The Great Grid Upgrade

Sea Link

Sea Link

Volume 7: Other Documents

Document 7.4.6 Draft Statement of Common Ground Between National Grid Electricity Transmission and Dover District Council.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

- A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is a written statement produced as part of the application process for a Development Consent Order (DCO) and is prepared jointly between the applicant and another party. It sets out matters of agreement between both parties, as well as matters where there is not an agreement. It also details matters that are under discussion.
- The aim of a SoCG is to help the Examining Authority manage the Examination Phase of a DCO application. Understanding the status of the matters at hand will allow the Examining Authority to focus their questioning and provide greater predictability for all participants in examination. A SoCG may be submitted prior to the start of or during Examination and then updated as necessary or as requested during the Examination Phase.
- This SoCG is between National Grid Electricity Transmission Ltd (National Grid) and Dover District Council (DDC) relating to the DCO application for the Sea Link Project (the Proposed Project). It has been prepared in accordance with the guidance published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2024).

1.2 This Statement of Common Ground

- This SoCG has been prepared to identify matters agreed and matters currently outstanding between National Grid and DDC. The SoCG will evolve as the DCO application progresses through Examination.
- For the purpose of this SoCG, National Grid and DDC will jointly be referred to as the "Parties". When referencing DDC alone, they will be referred to as "the Consultee".
- This early draft SoCG has been prepared by National Grid to submit with the DCO application, based on engagement with DDC throughout development of the Proposed Project. This document is draft and was sent to DDC in advance of inclusion in the DCO application, but no comments had been received when this document was finalised. National Grid will continue to work with DDC to resolve issues as the project progresses through the Pre-Examination and Examination phases and will record those agreements in later versions of the SoCG.

1.3 Role of Dover District Council in the DCO Process

- DDC is a local authority for the purposes of section 42(1)(b) of the Planning Act 2008 as some of the land within the Order limits for the project is within its local authority area. Pursuant to Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008, National Grid must consult local authorities if the project is in a local authority's area.
- The Planning Inspectorate sets out the role of local authorities in the DCO process in Advice Note 2: The role of local authorities in the development consent process (The Planning Inspectorate, 2015). The role and responsibilities of DDC, and local authorities in general, extend throughout the DCO process from pre-application to post decision as set out in the PINS Advice Note 2 and can include:

- Providing the local perspective at the pre-application stage in addition to any views expressed directly to the developer by residents, groups and businesses.
- Preparing written representations, SoCGs and Local Impact Reports ready for examination.
- Attending and participating in hearings and/or accompanied site visits.
- Discharging many of the requirements associated with a DCO if consent in granted.
- Monitoring and enforcing many of the DCO provisions and requirements.

1.4 Description of the Proposed Project

- The Proposed Project is a proposal by National Grid to reinforce the transmission network in the Southeast and East Anglia. The Proposed Project is required to accommodate additional power flows generated from renewable and low carbon generation, as well as accommodating additional new interconnection with mainland Europe.
- National Grid owns, builds and maintains the electricity transmission network in England and Wales. Under the Electricity Act 1989, National Grid holds a transmission licence under which it is required to develop and maintain an efficient, coordinated, and economic electricity transmission system.
- This would be achieved by reinforcing the network with a High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Link between the proposed Friston substation in the Sizewell area of Suffolk and the existing Richborough to Canterbury 400 kV overhead line close to Richborough in Kent.
- 1.4.4 National Grid is also required, under Section 38 of the Electricity Act 1989, to comply with the provisions of Schedule 9 of the Act. Schedule 9 requires licence holders, in the formulation of proposals to transmit electricity, to:
- 1.4.5 Schedule 9(1)(a) '...have regard to the desirability of preserving natural beauty, of conserving flora, fauna and geological or physiographical features of special interest and of protecting sites, buildings and objects of architectural, historic or archaeological interest,' and
- 1.4.6 Schedule 9(1)(b) '...do what [it] reasonably can to mitigate any effect which the proposals would have on the natural beauty of the countryside or on any such flora, fauna, features, sites, buildings or objects'.
- 1.4.7 The Proposed Project would comprise the following elements:

The Suffolk Onshore Scheme

- A connection from the existing transmission network via Friston Substation, including
 the substation itself. Friston Substation already has development consent as part of
 other third-party projects. If Friston Substation has already been constructed under
 another consent, only a connection into the substation would be constructed as part
 of the Proposed Project.
- A high voltage alternating current (HVAC) underground cable of approximately 1.9 km in length between the proposed Friston Substation and a proposed converter station (below).

- A 2 GW high voltage direct current (HVDC) converter station (including permanent access from the B1121 and a new bridge over the River Fromus) up to 26 m high plus external equipment (such as lightning protection, safety rails for maintenance works, ventilation equipment, aerials, similar small scale operational plant, or other roof treatment) near Saxmundham.
- A HVDC underground cable connection of approximately 10 km in length between the proposed converter station near Saxmundham, and a transition joint bay (TJB) approximately 900 m inshore from a landfall point (below) where the cable transitions from onshore to offshore technology.
- A landfall on the Suffolk coast (between Aldeburgh and Thorpeness).

The Offshore Scheme:

 Approximately 122 km of subsea HVDC cable, running between the Suffolk landfall location (between Aldeburgh and Thorpeness), and the Kent landfall location at Pegwell Bay.

The Kent Onshore Scheme:

- A landfall point on the Kent coast at Pegwell Bay.
- A TJB approximately 800 m inshore to transition from offshore HVDC cable to onshore HVDC cable, before continuing underground for approximately 1.7 km to a new converter station (below).
- A 2 GW HVDC converter station (including a new permanent access off the A256), up to 28 m high plus external equipment such as lightning protection, safety rails for maintenance works, ventilation equipment, aerials, and similar small scale operational plant near Minster. A new substation would be located immediately adjacent.
- Removal of approximately 2.2 km of existing HVAC overhead line, and installation of two sections of new HVAC overhead line, together totalling approximately 3.5 km, each connecting from the substation near Minster and the existing Richborough to Canterbury overhead line.
- The Proposed Project also includes modifications to sections of existing overhead lines in Suffolk (only if Friston Substation is not built pursuant to another consent) and Kent, diversions of third-party assets, and land drainage from the construction and operational footprint. It also includes opportunities for environmental mitigation and compensation. The construction phase will involve various temporary construction activities including overhead line diversions, use of temporary towers or masts, working areas for construction equipment and machinery, site offices, parking spaces, storage, accesses, bellmouths, and haul roads, as well as watercourse crossings and the diversion of public rights of way (PROWs) and other ancillary operations.

1.5 Format of Document and Terminology

Section 2 of this SoCG summarises the engagement the Parties have had with regard to the Proposed Project.

- Section 3 of this SoCG summarises the issues that are 'agreed', 'not agreed' or are 'under discussion'. 'Not agreed' indicates a final position where the Parties have agreed to disagree, whilst 'Agreed' indicates where the issue has been resolved.
- Abbreviations used within the SoCG are provided in Table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1 Abbreviations

Abbreviation/Term	Definition
BTNO	Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement Project
CEA	Cumulative Effects Assessment
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CIRIA	Construction Industry Research and Information Association
CMP	Construction Management Plan
CRTN	Calculation of Road Traffic Noise
CTMP	Construction Transport Management Plan
DCO	Development Consent Order
DDC	Dover District Council
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges
EA	Environment Agency
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EH	Environmental Health
ES	Environmental Statement
FRA	Flood Risk Assessment
FRAP	Flood Risk Activity Permit
HE	Historic England
HDD	Horizontal Direct Drilling
HGV	Heavy Good Vehicle
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
HVAC	High Voltage Alternating Current
HVDC	High Voltage Direct Current
IDB	Internal Drainage Board
KCC	Kent County Council
LCA	Landscape Character Areas
LDC	Land Drainage Consent

Abbreviation/Term	Definition
LEMP	Landscape and Ecology Management Plan
LGV	Large Goods Vehicle
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
LWS	Local Wildlife Site
NPS	National Policy Statement
NRMM	Non-Road Mobile Machinery
OHL	Overhead Line
PCZ	Primary Consultation Zone
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
PINS	Planning Inspectorate
PPA	Planning Performance Agreement
PRoW	Public Rights of Way
SCZ	Secondary Consultation Zone
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SoS	Secretary of State
SPA	Special Protection Area
SuDs	Sustainable Drainage Systems
TDC	Thanet District Council
TTM	Temporary Traffic Management

2. Record of Engagement

2.1 Summary of pre-application discussions

Table 2.1 summarises the consultation and engagement that has taken place between the Parties prior to submission of the DCO application.

Table 2.1 Pre-application discussions

Date	Topic	Discussion points		
10 November 2021	Thanet District Council (TDC), Dover District Council (DDC) and Kent County Council (KCC) Meeting	preference, routing and siting update, consultation strategy		
12 May 2022	DDC and KCC Briefing	Need case, Sea Link project, consenting strategy, emerging preference, routing and siting update, consultation strategy		
09 June 2022	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project and timeline, feedback on draft non-statutory consultation strategy, emerging preference update		
11 July 2022	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project and timeline, project update, non-statutory consultation strategy		
11 August TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting		Project and timeline, project update, non-statutory consultation, EIA scoping, survey access, ground investigation		
08 September 2022	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project and timeline, project update, non-statutory consultation, ground investigation locations		
13 October 2022	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, non-statutory consultation, survey access, ground investigation locations		
14 December 2022	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, non-statutory consultation, ground investigation		
14 February 2023	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, ground investigation works, approach to coordination (in accordance with Planning Inspectorate (PINS) guidance), non-statutory consultation, site visits		
14 March TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting		Project update and timeline, planning performance agreement (PPA) and host authority engagement plan		

Date	Topic	Discussion points	
18 April 2023	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, thematic meetings, PPA and host authority engagement plan	
27 April TDC, DDC, KCC and National Grid- Noise and Vibration Meeting		Discussion relating to the noise and vibration assessment methodology, and baseline noise surveys. DCC have subsequently delegated noise issues to TDC, but DCC copied into pertinent correspondence as required.	
10 May 2023	TDC and DDC Meeting – Landscape and Visual	Project update and timeline, viewpoints, study area and photomontages, landscape mitigation strategy and questions / AOB	
13 June 2023	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, landscape design, thematic meetings, PPA and host authority engagement plan, statement of community consultation	
11 July 2023	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, PPA, host authority engagement plan and cost schedule, ground investigation programme, site notices	
08 August 2023	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, PPA, host authority engagement plan and cost schedule, site notices, SoCC feedback	
12 September 2023	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, PPA progress SoCC feedback	
16 October 2023	TDC, DDC and KCC – Health and Wellbeing	Discussion relating to the PEIR – covered a high-level project overview, scope, methodology, baseline sources, sensitive receptors.	
18 December 2023	DDC Consultation Response Letter to National Grid	Consultation response which set out the main concerns DDC had in respect of the Proposed Project. DDC were broadly supportive of the Proposed Project, with encouragement to National Grid for consideration of the impacts on landscape, ecology, heritage, air quality, noise, traffic, socioeconomics, tourism and recreation. The main concerns DDC had were over the landscape and visual harm, impact on ecology, impact on setting of scheduled monuments.	
15 January 2024	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, statutory consultation, thematic meetings, PPA progress	
05 February 2024	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, statutory consultation, terrestrial ecology thematic meeting, PPA progress	
06 February 2024	TDC, DDC, KCC Meeting – Water Environment	Project update and timeline, engagement to date, FRA approach, converter station flood risk note update	

Date	Topic	Discussion points	
07 TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting – Air quality		Project update and timeline, air quality assessment methodology and statutory consultation feedback responses	
13 February 2024	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, thematic meetings, PPA progress, statements of common ground (SoCG)	
14 February 2024	National Grid, KCC, TDC and DDC – Geology and Hydrogeology Thematic Meeting.	overview, geology and hydrogeology updates, thematic	
19 February 2024	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting – Socioeconomics, Recreation and Tourism	Project update and timeline, socio-economic statutory consultation feedback and responses (PRoW, study area), discussion, next steps.	
20 February 2024	KCC, DDC and TDC Meeting – Landscape and Visual	Project update and timeline, interface with other disciplines, statutory consultation feedback, predicted significant effects on landscape character and visual amenity, design principles and landscape strategy, outline landscape and ecology management plan and questions / AOB	
February 2024	DDC and National Grid – Ecology Information Shared	The Kent Vantage Point Survey and collision risk assessment was shared with DDC for information only by National Grid,	
12 March 2024	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, PPA progress, thematic updates, ongoing decision-making, community benefit	
02 April 2024	TDC, DDC, EA Meeting – Water Environment	Review of actions from last thematic meeting, groundwater monitoring and flood risk assessment at Kent converter station site, drainage design updates, construction phase dewatering and permitting requirements	
16 April 2024	TDC, DDC, KCC and SE England Coast Path National Trail Officer Meeting Landscape and Visual	Project update and timeline, discussion relating to aspects of the LVIA, Approach to outline landscape and ecology management plan, Mitigation Design Concepts and questions / AOB	

Date	Topic	Discussion points
16 April 2024	KCC, TDC and DDC Transport Meeting	Transport meeting to provide a project update, review stat. con. (PEIR) feedback and the transport deliverables including the Outline PRoW Management Plan
17 April 2024	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, PPA progress, thematic updates, ongoing decision-making
April 2024	DDC and National Grid - Ecology Information Shared	The First Season (2022-2023) Breeding and Wintering bird reports for Kent was shared with DDC for information by National Grid,
02 May 2024	KCC, DDC and TDC – Transport (PRoW) Thematic Meeting	,
14 May 2024	TDC, DCC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, PPA progress, thematic updates, ongoing decision-making
May 2024	DDC and National Grid – Ecology Information Shared	A preliminary noise assessment (contour maps only) for Kent, but not part of the DCO Documentation, were shared with DDC for information only by National Grid.
04 June 2024	DDC and National Grid – Landscape and Visual Information Shared	The Sea Link Provisional Growth Rates, the Kent Indicative Species Mix and the outline LEMP Draft Structure was shared with DDC for agreement.
11 June 2024	TDC, DCC and KCC Meeting	Project update and timeline, PPA progress, thematic updates, ongoing decision-making
18 June 2024	KCC, DDC, and TDC Meeting – Landscape and Visual	Project update and timeline, interface with other disciplines, statutory consultation feedback, predicted significant effects on landscape character and visual amenity, design principles and landscape strategy, outline landscape and ecology management plan and questions/AOB
19 June 2024	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting – Socioeconomics, Recreation and Tourism	Project update and timeline, socio-economic statutory consultation feedback and responses (PRoW, study area), discussion, next steps.
03 July 2024	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting – Air Quality	Project update and timeline, proposed Air Quality Management Plan, proposed air quality monitoring locations

Date	Topic	Discussion points
		during construction and unclosed statutory consultation topics
23 July 2024	TDC, DDC, KCC Meeting - Transport	Targeted consultation – design changes, additional PEI (Traffic and Transport), Core Working Hours, Public Rights of Way – PEIR Findings (Traffic and Transport), Emerging Design, Statutory Consultation Feedback – AOB.
July 2024	DDC and National Grid – Ecology Information Shared	A note on the creation of wet grassland for golden plover in Kent (now superseded and not a part of the DCO Application) was shared with DDC for information only by National Grid,
02 August 2024	DDC and National Grid – Landscape and Visual Information Shared	National Grid shared the Sea Link Growth Rates and Photosheet VP Template was shared with DDC for agreement.
20 August 2024	TDC, DDC, KCC, ESC, and National Grid – Landscape and Visual Thematic Meeting	Project update and timeline, discussion related to material issued on 4 June 2024 and 2 August 2024 on now superseded growth rates, indicative species mix and outline LEMP, additional LVIA updates, AOB.
28 August 2024	National Grid -	National Grid shared the Sea Link Kent Landscape and Visual Value, outline LEMP Draft Structure, Sensitivity Ratings and Sequential Cumulative Visual Assessment with DDC for agreement and the Visual Appendix Structure Example – BTNO1 and 2 for comment.
17 September 2024	TDC, DDC, KCC, Environemnt Agency (EA) and National Grid Meeting – Kent Hydrology EIA	Project update and timeline, progress on Water Framework Directive, project activities on River Stour floodplain, discussions, next steps and AOB.
14 October 2024	DDC and National Grid – Landscape and Visual Information Shared	National Grid shared the Kent Indicative Species Mix with DDC for agreement and the Draft Mitigation Design package for comment.
15 October 2024	TDC, DDC, KCC, AECOM –	Project update and timeline, discussion on materials issued to stakeholders on now superseded growth rates, indicative

Date	Topic	Discussion points
	Landscape and Visual Thematic Meetings	species mix and outline LEMP, mitigation plans, landscape mitigation function, targeted consultation comments, AOB.
16 October 2024	DDC and National Grid – Air Quality Information Shared	National Grid shared the air quality assessment methodology with DDC to confirm and the construction monitoring locations to be agreed.
16 October 2024	DDC and National Grid – Landscape and Visual Information Shared	National Grid shared the Kent Table of Agreement with DDC for comment.
12 November 2024	DDC and National Grid – Cumulative Effects Information Shared	The Cumulative Effects Long List and Short List was shared with DDC by National Grid for comment and feedback, with comments requested to be provided within 3 days of the date the long and short lists were shared.
27 November 2024	DDC and National Grid – Socioeconomics, Recreation and Tourism Information Shared.	The PRoW Technical Note on the approach to assessing the PRoW was shared with DDC by National Grid for comment. A response was received by DDC which stated that there were no specific comments to be made on the methodology technical note.
November 2024	DDC and National Grid – Ecology Information Shared	The Kent Vantage Point Survey and collision risk assessment and a summary of the impact assessment and proposed mitigation for Kent (not a part of the DCO documentation, but used as the basis for the Kent ES Chapters) was shared with DDC for information only by National Grid,
November 2024	DDC and National Grid – Ecology Information Shared	The draft Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) was shared with DDC for comment by National Grid,
10 December 2024	TDC, DDC, KCC, NE and National Grid Terrestrial Ecology Thematic Meeting (Kent proposals)	Approach to Biodiversity Net Gain

Date	Topic	Discussion points
7 January 2025	TDC, DDC, KCC, AECOM – Landscape and Visual Thematic Meetings	Project update and timeline, discussion relating to table of agreement, discussion relating to landscape mitigation plans, AOB.
21 January 2025	TDC, DDC and KCC Meeting – Air Quality	Project update, assessment findings and proposed air quality monitoring locations during construction.
21 January 2025	TDC, DDC, KCC, NE and National Grid Terrestrial Ecology Thematic Meeting (Kent proposals)	Discussion of golden plover mitigation parcel, including the fact wintering bird surveys are being undertaken and have confirmed presence of golden plover, and that lighting only affects the eastern boundary. Confirmation that Natural England consider the updated collision risk assessment addresses their main concerns, with only some limited further comments. Confirmation Natural England have no specific comments on the type of deflector chosen for the new section of overhead line. Confirmation there will be a stand-by generator as part of operation of development. Confirmation there will be scrapes created along the River Stour as long-term enhancement within South Richborough Pasture Local Wildlife Site. Use of instant hedges for closing temporary gaps.

3. Areas of Discussion Between the Parties

3.1 Policy, consenting route, coordination and site selection

Table 3.1 Policy, consenting route, coordination and site selection

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.1.1		DCO consenting route	The Consultee agrees with the DCO consenting route for the Proposed Project.	On 31 March 2022, the Secretary of State (SoS) issued a direction under Section 35 of the Planning Act that the Proposed Project is to be treated as a proposed application for which development consent is required. In making the direction, the SoS is of the view that the Proposed Project is nationally significant.	Agreed
3.1.2		National Policy Statements	The Consultee agrees that the Proposed Project will be determined in accordance with the National Policy Statements (NPSs) (NPS EN-1, EN-3 and EN-5).	Section 104 of the Planning Act 2008 requires that the SoS decides the application in accordance with National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) (NPS EN-1), National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (NPS EN-3), and National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (EN-5) (NPS EN-5).	Agreed
3.1.3		Local Development Plan	The Consultee has identified the following local planning policy documents that are relevant to the Proposed Project: • Dover Core Strategy, February 2010 • Dover District Land Allocations Plan, January 2015 • Saved Policies of the Dover District Local Plan, 2002 • Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan, September 2020	While the assessment of the application for development consent for the Proposed Project should be made against the NPSs referred to above, the Development Plan for each Local Authority is likely to be an important and relevant consideration. National Grid agrees that the local planning policy documents detailed in the column to the left are relevant to the Proposed Project.	Agreed
3.1.4		Development Plan allocations	The Consultee agrees that there are no Development Plan Allocations that overlap with the draft Order Limits.	National Grid has not identified any DDC Development Plan allocations that overlap with the draft Order Limits.	
3.1.5		Need for the project	The Consultee agrees with the identified need for the Proposed Project.	The network in and between East Anglia and the south-east of England needs reinforcing for four main reasons: 1) the existing transmission network was not designed to transport electricity from where we increasingly now generate it (largely offshore) 2) the growth in offshore wind, interconnectors and nuclear power means that more electricity will be	Agreed

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
				generated in the years ahead than the current network is able to securely and reliably transport 3) as a country, electricity demand is forecasted to at least double by 2050, increasing the amount of energy we need to transport to homes and businesses 4) upgrading the existing network as it is today (such as through replacing cables to carry more power) will not be enough to carry the amount of future power whilst operating to required standards.	
				The Proposed Project is just one of several electricity network reinforcements that are needed to ensure the electricity transmission network is fit for the future.	
3.1.6	Application Document 8.3 Strategic Options Report (October 2023)	Strategic Options	The Consultee agrees with the process, methodology and outcome of the strategic options appraisal presented in Strategic Option Report, Version A (see Application Document 8.3 Strategic Options Report (October 2023)).	The process, methodology and outcome of the strategic options appraisal presented in Strategic Option Report, version A, October 2023, included as part of Statutory Consultation, is agreed (see Application Document 8.3 Strategic Options Report (October 2023)).	Agreed
3.1.7	Application Document 8.2 Options Selection and Design Evolution Report (October 2023)	Site selection	The Consultee has reviewed the Option Selection and Design Evolution report (see Application Document 8.2 Options Selection and Design Evolution Report (October 2023)) and agree with the methodology and conclusions of the site and route selection.	The methodology and outcome of the site and route selection presented in the Option Selection and Design Evolution Report, Version A, October 2023, included as part of Statutory Consultation, is agreed (see Application Document 8.2 Options Selection and Design Evolution Report (October 2023)).	Agreed
3.1.8		Schedule 1 (authorised project)	The Consultee notes the title above this section states 'In the Districts of Thanet and Dover', however the paragraph also refers to Suffolk. The Consultee questions if the title should refer to the offshore works and if this title should move to Work no. 7. The Consultee notes National Grid's comment regarding the wording and agree this is acceptable.	This work number refers to the cable which starts in Suffolk and then comes ashore again in Dover. The current wording is therefore correct.	Under discussion
3.1.9	Application Document 6.2.1.4 Part 1 Introduction Chapter 4 Description of the Proposed Project	Schedule 1 (authorised project)	The Consultee raises the question if there a document detailing how the temporary work compounds will be removed and timings for this	The Environmental Statement Chapter 4 Description of the Proposed Development (Application Document 6.2.1.4 Part 1 Introduction Chapter 4 Description of the Proposed Project) includes details of the temporary work compounds. These compounds will be restored following the end of construction at the specific location. The location and timing of the construction and restoration of the temporary work compounds will be confirmed through the onshore Construction Environmental Management Plan (Application Document 7.5.3 Outline Onshore Construction	Agreed

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
				Environmental Management Plan) which will be brought forward under Requirement 6 on the draft DCO.	

3.2 Draft DCO

Table 3.2 Draft DCO

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.2.1	Application Document 3.1 draft Development Consent Order	Schedule 1 (authorised project)	The Consultee queries are the temporary towers included in 'other works' or should they be explicitly stated?	National Grid are considering this comment further.	Under discussion
3.2.2	Application Document 3.1 draft Development Consent Order	Schedule 3: Requirements	The Consultee notes Schedule 3: Requirements States: "The authorised development may not commence until a written scheme setting out all stages of the authorised development has been submitted to the relevant planning authority" and similar wording is used in other paragraphs. The Consultee questioned where the works cross the boundaries of two Local Planning Authorities should both be notified and if this is the case, the wording in this section should read authority/authorities.	Article 2 of the draft Order defines the relevant planning authority as meaning "in any given provision of this Order, the local planning authority for the area to which the provision relates". Therefore, if the provision relates to more than one area, the definition will cover the relevant planning authority for each area, so references should just be to 'relevant planning authority' rather than 'authorities'.	Agreed
3.2.3	Application Document 3.1 draft Development Consent Order Application Document 7.5.7.2 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan – Kent	Schedule 3 (requirements): Management Plans	The Consultee raised the question: Will the condition of the landscaping be reviewed periodically to ensure the objectives of the landscaping plan and screening are met and if so, how frequently will this be monitored?	The Outline Landscape Environmental Management Plan (LEMP) (Application Document 7.5.7.2 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan – Kent) provides details of how proposed landscaping will be managed and monitored, including frequency, with the reinstatement planting being maintained for a five-year period and mitigation planting being maintained for the lifetime of the asset. DCO Requirement 6 requires that a detailed LEMP is prepared post consent for approval by the relevant planning authority and implemented as approved; with more detail contained within. This detailed LEMP will need to	Under discussion

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
				be in substantially accordance with the Outline LEMP to be submitted with the DCO application.	
3.2.4	Application Document 3.1 draft Development Consent Order	Schedule 3 (requirements): Construction hours	The Consultee notes percussive piling works hours are proposed and Environmental Protection Officers have previously advised they would want to control piling to daytime weekday hours, given there are dwellings within a mile of the site – the Consultee is waiting for comments from the Environmental Protection Officers, and these comments will be sent to National Grid in due course.	The Proposed Project is required urgently to provide connections to developments required to meet net zero targets. Limiting hours for percussive piling could provide a constraint on the construction period, elongating construction and increasing the risk that timescales will not be met. National Grid confirm that work is still ongoing to justify working hours.	Under discussion
3.2.5	Application Document 3.1 draft Development Consent Order	Schedule 3 (requirements): Construction hours	The Consultee's Environmental Protection Officers have advised that whilst there is a significant separation distance between the development work and the nearest residential within the district (approximately 1 mile), piling has a habit of causing issues with vibration and noise. They raise some concerns in respect of the start hour of 07:00am, suggesting an 8am start, although noting that again, distance would be a factor. They suggest that Thanet District Council, who have residential dwellings much closer to the development site will comment on the piling and working times.	The Proposed Project is required urgently to provide connections to developments required to meet net zero targets. Limiting hours for percussive piling could provide a constraint on the construction period, elongating construction and increasing the risk that timescales will not be met.	Under discussion
3.2.6	Application Document 3.1 draft Development Consent Order	Schedule 3 (requirements): contaminated land	The Consultee raised the following question with National Grid: Will a verification report be submitted to demonstrate any works required have been carried out in accordance with the approved written scheme?	This question is agreed by National Grid. A sentence requiring submission of a verification report has been added to the requirement on contaminated land (now Requirement 10) to address this comment.	Agreed

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3.3 Consultation

Table 3.3 Consultation

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.3.1		Consultation Strategy	The Consultee agrees with the Consultation Strategy prepared by National Grid.	The Consultation Strategy has been prepared taking account of input from the Consultee. The final version was issued to the Councils on 20 October 2022. The approach and content are agreed to be adequate and represent a satisfactory approach to consultation.	Agreed
3.3.2		Consultation Zones	The Consultee agrees that the PCZ and SCZs agreed are adequate and satisfactory.	Primary Consultation Zones (PCZ) and Secondary Consultation Zones (SCZ) identified for the purpose of non-statutory consultation are adequate and satisfactory.	Agreed

3.4 Landscape and Visual

Table 3.4 Landscape and Visual

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.4.1	Application Document 7.5.9.2 Outline Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Management Plan - Kent	Interface with other disciplines	The Consultee agreed the approach to the interface with other disciplines within the 20 February 2024 meeting.	The National Grid landscape team have been interfacing with other disciplines such as heritage and ecology and as part of a wider multidisciplinary team to progress the Proposed Project masterplanning and input into documents including Application Document 7.5.9.2 Outline Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Management Plan - Kent, as secured by Requirement 6 of Schedule 3 of Application Document 3.1 draft DCO.	Agreed
3.4.2	Application Document 6.2.3.1 Part 3 Kent Chapter 1 Landscape & Visual Application Document 6.3.3.1.C ES Appendix 3.1.C Landscape Designation and Landscape Character Assessment	Landscape Character baseline	The Consultee raised no concerns on the basis of the landscape assessment as set out in the PEIR and acknowledged that the ES will provide further information. The Consultee confirmed agreement to the approach to the landscape character baseline within 16 April 2024 meeting.	The Landscape Character Areas (LCAs) were set out in the baseline section of the PEIR. The Statutory Consultation response from the Consultee requested further detail of the key characteristics of the LCAs which have been included within the ES (Application Document 6.3.3.1.C ES Appendix 3.1.C Landscape Designation and Landscape Character Assessment).	Agreed
3.4.3		Visual Amenity baseline	The Consultee raised no concerns of the representative viewpoint selection as set out in the PEIR. The Consultee confirmed agreement on the approach to the visual amenity baseline within the 16 April 2024 meeting.	The representative viewpoints were set out in the baseline section of the PEIR and set out in Representative Viewpoint Visualisations in Application Document 6.4.3.1 Landscape & Visual .	Agreed
3.4.4	Application Document 6.2.3.1 Part 3 Kent Chapter 1 Landscape & Visual	Assessment of effects	The Consultee acknowledged and agreed this approach to the assessment of effects within the 20 February 2024 meeting.	The assessment of effects on landscape character and visual amenity were presented within the PEIR. The PEIR is a preliminary assessment and effects on landscape character and visual amenity have been further assessed with more detail within the ES chapter (Application Document 6.2.3.1 Part 3 Kent Chapter 1 Landscape & Visual) in line with the methodology and professional judgement. This also includes an assessment of effects at operation year 15.	Agreed
3.4.5	Application Document 6.2.3.1 Part 3 Kent Chapter 1	Study Area	The Consultee confirmed agreement on the approach to the study area within the 16 April 2024 meeting.	The Study Area, which comprises an area of 3 km from the Order Limits, including the Minster Converter Station and Minster Substation, was set out within the PEIR and is the same for the ES and is covered	Agreed

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
	Landscape & Visual			in Application Document 6.2.3.1 Part 3 Kent Chapter 1 Landscape & Visual.	
3.4.6		Growth rates of mitigation planting and photomontages	The year 1 and year 15 photomontage approach was discussed in the 10 May 2023 meeting and no concerns have been raised. The Consultee initially did not provide comments on the issued growth rates, but there was ongoing works with the growth rates and were to be reissued to the Consultee once ready for review and agreement. The Consultee confirmed agreement to the proposed growth rates in an email sent on 8 January 2025.	The growth rates of mitigation planting have been discussed with the Consultee and National Grid and this information has been shared for comment, with the Consultee confirming agreement on 8 January 2025. The photomontages have been produced for the ES at year 1 and year 15 of operation.	Agreed
3.4.7	Application Document 6.2.3.1 Part 3 Kent Chapter 1 Landscape & Visual	LVIA methodology	The Consultee confirmed agreement on the LVIA approach within the 16 April 2024 meeting.	The LVIA methodology was set out within the PEIR and is the same for the ES with minor amendments following the published GLVIA3 Clarifications Technical Guidance Note.	Agreed
3.4.8	Application Document 6.3.2.1.A ES Appendix 2.1.A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment and Photomontage Methodology	Photomontage methodology	The Consultee confirmed agreement on the approach to the photomontage methodology within 16 April 2024 meeting.	The Photomontage methodology was updated following the PEIR and is the same for the ES.	Agreed
3.4.9	Application Document 7.12.2 Design Principles - Kent	Design principles and landscape strategy and mitigation plans	The Consultee agreed to the design principles and landscape strategy and mitigation plans in an email sent on 8 January 2025.	Design principles have been prepared and accompany the ES and draft mitigation plans have been shared with stakeholders, which are set out in Application Document 7.12.2 Design Principles - Kent	Agreed
3.4.10	Application Document 7.5.7.2 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan - Kent		The Consultee noted that the structure of the outline LEMP will be shared with them in due course and agreed to the approach to separate outline LEMP for Kent and Suffolk in a meeting on 16 April 2024. The Consultee received a draft outline LEMP to review, with confirmation of agreement to the approach sent out to National Grid on 8 January 2025.	Objectives have been set out and these have been developed through in the production of materials to account for the ongoing ecology survey work that has occurred. National Grid issued a draft outline LEMP to the Consultee for review, with agreement received on 8 January 2025.	Agreed

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Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.4.11	Application Document 3.1 draft DCO	Indicative Species Mix	The Consultee notes that indicative species mix has been discussed during thematic meetings, with the approach to this matter agreed in an email on 8 January 2025.	National Grid confirm agreement on the indicative species mixes. This includes the proposed mix % distribution and range of heights to be used in the year 15 visualisations (where relevant). This includes a variable distribution across the species to increase future resilience. The indicative species mix can be agreed at the detailed design stage as part of approval of the detailed LEMP under Requirement 6, Schedule 3 of the draft DCO (Application Document 3.1 draft DCO).	Agreed
3.4.12	Application Document 6.3.2.1.A ES Appendix 2.1.A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment and Photomontage Methodology	Photosheet template	The photosheet template, for site photos and images, was issued to the Consultee on 2 August 2024. The Consultee has agreed to and noted agreement to the photosheet template in an email dated 8 January 2025.	National Grid notes the agreement from the Consultee on the template for the visualisations that have been presented within the ES (Application Document 6.3.2.1.A ES Appendix 2.1.A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment and Photomontage Methodology).	Agreed
3.4.13		Cumulative sequential visual assessment	The Consultee received the Sequential Cumulative Visual Assessment document for comment on 28 August 2024 and agreed to all matters presented within the assessment on 8 January.	National Grid issued the Sequential Cumulative Visual Assessment (which is not an application document but was shared for reference) on 28 August 2024 and notes the agreement from the Consultee on the routes that have been assessed within the cumulative sequential visual assessment.	Agreed
3.4.14		Landscape and Visual value judgements	Value document from National Grid, with comments requested, on 28 August 2024. The Consultee reviewed	National Grid issued the Kent Landscape and Visual Value document (which is not an application document but was shared for reference) to the Consultee for review and comment on 28 August 2024. National Grid notes the agreement from the Consultee on all matters set out in the landscape and visual value judgements that are made within the ES.	Agreed
3.4.15		Landscape and visual sensitivity ratings	The Consultee received the Sensitivity Ratings document from National Grid, with the request for comments. The Consultee agreed to and noted agreement to all matters set out in the document and provided this to National Grid on 8 January 2025.	National Grid issued the Sensitivity Ratings document (which is not an application document but was shared for reference) to the Consultee on 28 August 2024 and requested comments to be provided. National Grid notes the agreement from the Consultee on all matters set out in the sensitivity ratings for the LVIA methodology, provided on 8 January 2025.	
3.4.16		Visual Appendix Structure Example	The Consultee received the Visual Appendix Structure Example – BTNO 1 and 2 document from National Grid, with a request for comments to be provided. The Consultee has agreed to and noted agreement to all matters set out in the document and provided this to National Grid on 8 January 2025.	National Grid issued the Visual Appendix Structure Example – BTNO 1 and 2 (which is not an application document but was shared for reference) to the Consultee on 28 August 2024 and requested comments to be provided. National Grid notes the agreement from the Consultee on an example application relating to the visual appendix structure, provided on 8 January 2025.	Agreed

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3.5 Ecology and Biodiversity

Table 3.5 Ecology and Biodiversity

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.5.1	Application Document 6.2.3.2 Part 3 Kent Chapter 2 Ecology & Biodiversity	Mitigation	The mitigation measures are still under discussion between the Consultee and National Grid as without the detailed survey work, it is not possible to reach conclusions regarding the significance of likely effects of all ecological receptors	Chapter 2 Ecology & Biodiversity) and are secured through	Under discussion
3.5.2	Application Document 6.2.3.2 Part 3 Kent Chapter 2 Ecology & Biodiversity and Application Document 6.3.3.2.A ES Appendix 3.2.A Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Report	Phase 1 Habitat Survey coverage	The phase 1 Habitat Survey is still under discussion between the Consultee and National Grid as the extent and locations for the ongoing and proposed species surveys have not been provided to the Consultee.	The full extent of the survey area, as set out in Application Document 6.2.3.2 Part 3 Kent Chapter 2 Ecology & Biodiversity and Application Document 6.3.3.2.A ES Appendix 3.2.A Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Report, has now been ground- truthed (verifying information obtained by flyover surveys by obtain direct measurements and observations) due to improved access. Intertidal zone was not previously targeted for ground truthing as intending to use trenchless techniques.	
3.5.3		Role of mitigation hierarchy, including avoidance	The role of mitigation hierarchy, including avoidance within the Proposed Project is still under discussion between the Consultee and National Grid. The Consultee notes that the mitigation hierarchy should be adequately applied and should be demonstrated within the ES.	Details of scheme design have been examined to review the Consultees comments and solutions for avoiding impacts where possible have been/are being explored and have been documented e.g. ability to use buried cables rather than overhead lines (OHL) This will be supplied to the Consultee for comment and review following submission of the DCO application.	Under discussion
3.5.4	Part 3 Kent Chapter 2	Use of trenchless solution for Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Special Protection Area (SPA)	The use of trenchless solution for Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay SPA is still under discussion between the Consultee and National Grid as insufficient detail and justification regarding the trenchless methods has been provided.	National Grid have confirmed that the trenchless solution will be taken. The main works contractor will confirm which specific trenchless technique will be implemented as and when required.	Under discussion
3.5.5	Application Document 6.2.3.2 Part 3 Kent Chapter 2 Ecology & Biodiversity	Effects on Ash Level and South Richborough Pasture Local Wildlfe Site	The effects on Ash Level and South Richborough Pasture Local Wildlife Site (LWS) are still under discussion with the Consultee and National Grid as there is minimal consideration in the preliminary assessment of effects in respect to the LWS.	National Grid have explored habitat creation/enhancement proposals for golden plover and if these can be incorporated into LWS would more than offset direct loss due to pylons. This has been included within Application Document 6.2.3.2 Part 3 Kent Chapter 2 Ecology & Biodiversity. National Grid notes that the the existing Richborough OHL also runs through this LWS and has considered this within the assessment.	Under discussion

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Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.5.6	Application Document 6.2.3.2 Part 3 Kent Chapter 2 Ecology & Biodiversity Application Document Application Document 7.5.3.2 CEMP Appendix B Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC) Application Document 7.5.2 Outline Offshore Construction Environmental Management Plan	HVDC cable crossing of Thanet Coast & Sandwich Bay Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site	The HVDC cable crossing of the Thanet Coast & Sandwich Bay SPA and Ramsar Site is still under discussion with the Consultee and National Grid. This is because there has been insufficient consideration of the preliminary effects provided to the Consultee.	ļ ,	
3.5.7		Horizontal Direct Drilling (HDD)	This matter is still under discussion with the Consultee and National Grid as further information on the location and impacts are required by the Consultee.	National Grid to provide further information on location and impacts of the HDD as well as the jack-up barge (which is equipment used for offshore drilling) following submission of the DCO application.	Under discussion
3.5.8	Application Document 6.2.3.2 Part 3 Kent Chapter 2 Ecology & Biodiversity Application Document 6.6 Habitats Regulations Assessment Report	Golden Plover Offsetting Land in Kent	The Consultee notes the strategy has been discussed with Natural England and agreed in principle with this strategy. The Consultee notes Natural England have primacy on this issue since it is an HRA matter.	National Grid considered options, including identifying an area of farmland in the lower Stour Valley, larger than the area of arable land to be permanently lost, and convert it to grazing marsh/damp grassland. This has been deemed acceptable offsetting to Natural England for other DCOs and gives National Grid the potential to provide a net ecological benefit over arable land. The ES sets out that any temporary displacement of the golden plover during construction would be offset in the long term through the creation of woody and wetland habitat around the Minster Converter Station and Substation. National Grid have noted that the Consultee has asked for confirmation that lighting proposed is not inappropriate. National Grid confirmed that the golden plover mitigation area has been subject to wintering bird survey which has recorded use by golden plover. This has been covered in the Application Document 6.2.3.2 Part 3 Kent Chapter 2 Ecology & Biodiversity and Application Document 6.6 Habitats Regulations Assessment Report.	Agreed

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Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.5.9	Application Document 7.5.3.2 CEMP Appendix B Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC)	Collision risk from new overhead line	This matter is still under discussion between the Consultee and National Grid and further information on the collision risk is required by the Consultee.	National Grid confirmed collision risk assessment has concluded that no significant collision risk from birds and has been supported by 12 months of vantage point surveys of the line location, and carcase searches of the existing OHL. Mitigation has been included in the form of hanging bird diverters which have been set out in Application Document 7.5.3.2 CEMP Appendix B Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC). Collision risk assessment has been reviewed by Natural England who agree with its basic conclusion.	
3.5.10	Application Document 6.2.3.1 Part 3 Kent Chapter 1 Landscape & Visual Application Document 7.5.3.2 CEMP Appendix B Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC)	Recovery of mudflats	The Consultee highlighted to National Grid the need to ensure recovery of the mudflats in the intertidal zone from the HDD connection works. The Consultee will review any details on mudflat recovery following submission of the DCO application.	National Grid has provided details on mudflat recovery in the ES for the DCO in Application Document 6.2.3.1 Part 3 Kent Chapter 1 Landscape & Visual and the commitment has been secured in Application Document 7.5.3.2 CEMP Appendix B Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC).	Under discussion
3.5.11	Application Document 6.2.3.1 Part 3 Kent Chapter 1 Landscape & Visual Application Document 7.5.3.2 CEMP Appendix B Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC)	·	The Consultee highlights to National Grid the need to provide details of the type of culvert to be used to ensure no disruption of connectivity in ditches. The Consultee will review any details on the type of culvert and the riparian mammal habitat continuity following the submission of the DCO application.	The type of culvert has been set out in the DCO and Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (Application Document 7.5.3.2 CEMP Appendix B Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC)). These have been designed to preserve the bed of the ditch and allow connectivity for riparian mammals. This can be found in Application Document 6.2.3.1 Part 3 Kent Chapter 1 Landscape & Visual.	Under discussion

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3.6 Cultural Heritage

Table 3.6 Cultural Heritage

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.6.1		Historic England	The Consultee agrees that KCC and Historic England (HE) are the primary stakeholders for cultural heritage matters, so the Consultee defers all cultural heritage matters to them. The Consultee acknowledges that National Grid have been engaging with KCC and HE regarding archaeology and cultural heritage.	National Grid agrees that Kent County Council and Historic England are the primary stakeholders for cultural heritage and archaeological matters and have been having meetings and discussions with these parties. National Grid notes that the Consultee has been party to these discussions.	Agreed

3.7 Water Environment and Flood Risk

Table 3.7 Water Environment and Flood Risk

Ref	Relevant Summary of Description of Matter Document		DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.7.1		Project responses to statutory consultation comments	The Consultee agreed that National Grid's responses to the statutory consultation comments were appropriate.	Comments from the statutory consultation relating to flood risk, land drainage and hydrology within the Kent scheme were presented with individual responses showing how these will be addressed going forward. It is noted that the Consultee did not have any specific comments on flood risk as this matter is deferred to KCC for comment, but responses to the consultation comments were presented to the Kent LPAs together.	Agreed
3.7.2	Application Document 6.8 Flood Risk Assessment	Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) approach	The Consultee agreed with National Grid on the proposed scope and approach to the FRA and drainage.	The proposed scope of the FRA has been prepared to support the DCO application has been presented, covering the sources of flood risk that will be assessed, the policy and guidance that will be followed and the datasets that will be referenced to inform it.	Agreed
3.7.3	Flood Risk Assessment Application Document 6.2.3.4 Part 3 Kent Chapter 4 Water Environment Kent converter station site approach to drainage solutions and conclusions of the groundwater flood risk at the Kent Converter site, as set out in Application Document 6.8 Flood Risk Assessment and Application Document 6.2.3.4 Part 3 Kent Chapter 4 Water Environment. Application Document 6.2.3.4 Part 3 Kent Chapter 4 Water Environment. Application Document 6.2.3.4 Part 3 Kent Chapter 4 Water Environment. Application In		Conclusions of the groundwater monitoring and flood risk assessment at the converter station site show an overall low risk of groundwater emergence at the site. Due to the poor infiltration, drainage solutions relying on infiltration during construction and operation will not be suitable or practical s. National Grid have shared the groundwater flooding technical note with the Consultee, which is not an application document, but was shared for information only. The groundwater flood risk and approach to this is presented in Application Document 6.8 Flood Risk Assessment and Application Document 6.2.3.4 Part 3 Kent Chapter 4 Water Environment.	Agreed	
.7.4	Application Document 6.2.3.4 Part 3 Kent Chapter 4 Water Environment	Dewatering requirements	The Consultee agreed in principle to the proposed dewatering requirements as set out in the National Grid position.	Permits that might potentially be required if dewatering is required: discharge consent, abstraction licence, flood risk activity permit (FRAP)/and land drainage consent (LDC) (for IDB watercourse-related activities).	Agreed
.7.5	Application Document 6.2.3.4 Part 3 Kent Chapter 4 Water Environment Application Document 7.5.3.2 CEMP Appendix B Register of		The Consultee agreed with National Grid and had no comments on approach to the proposed drainage designs.	A combination of filter drains, cut-off drains, and attenuation ponds used along cable route within construction compounds to manage drainage. All permanent and temporary drainage will be in line with Construction Industry Research and Information Association (CIRIA) Sustatinable Drainage Systems (SuDS) guidance. This has been secured in the REAC (Application Document 7.5.3.2 CEMP Appendix B Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC).	Agreed

Ref		Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
	Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC)				

3.8 **Geology and Hydrogeology**

Table 3.8 Geology and Hydrogeology

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.8.1	Application Document 6.2.3.5 Part 3 Kent Chapter 5 Geology & Hydrogeology	Assessment methodology presented in the ES	The Consultee will review the assessment methodology following the submission of the DCO application.	National Grid will provide the Consultees with the final geology and hydrogeology assessment methodology set out in Application Document 6.2.3.5 Part 3 Kent Chapter 5 Geology & Hydrogeology following submission of the DCO Application. As such, this matter is still under discussion.	Under discussion
3.8.2	Application Document 6.2.3.5 Part 3 Kent Chapter 5 Geology & Hydrogeology	Mitigation presented in the ES and Outline CEMP	The Consultee will review the proposed mitigation following the submission of the DCO application.	National Grid will provide the Consultees with the proposed mitigation for geology and hydrogeology effects set out in Application Document 6.2.3.5 Part 3 Kent Chapter 5 Geology & Hydrogeology following submission of the DCO Application. As such, this matter remains under discussion.	Under discussion
3.8.3	Application Document 6.2.3.5 Part 3 Kent Chapter 5 Geology & Hydrogeology	Assessment conclusions presented in the ES	The Consultee will review the assessment conclusions following the submission of the DCO application.	National Grid will provide the Consultees with the geology and hydrogeology assessment set out in Application Document 6.2.3.5 Part 3 Kent Chapter 5 Geology & Hydrogeology. As such, this matter remains under discussion.	Under discussion

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3.9 Agriculture and Soils

Table 3.9 Agriculture and Soils

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.9.1	Application Document 6.2.3.6 Part 3 Kent Chapter 6 Agriculture & Soils	Assessment methodology presented in the ES	The Consultee will review the assessment methodology following the submission of the DCO application.	National Grid will provide the Consultees with the final agriculture and soils assessment methodology set out in Application Document 6.2.3.6 Part 3 Kent Chapter 6 Agriculture & Soils following submission of the DCO Application. As such, this matter is still under discussion.	Under discussion
3.9.2	Application Document 6.2.3.6 Part 3 Kent Chapter 6 Agriculture & Soils and Application Document 7.5.10.2 Outline Soil Management Plan – Kent	Mitigation presented in the ES and Outline Soil Management Plan	The Consultee will review the proposed mitigation following the submission of the DCO application.	National Grid will provide the Consultees with the proposed mitigation for agriculture and soils effects set out in Application Document 6.2.3.6 Part 3 Kent Chapter 6 Agriculture & Soils and Application Document 7.5.10.2 Outline Soil Management Plan – Kent following submission of the DCO Application. As such, this matter remains under discussion.	Under discussion
				The soil management plan will be secured by Requirement 6 of Schedule 3 of Application Document 3.1 draft DCO .	
3.9.3		Assessment conclusions presented in the ES	The Consultee will review the assessment conclusions following the submission of the DCO application.	National Grid will provide the Consultees with the agriculture and soils assessment set out in Application Document 6.2.3.6 Part 3 Kent Chapter 6 Agriculture & Soils. As such, this matter remains under discussion.	Under discussion

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3.10 Traffic and Transport

Table 3.10 Traffic and Transport

Ref		Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.10.1	Application Document 6.2.3.7 Part 3 Chapter 7 Traffic and Transport Application Document 7.5.1.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management and Travel Plan – Kent Application Document 7.5.9.2 Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan – Kent	Proposed Project	The Consultee is generally supportive of the overall principal of the Proposed Project, which will improve energy security, provided that the impacts of the project are adequately assessed, appropriately mitigated and compensated as required. However, the Consultee defers to KCC Highways for matters relating to Traffic and Transport, including to review the impact of the development on the highway network.	National Grid have noted the Consultee's comments. The traffic and transport assessment of the Proposed Project is contained within Application Document 6.2.3.7 Part 3 Chapter 7 Traffic and Transport based on the mitigation measures identified within that chapter, as well as the supporting management plans (Application Document 7.5.1.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management and Travel Plan – Kent and Application Document 7.5.9.2 Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan – Kent, as secured by Requirement 6 of Schedule 3 of Application Document 3.1 draft DCO.). National Grid acknowledge and agree that KCC Highways are the primary consultee for matters relating to the traffic and transport and have engaged in discussions and meetings with them that the Consultee has been made aware of.	Agreed
3.10.2	Application Document 6.2.3.7 Part 3 Chapter 7 Traffic and Transport	Traffic and Transport	The Consultee considers the scope of the Traffic and Transport assessment to be acceptable. Matters relating to traffic and transport will be addressed in any representations from the local highway authority (KCC) who must be consulted.	KCC Highways has been consulted accordingly and an assessment of the potential impact of the Proposed Project on the highway network is set out in Application Document 6.2.3.7 Part 3 Chapter 7 Traffic and Transport.	Agreed
3.10.3	Application Document 7.5.1.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management and Travel Plan – Kent	Construction Traffic Management Plan	The Consultee requests a Construction Management Plan (CMP) to alleviate concerns relating to construction traffic and access points. The CMP should provide details of construction vehicle routing, parking/turning areas, timing and number of HGV movements, wheel washing facilities, TTM/signage, access/egress arrangements, construction programme/duration and working hours. The Consultee notes the updates to the outline CTMP in relation to comments made and will review once the DCO application has been submitted.	Application Document 7.5.1.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management and Travel Plan – Kent was prepared and supplied as part of Statutory Consultation for the Proposed Project. This has since been updated to reflect the feedback received and includes the information requested by the Consultee.	Agreed
3.10.4	Application Document 6.2.3.7 Part 3 Chapter 7 Traffic and Transport	Policy	The Consultee considers the following policies to be relevant: TI1 – Sustainable Transport and Travel, TI2 – Transport Statements, Assessments and Travel Plans which are from the Dover District Local Plan to 2040. The Consultee notes the approach for Application Document 6.3.3.7.A ES Appendix 3.7.A Transport Assessment	These policies along with TI3 – Parking Provision on New Development, as well as policies within DDC's Local Development Framework are outlined within Application Document 6.2.3.7 Part 3 Chapter 7 Traffic and Transport. Considerations relating to sustainable travel including walking and cycling are provided within Application Document 7.5.1.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management and Travel Plan	Agreed

Ref		Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
	Application Document 7.5.1.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management and Travel Plan – Kent Application Document 6.3.3.7.A ES Appendix 3.7.A Transport Assessment Note		Note has been agreed with KCC and defer to KCC for the final comments.	 Kent, as secured by Requirement 6 of Schedule 3 of Application Document 3.1 draft DCO. The components which typically form part of a Transport Assessment are sign-posted within Application Document 6.3.3.7.A ES Appendix 3.7.A Transport Assessment Note which supports Application Document 6.2.3.7 Part 3 Chapter 7 Traffic and Transport. The approach for Application Document 6.3.3.7.A ES Appendix 3.7.A Transport Assessment Note has been agreed with KCC. 	
3.10.5	Application Document 7.5.1.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management and Travel Plan – Kent		The Consultee requests further clarification on the proposed core working hours which are understood to now include Sundays and Bank Holidays e.g. in terms of the construction programme, how frequently works would be carried out on Sundays/Bank Holidays and potential impacts on traffic levels and PRoW users. The Consultee notes that the outline CTMP sets out the core working hours and agrees to this approach as long as works are completed in accordance with this commitment.	Further clarification is provided within Application Document 7.5.1.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management and Travel Plan – Kent, as secured by Requirement 6 of Schedule 3 of Application Document 3.1 draft DCO. Works on Sundays and Bank Holidays will be limited and only carried out to provide added flexibility to the programme. HGV arrivals or departures on Sundays and public holidays will be limited to a maximum of 30 HGVs per day. It is also expected that there will be up to 50% fewer LGV and staff vehicle movements on Sundays and Bank Holidays than the number of movements anticipated to be experienced on weekdays and Saturdays.	Agreed

3.11 Air Quality

Table 3.11 Air Quality

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.11.1	Application Document 6.2.3.8 Part 3 Kent Chapter 8 Air Quality Application Document 7.5.6.2 Outline Air Quality Management Plan – Kent	Air Quality Receptors	The Consultee's EH team's primary concern would be any possible effect that construction traffic and construction sites set within Dover District may have on nearby residences. The construction of any new pylon system within the Dover District may require access points via local roads or temporary compounds within nearby road networks and it is expected that further details of this will be provided as the proposal progresses. The Consultee notes that the outline Air Quality Management Plan for Kent has been produced and is secured via Requirement 6 of the draft DCO. Therefore, the Consultee is in agreement with the approach that has been taken with the receptors. The Consultee will review the Air Quality ES Chapter and the outline Air Quality Management Plan following submission of the DCO application.	As part of the air quality assessment, construction vehicle emissions have been assessed. Construction dust, NRMM and temporary diesel generator emissions have also been assessed, which is secured by Requirement 6 of Schedule 3 of Application Document 3.1 draft DCO. Mitigation measures have been proposed to ensure impacts are not significant and have been included in the ES (Application Document 6.2.3.8 Part 3 Kent Chapter 8 Air Quality and Application Document 7.5.6.2 Outline Air Quality Management Plan – Kent). An outline Air Quality Management Plan for Kent has been produced and secured by Requirement 6 of Schedule 3 of Application Document 3.1 draft DCO.	Agreed
3.11.2	Application Document 6.2.3.8 Part 3 Kent Chapter 8 Air Quality	Assessment methodology presented in the ES	The Consultee will review the assessment methodology following the submission of the DCO application.	National Grid will provide the Consultees with the final air quality methodology set out in Application Document 6.2.3.8 Part 3 Kent Chapter 8 Air Quality following submission of the DCO Application. As such, this matter is still under discussion.	Under discussion
3.11.3	Chapter 8 Air Quality 1.3 Application Mitigation presented in the		The Consultee will review the proposed mitigation following the submission of the DCO application.	National Grid will provide the Consultees with the proposed mitigation for air quality effects set out in Application Document 6.2.3.8 Part 3 Kent Chapter 8 Air Quality and Application Document 7.5.6.2 Outline Air Quality Management Plan – Kent following submission of the DCO Application. As such, this matter remains under discussion.	Under discussion
3.11.4	Application Document 6.2.3.8 Part 3 Kent Chapter 8 Air Quality	Assessment conclusions presented in the ES	The Consultee will review the assessment conclusions following the submission of the DCO application.	National Grid will provide the Consultees with the air quality assessment set out in Application Document 6.2.3.8 Part 3 Kent Chapter 8 Air Quality . As such, this matter remains under discussion.	Under discussion

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3.12 Noise and Vibration

Table 3.12 Noise and Vibration

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.12.1	Application Document 6.2.3.9 Part 3 Kent Chapter 9 Noise & Vibration	Construction noise and vibration	The Consultee agreed the approach in April 2023 but confirmed that noise and vibration matters were generally delegated to TDC with the Consultee being copied into pertinent correspondence.	National Grid set out the assessment methodology for construction noise and vibration to the Consultee and confirmed that the construction noise and vibration assessment methodology is in accordance with BS 5228:2009+A1:2014. Assessment criteria are agreed based on the lower threshold for the 'ABC' method, which is the method used to decide if construction noise could cause significant effect, with 'A' being the lowest threshold and is used as the worst-case scenario. The Consultee has agreed to this approach and how noise and vibration has been assessed within the DCO application (Application Document 6.2.3.9 Part 3 Kent Chapter 9 Noise & Vibration). National Grid notes that matters on noise and vibration were deferred by the Consultee to TDC.	Agreed
3.12.2	Application Document 6.2.3.9 Part 3 Kent Chapter 9 Noise & Vibration	Noise survey data	The Consultee agreed the approach in April 2023. Noise and vibration matters were generally delegated to TDC with the Consultee copied into pertinent correspondence.	National Grid confirm agreement with the Consultee on baseline noise survey methodology and resultant typical background noise levels for use in the operational noise assessment, which has been set out within Application Document 6.2.3.9 Part 3 Kent Chapter 9 Noise & Vibration.	
3.12.3	Application Document 6.3.3.9.D ES Appendix 3.9.D Kent Operational Noise Assessment		The Consultee agreed the approach in April 2023. Noise and vibration matters were generally delegated to TDC with the Consultee copied into pertinent correspondence.	National Grid confirm agreement with the Consultee on assessment methodology and criteria for operational noise assessment, which has been set out in Application Document 6.3.3.9.D ES Appendix 3.9.D Kent Operational Noise Assessment.	Agreed
3.12.4	7.5.8.2 Outline Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan – Kent	Construction traffic noise	The Consultee agreed the approach in April 2023. Noise and vibration matters were generally delegated to TDC with the Consultee copied into pertinent correspondence.	National Grid confirm that the Consultee has agreed to the assessment methodology for construction noise assessment based on guidance from the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) LA 111 Noise and Vibration and Calculation of Road Traffic Noise (CRTN). Further details on this methodology to constructions traffic noise is set out in 7.5.8.2 Outline Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan – Kent	Agreed

3.13 Socioeconomics, Recreation and Tourism

Table 3.13 Socioeconomics, Recreation and Tourism

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.13.1	Application Document 7.5.9.2 Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan - Kent	Public Rights of Way	The Consultee had no comments on Public Rights of Way and agreed to the approach set out by National Grid.	The assessment of effects on PRoW has included recreational routes and routes used for access. National Grid have reviewed what information has been provided to the Consultee to date on the assessment to determine if further information on the methodology can be provided. An outline PRoW Management Plan has been produced for the ES which includes closures and diversions to PROW routes, which is found in Application Document 7.5.9.2 Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan - Kent.	Agreed
3.13.2	Application Document 6.2.3.10 Part 3 Kent Chapter 10 Socio- Economics, Recreation, and Tourism	Study Area	The Consultee has not provided any further comments on this matter and agree to the proposed approach as set out in the ES.	The assessment of recreational routes and PRoWs recognised that some PRoW would overlap/go beyond the 500 m study area boundary. Where this is the case, the assessment has considered whether the Proposed Project would impact the route beyond 500 m. Additionally, the PRoW assessment includes consideration of PRoW routes connected via cycle and pedestrian route networks which are impacted by the Proposed Project. This has been included in the ES chapter. The study area has been set out within the ES (Application Document 6.2.3.10 Part 3 Kent Chapter 10 Socio-Economics, Recreation, and Tourism) and the outline PROW Management Plan (Application Document 7.5.9.2 Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan – Kent).	Agreed

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3.14 Health and Wellbeing

Table 3.14 Health and Wellbeing

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.14.1		Project responses to statutory consultation comments	The Consultee agreed with National Grid response to the statutory consultation response and thus, had no further comments to make.	National Grid presented their response to the comments on health and wellbeing from the Consultee, where the primary concern was the impact of construction traffic and construction sites on residents in Dover. The mitigation on the impacts on construction traffic has been covered in the Application Document 7.5.1.2 Outline Construction Traffic Management and Travel Plan – Kent and further details of the health and wellbeing assessment methodology in Application Document 6.2.3.11 Part 3 Kent Chapter 11 Health & Wellbeing.	Agreed
3.14.2	Application Document 6.2.3.11 Part 3 Kent Chapter 11 Health & Wellbeing	Study Area	The Consultee has raised no concerns regarding the study area during statutory consultation or thematic meetings to date and agrees to the study area as set out in Application Document 6.2.3.11 Part 2 Kent Chapter 11 Health & Wellbeing.	The Study Area, which comprises three wards within the Consultee's boundary. These include Little Stour and Ashtone, which are both Dover Villageswas set out within the PEIR and is the same for the ES in Chapter 11 (Application Document Application Document 6.2.3.11 Part 3 Kent Chapter 11 Health & Wellbeing). This was also shown at the meeting in October 2023.	Agreed

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3.15 Cumulative Effects

Table 3.15 Cumulative Effects.

Ref	Relevant Application Document	Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
3.15.1	Application Document 6.3.1.5.A ES Appendix 1.5.A Cumulative Effects Assessment Methodologies	Cumulative Schemes - methodology	A meeting was held with the Consultee on 12 November 2024, where the cumulative assessment methodology was presented. The Consultee agreed to the methodology presented in the meeting. However, as this has not been finalised, the Consultee will review the methodology following submission of the DCO application.	National Grid presented the cumulative assessment methodology on 12 November 2024, and this was agreed with the Consultee. National Grid will provide the Consultees with the cumulative effects assessment methodology set out in Application Document 6.3.1.5.A ES Appendix 1.5.A Cumulative Effects Assessment Methodologies following submission of the DCO application. As such, this matter is still under discussion.	Under discussion
3.15.2	Application Document 6.3.1.5.B ES Appendix 1.5.B Inter-Project Cumulative Effects Long List and Application Document 6.3.1.5.C ES Appendix 1.5.C Inter-Project Cumulative Effects Short List	Cumulative Schemes – short list and long list	A meeting was held with the Consultee on 12 November, where the Short List and Long Lists were presented, with any comments requested to be provided to National Grid within 3 days post this meeting. The Consultee raised an additional 10 developments to be added to the short list. National Grid confirmed that these have been added to the short list. As such, the Consultee agrees to the short list and long list. The Consultee will review the short list and long list following submission of the DCO application.	The long list and short list are provided within Application Document 6.3.1.5.B ES Appendix 1.5.B Inter-Project Cumulative Effects Long List and Application Document 6.3.1.5.C ES Appendix 1.5.C Inter-Project Cumulative Effects Short List and include the additional 10 developments raised by the Kent LPAs. The assessment can be updated during examination if developments come forward that would make the short list. This updated assessment would be provided at a suitable deadline in the examination timetable. National Grid will provide the Consultees with the cumulative effects short list and long list as set out in Application Document 6.3.1.5.B ES Appendix 1.5.B Inter-Project Cumulative Effects Long List and Application Document 6.3.1.5.C ES Appendix 1.5.C Inter-Project Cumulative Effects Short List following submission of the DCO application. As such, this matter remains under discussion.	Under discussion
3.15.3	Application Document 6.2.3.12 Part 3 Kent Chapter 12 Kent Onshore Scheme Intra-Project Cumulative Effects, Application Document	Conclusions of the Cumulative Effects Assessments	The Consultee is yet to agree with the conclusions set out in the Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA). The Consultee will review these conclusions in due course, following submission of the DCO application.	National Grid will provide the Consultees with the conclusions of the Cumulative Effects assessment following submission of the DCO application. As such, this matter remains under discussion. These have been presented in Application Document 6.2.3.12 Part 3 Kent Chapter 12 Kent Onshore Scheme Intra-	Under discussion

Ref Relevan Docume		Summary of Description of Matter	DDC Current Position	National Grid Current Position	Status
Chapter Onshore Inter-Pro Cumulat Applicat 6.2.4.10 Chapter Project 0 Effects, Docume Part 4 M 11 Inter- Cumulat and App Docume 5 Combi Project- (Combir	tive Effects, tion Document Part 4 Marine 10 Intra- Cumulative Application ent 6.2.4.11 larine Chapter -Project tive Effects blication ent 6.2.5.2 Part ined Chapter 2			Project Cumulative Effects, Application Document 6.2.3.13 Part 3 Kent Chapter 13 Kent Onshore Scheme Inter-Project Cumulative Effects, Application Document 6.2.5.2 Part 5 Combined Chapter 2 Project- wide (Combined) Effects of the Proposed Project and Application Document 6.2.4.11 Part 4 Marine Chapter 11 Inter-Project Cumulative Effects.	

4. Approvals

Signed	
On Behalf of	National Grid
Name	
Position	
Date	
Signed	
On Behalf of	Dover District Council
Name	
Position	
Date	

5. References

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. (2024). *Planning Act 2008: Examination stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects*. Retrieved from https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-act-2008-examination-stage-for-nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects

The Planning Inspectorate. (2015). Advice Note two: The role of local authorities in the development consent process. Retrieved from https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/TR010019/TR010019-Advice-00006-2-Advice_note_2_The%20role%20of%20local%20authorities%20in%20the%20development%20consent%20process.pdf#:~:text=The%20Planning%20Act%202008%20.

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