

Your Reference



Our Reference  
2794344/VJF01

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8 October 2025

Dear Sirs

**Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) for an order ("the Proposed Order") granting development consent for the South East Anglia Link (Sea Link) Project ("the Application")**

**PINS reference: EN020026**

**Interested Party reference: FFBE7AACF**

We act for the Port of London Authority (the "**PLA**"). The PLA are an interested party to the examination with the above reference number.

We refer to your letter dated 19 September 2025 pursuant to Rule 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 ("**the Rule 6 Letter**"). The Rule 6 Letter invites interested parties to attend the Preliminary Meeting which is to take place on Wednesday 5 November 2025. Vicky Fowler of Gowling WLG has registered to speak at the Preliminary Meeting on behalf of the PLA, and will be joined by Lucy Owen, Deputy Director of Planning and Development.

The Rule 6 Letter also requests written submissions about how the Application should be examined by procedural deadline A (8 October 2025).

Related to the examination and timetabling, we refer to Annex C of the Rule 6 Letter which sets out PINS' initial assessment of principal issues. We note there is no direct reference to shipping and navigation. This is a key concern of the PLA, as set out in its Relevant Representation. We also understand that this is a key concern of other harbour authorities including London Gateway Port Limited. Those key concerns will be set out in further detail in due course in written representations.

At this stage, the PLA wish to bring to PINS attention that we will be raising the omission of shipping and navigation at the Preliminary Meeting. The PLA respectfully requests that the Examining Authority adds impacts on shipping and navigation to the list of principal issues.

We also note that Annex F (notification of hearings) advises Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) will take place on Tuesday 11 November 2025 and will concern the scope of the development. We note no further Issue Specific Hearings on specific topics are currently listed on the draft programme (although indicative timings are set aside for ISHs, should they be necessary).

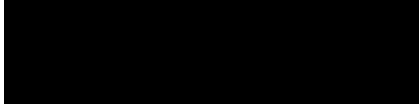
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The PLA does consider that the effect of the Proposed Order on shipping and navigation should be considered at an Issue Specific Hearing and, assuming it is not intended that shipping and navigation will be covered at ISH1, the PLA is of the view that the examination timetable should be amended to accommodate at least one further Issue Specific Hearing covering these issues. If this cannot be accommodated, then the PLA would wish to reserve its ability to attend one of the Open Floor Hearings to raise its concerns.

Your faithfully



**Gowling WLG (UK) LLP**

Solicitor dealing:

