

FRISTON PARISH COUNCIL



NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION - SEA LINK PROJECT

FRISTON PARISH COUNCIL - IP NO F4DB2AC56 & SASES - IP NO - FD73070EF

Date: 8 October 2025

SUBMISSION FOR PRELIMINARY MEETING ON 5 NOVEMBER 2025

Item 2 - Examination Process

1. As the examining authority is aware FPC and SASES have serious concerns in respect of what is known as scenario 2 and these are set out in their relevant representations [RR-1693](#) and their letter dated 14th August 2025 [AS-073](#). Scenario 2 has already led to unnecessary complexity and confusion which is further evidenced by National Grid's letter dated 30 September 2025 [AS-148](#). This complexity and confusion is compounded by National Grid not honouring the existing mitigation for its substation/connection hub as set out in and as secured by the EA2 and EA1N DCOs. This will unnecessarily and unreasonably distract and divert time and resources away from examination of the environmental impacts of Sealink.
2. It is beyond any reasonable doubt that EA2 is going ahead and this is yet further evidenced in recent media statements from Scottish Power/Iberdrola which are attached below.
3. Had National Grid needed its own consent for its substation/connection hub, which was an NSIP in its own right, it could have easily sought such consent at the same time as the applications were submitted and examined for EA1N and EA2. The examining authority should be aware that at the time of the EA1N and EA2 examinations, National Grid had already made connection offers for Lionlink (formerly Eurolink) and a second interconnector project known as Nautilus, in addition to EA2 and EA1N. There were also plans for a project then known as SCD1 which became Sealink. It is understood that Sealink did not need a connection offer as it was NGET's own project. The prospect of these projects was far from uncertain as a plan had been produced to extend the National Grid substation/connection hub to accommodate the required connections. That plan was considered in the EA2 and EA1N examinations, but no cumulative impact assessment was conducted.
4. In this context FPC would like to understand as a matter of procedure:
 - a) whether Scenario 2 is definitely going to be examined and why; and
 - b) how the examining authority intend to approach the draft DCO to ensure that the mitigation for the National Grid substation/connection hub will not be diluted and that it will be properly secured in the DCO in the same manner as it is for EA2 and EA1N.

Item 3 - Principal Issues

5. FPC is concerned to confirm that issues of operational noise, fire risk and health and wellbeing will be examined even though they are not listed.
6. FPC does not necessarily need to be heard on item 3 provided the examining authority deals with these issues in its comments.

Item 4 - Examination timetable

7. The preliminary environmental information report for Lionlink will be published end 2025/early 2026. How/when will this PEIR be considered? Please bear in mind that FPC/SASES and other interested parties will need to participate in the statutory consultation for Lionlink, as well addressing ongoing issues with the development of EA2 and Sizewell C? The examining authority should also be aware that a large solar farm of 250 MW with integrated battery storage (Helios Energy Park) is now being proposed near Friston which will connect to the National Grid substation/connection hub. FPC have been advised by the developer that more details will be provided later this autumn.
8. FPC does not necessarily need to be heard on item 4 provided the examining authority deals with these issues in its comments.

END

EXTRACTS FROM RECENT IBERDROLA/SCOTTISH POWER MEDIA RELEASES

Key text is highlighted

ScottishPower Owner Makes UK No 1 Investment Destination

24/09/2025

ScottishPower owner Iberdrola has unveiled a transformational €58bn strategic plan with the UK now its top destination for investment.

The plan, launched in London today, will see the business prioritise electricity grids to help deliver a “new era” for investment as it delivers the biggest rewiring Britain has seen since electrification.

Iberdrola will increase its investment in A-rated countries with attractive regulatory frameworks, with the UK a major beneficiary due to its clear and stable policy outlook.

Over 65% of Iberdrola's investment will be in the UK and US, which its **Executive Chairman, Ignacio Galan, said** provide clear growth pathways and strong policy frameworks which make them attractive to invest in.

He said: "We are in a new era for electrification. We are the only company in the world that can deliver this opportunity due to our size and scale.

"We will invest €58bn by 2028, two-thirds of which will go to transmission and distribution networks, mainly in the United Kingdom and the United States.

"During this period, we will add more than 15,000 people to our workforce, make purchases of more than €65bn to thousands of suppliers –supporting 500,000 jobs–, our tax contribution will exceed €40bn, and we will invest €1.6bn in R&D&I, while also achieving carbon neutrality by 2030."

ScottishPower CEO Keith Anderson said its £24bn UK plan to 2028 will be transformative for the country. He said: "The scale of today's announcement cannot be underestimated, we're investing record sums to deliver the grid that will stand for the next century.

"The UK has always been an important investment destination for Iberdrola, but now it's in pole position to benefit further.

"With UK energy demand expected to increase in the next decade, we need a grid that can match that. Together with the UK's clear energy ambitions and policy frameworks we see a country perfectly positioned to take advantage of a capital investment programme that will unlock growth, boost supply chains and deliver a lasting benefit for decades to come."

ScottishPower is investing £24bn through to 2028 as it builds out the transmission grid across central and southern Scotland and the electricity distribution grids in central and southern Scotland, north west England and north Wales. **It's also building two of the largest offshore wind farms in the world off the coast of East Anglia which together will deliver 2.3 GW of clean power for Britain.**

[Note these are the EA3 and the EA2 projects as EA1 has already been constructed and is operational]

News

28.08.2025 - 08:12 UTC +02:00

ScottishPower begins expansion and repowering of its British wind farms Arecleoch and Kilgallioch

Iberdrola, a leading energy player in the United Kingdom

Through ScottishPower, Iberdrola is one of the largest energy companies in the UK. Its activities focus on electricity networks, renewable energy, and energy retail.

Regarding the first area, Iberdrola's UK subsidiary currently operates, under its brands SP Energy Networks and SP Electricity North West (following the acquisition of [ENW](#)), as the second-largest distribution network operator in the UK. It supplies electricity to around 12 million people through more than 170,000 kilometres of power lines.

SP Energy Networks distributes and connects electricity in Merseyside, Cheshire and North Shropshire (England), North Wales, as well as central and southern Scotland. SP Electricity North West distributes electricity in north-west England, including Manchester and the Lake District, and also owns and operates the high-voltage transmission network in central and southern Scotland. Iberdrola plans to invest up to €13.902 billion (approximately £12 billion) by 2031 under RIIO-T3 in a major programme to renew UK infrastructure and boost electrification.

In terms of renewables, ScottishPower has almost 3,100 MW of installed capacity, comprised of 40 onshore wind farms and two offshore projects. It is also building the [East Anglia Three](#) offshore wind farm, the second largest in the world, as well as [East Anglia Two](#) and [East Anglia One North](#). Together with the already operational East Anglia One, they will form the East Anglia Hub, an ambitious project that will generate up to 3.9 GW of capacity on the UK's east coast.

Finally, in the retail sector, ScottishPower, with 4.2 million customers, is one of the largest energy suppliers in the UK. It sells electricity and gas, while also helping customers install smart solutions such as electric vehicle chargers, heat pumps, and domestic solar systems in homes across the country.