relation to connections with electricity customer services.

Yours faithfully,

Tiffany Bate Lead Development Liaison Officer Customer Connections Site Solutions (CCSS) Land, Planning and External Affairs (LPEA)

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