

## Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission for an order granting development consent for the Sea Link project

### Agenda for open floor hearing (OFH):

Hearing	Date	Location
Open floor hearing 1 (OFH1)	Between Wednesday 5 November and Thursday 6 November 2025  See annex A for further details including the start and registration times for each session.	Snape Maltings Concert Hall, Snape, Suffolk IP17 1SP  and by virtual means using <b>Microsoft Teams</b>  Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered

### Agenda items

Please note that the following agenda is indicative and may be amended by the Examining Authority (ExA) at the start of the hearing session.

1. **Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the hearing**
2. **Purpose of the open floor hearing**
3. **Confirmation of those who have notified the ExA of a wish to be heard at the open floor hearing and the order in which parties will be heard**
4. **Representations by interested parties and others**

Each interested party (IP) who has indicated a wish to speak will be invited in turn by the ExA to speak. Following each submission, the ExA may wish to ask the speaker questions.

Speakers will be heard in the order shown under the list of speakers in **annex A** and will be allocated the following maximum speaking times:

- 3 minutes for individual IPs, including businesses.
- 6 minutes for those representing groups, membership organisations or Councils.

Persons without IP status, as defined by section 102 of the Planning Act 2008, are referred to as Non-Interested Parties (Non-IP); however this is not intended to suggest a lack of interest in the application. Any Non-IPs that are being heard

at the discretion of the ExA are included in the list of speakers in **annex A**. The same maximum speaking times and procedure will apply as for IPs.

The ExA may ask questions of IPs, Non-IPs and the applicant about matters arising from written and oral submissions. If they do so during a timed oral submission, the time taken by the ExA will not count against the speaking time.

Those who have not previously registered to participate in this hearing and have not been allocated a slot in the speaking list at **annex A**, are unlikely to be able to speak on the day due to the number of registered participants. Any request to participate in a future OFH should be made by **deadline 1, Tuesday 18 November 2025**.

## **5. Close of the open floor hearing**

### **Participation, conduct and management of open floor hearings**

OFHs are hearings where interested parties (IP) who are individuals, groups and organisations have the opportunity to raise any matters that they consider are important and relevant to the consideration of the application.

Submissions should be based on your previous representations made in writing. The ExA has read all of these, and representations made at the OFHs do not need to repeat these, but should provide further detail, explanation or evidence to help inform the ExA.

To allow everyone to have a fair opportunity to be heard, the time limits shown on the agenda will be strictly applied. The ExA will hear from all IPs who have pre-registered to speak at the OFHs. If on the day there are individuals who are not registered but who wish to make submissions at one of the OFHs, the ExA will use its discretion to hear these should time permit (please see further information about this below).

Once you have spoken at one OFH you do not have the right to speak again at another. It is important therefore that you use the allotted time well to communicate your message to the ExA.

Speakers have been given either a virtual or physical (in-person) slot, based on the information provided during the registration process. This information is confirmed in the list of speakers in **annex A**. Please contact the case team as soon as possible using the contact details below if you wish to attend via a different method, or if you are no longer able to attend.

It would also assist the ExA if written summaries of anything that you say are submitted by **deadline 1A (Wednesday 26 November 2025)**.

People who have land or rights affected by compulsory acquisition or temporary possession are affected persons (AP) and have a right to be heard at a compulsory acquisition hearing (CAH). If you are an AP wishing to speak about your land or rights then a CAH will be the best forum to raise any such issues.

The ExA has asked the applicant to attend this hearing. The applicant may be asked by the ExA to address questions raised by IPs in summary form at the end of the

hearing and in written submissions. It is not the purpose of these hearings to enable the applicant to make its case. Any applicant responses to specific IPs' oral cases will be made in writing unless invited to respond by the ExA.

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the [project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website](#) closer to the event date. IPs and members of the public who wish to observe the hearing can view and listen to the hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

## **Requests to be heard**

The deadline to request to be heard at OFH1 was Wednesday 8 October 2025. Anyone wishing to speak at OFH1 who did not make their request by this date should note that it is unlikely there will be time for additional parties to be heard in the sessions programmed. The ExA will use its discretion to hear additional parties should time permit, however this will depend on the progress made in each session. If your request cannot be accommodated, then further OFHs may need to be arranged for later in the examination. Any request to participate in a future OFH should be made by **deadline 1, Tuesday 18 November 2025**.

## **Event registration process**

Parties who have registered to speak at the OFH will receive a joining instruction email shortly before the hearing which will include a link to the virtual event on Microsoft Teams, and a telephone number should they need to participate by telephone. The joining instruction email will be sent to all registered parties, including those due to appear in person.

If you are attending virtually, please join at the virtual registration start time set out in the relevant agenda to ensure that the registration process is completed in good time. If necessary, it will be possible to leave the Microsoft Teams meeting after the initial registration process, however, please ensure that you re-join at least 15 minutes before the anticipated start time of the session you are due to speak at.

If you are attending in person, you should ensure that you arrive at the venue at least 15 minutes before the anticipated start time of the session you are due to speak at.

## **Advice**

To help you participate effectively, the Planning Inspectorate has published the following advice:

- [Advice Note 8.5 – The Examination: hearings and site inspections](#).
- [Advice Note 8.6 – Virtual examination events](#).

This material includes advice on how to use Microsoft Teams (our virtual event system) and on protecting your personal data during virtual events.

**OFH1: Session 1 Wednesday 5 November 2025****Start 2:00pm (registration in-person and virtually from 1:15pm)**

Order	Name	Time	Virtual/ Physical
1	Simon Amstutz, Suffolk and Essex Coast and Heaths National Landscape Partnership	6 mins	V
2	Sarah Courage	3 mins	P
3	Sheridan Steen	3 mins	P
4	Sarah Whitelock, Ward Member Aldeburgh and Leiston, Cabinet Member Communities, Culture, Leisure and Tourism, East Suffolk Council	6 mins	V
5	David Gordon	3 mins	P
6	Robert Jellicoe	3 mins	P
7	Anne Jellicoe	3 mins	P
8	Theresa Thorne, Whitearch Residential Retirement Park	6 mins	P
9	Louise Morse	3 mins	P
10	James Jenkins	3 mins	P
11	Fiona Gilmore, Suffolk Energy Action Solutions	6 mins	P
12	Fiona Gilmore	3 mins	P
13	Anthony Fincham	3 mins	P
14	Geoffrey Dunn	3 mins	P
15	Julian Glenn	3 mins	P
16	Richard Rout, Suffolk County Council	6 mins	V
17	Alexandra Fulford	3 mins	P
18	David Pelly	3 mins	P
19	Rachel McConville	3 mins	P
20	Justin Power	3 mins	P
21	Charlotte Newson	3 mins	P
22	Yvonne Edge	3 mins	P
23	Henry Young, Britten Pears Arts and The Suffolk Coast Destination Management Organisation	6 mins	P
24	Robert Nichol	3 mins	P
25	Alison Downes	3 mins	P
26	Michael Mahony, Friston Parish Council and Substation Action Save East Suffolk	6 mins	P
27	Tim Rowan-Robinson	3 mins	P
28	Brenda Glenn	3 mins	P
29	Rosemary Gethin	3 mins	P
30	Terence Gethin	3 mins	P
31	Councillor Sara Fox, Aldeburgh Town Council	6 mins	P
32	Paul Atkinson	3 mins	P
33	Gordon Young	3 mins	P

**OFH1: Session 2 Wednesday 5 November 2025**

***Start 5:30pm (registration in-person and virtually from 4:45pm)***

Order	Name	Time	Virtual/ Physical
1	Councillor Charlotte Fox, Benhall and Sternfield Parish Council	6 mins	P
2	Charlotte Fox	3 mins	P
3	Richard Cooper, Chair, Marlesford Parish Council	6 mins	V
4	Councillor Geraldine Barker, Saxmundham Town Council	6 mins	P
5	Louise Fincham	3 mins	V
6	Sarah Clarke	3 mins	P
7	Malcolm Watson	3 mins	V
8	David Argent	3 mins	P
9	Paul Bongers de Rath, The Aldeburgh Society	6 mins	P
10	Andrew Turner, chair Westleton Parish Council	6 mins	V
11	Andrew Turner	3 mins	V
12	Richard Featherstone	3 mins	P
13	Glynis Robertson	3 mins	P
14	Paul Smith	3 mins	P
15	Simon O'Malley	3 mins	P
16	Nichola Winter	3 mins	P
17	Iain Brown	3 mins	P
18	Wendy Ireland	3 mins	V
19	Flora Gathorne-Hardy	3 mins	P
20	Katie Carr-Tansley	3 mins	P
21	Argus Hardy, chair, Great Glemham Parish Council	6 mins	P
22	Nigel Hiley	3 mins	P
23	Henrietta Palmer	3 mins	P
24	Helen Napier	3 mins	V

**OFH1: Session 3 Thursday 6 November 2025**

***Start 10:00am (registration in-person and virtually from 09:15am)***

Order	Name	Time	Virtual/ Physical
1	Councillor Robin Sanders, Woodbridge Town Council	6 mins	P
2	Michael Russell Hills	3 mins	P
3	Karl Pearsall	3 mins	P
4	Philip Peeling	3 mins	P
5	Ken Bate	3 mins	P
6	Humphrey Hawksley	3 mins	P
7	Piers Sturridge	3 mins	P
8	Nicola Fulford	3 mins	P
9	Tim Beach, East Suffolk Communities Energy Partnership	6 mins	P
10	Councillor Josie Bassinette, Walberswick Parish Council	6 mins	P

## Annex A

11	Stuart Ian Robson	3 mins	V
12	Michael Mahony	3 mins	P
13	Elizabeth Bennett	3 mins	P
14	William Parker	3 mins	P
15	Marianne Fellowes	3 mins	P
16	Alysia Duncan	3 mins	P
17	Matthew Denny	3 mins	V
18	James Hardcastle, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)	6 mins	P
19	Nicola Corbett, Deputy Mayor, Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council	6 mins	P
20	Christine Collett	3 mins	P
21	Paul Richards	3 mins	P
22	Judith Stoutt, East Suffolk Water Management Board	6 mins	V
23	Melissa Baker	3 mins	P
24	Stephanie Bunn	3 mins	P
25	Lynne Walker	3 mins	P
26	Jan Arthur	3 mins	P
27	Gillian Horrocks	3 mins	V
28	Jonathan Clogg	3 mins	P
29	Christopher Wilson	3 mins	V
30	Jennifer Wilson	3 mins	V
31	Stephanie Renouf	3 mins	P
32	Naomi Russell	3 mins	P
33	Alison Andrews, chair Alde & Ore Association	6 mins	P
34	Stephanie Williams	3 mins	V
35	Patricia Dorcey	3 mins	P
36	Alan Collett	3 mins	P
37	Caroline Wright	3 mins	P

### OFH1: Session 4 Thursday 6 November 2025

**Start 2:00pm (registration in-person and virtually from 1:15pm)**

Order	Name	Time	Virtual/ Physical
1	Simon Loftus	3 mins	P
2	Alan Bullard	3 mins	V
3	Andrew McDonald	3 mins	P
4	Tessa Wojtczak	3 mins	P
5	Rhett Griffiths	3 mins	P
6	Coral Duncan	3 mins	P
7	Paul Duncan	3 mins	P
8	Geoffrey Dunn, Offshore4sure	6 mins	P
9	Elizabeth Trudy Duffield	3 mins	P
10	Jocelyn Bond	3 mins	P
11	Philip Smith, Walberswick Against LionLink	6 mins	P
12	Philip Smith	3 mins	P

**Annex A**

13	Councillor Julia Ewart, Kelsale and Yoxford ward including the parish of Kelsale Cum Carlton	6 mins	P
14	Leigh Jenkins, Business Liaison Manager Suffolk Constabulary	6 mins	P
15	Matthew Garrard	3 mins	P
16	Andelphine Mason-Brown	3 mins	P
17	Sally Sturridge	3 mins	P
18	Adam East	3 mins	P
19	Isobel Taylor	3 mins	V
20	Mark Goyder	3 mins	P
21	Fiona Cramb	3 mins	P
22	Luigi Beltrandi	3 mins	P
23	Joan Edlis	3 mins	P
24	Susan Osben	3 mins	P
25	Marie Backhouse, Snape Parish Council	6 mins	P

**OFH1: Session 5 Thursday 6 November 2025*****Start 5:30pm (registration in-person and virtually from 4:45pm)***

Order	Name	Time	Virtual/ Physical
1	Robert Platais	3 mins	P
2	Simon Dow	3 mins	P
3	Caroline Whatling	3 mins	V
4	Lawrence Mallinson, Aldeburgh Traders/ James White Drinks Ltd	6 mins	P
5	Susan Nicholson	3 mins	P
6	Georgina Burns	3 mins	P
7	Simon Padley	3 mins	V
8	Peter Ewart, trustee IP17 Good Neighbour Scheme	6 mins	P
9	Mary Shipman	3 mins	P
10	Mya Manakides	3 mins	P
11	Councillor TJ Haworth-Culf, Aldeburgh & Leiston Division County	6 mins	P
12	Nicholas Ireland	3 mins	P
13	Susan Bridges	3 mins	P
14	Richard Bodek	3 mins	P
15	Nicholas Bridges	3 mins	V