Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Sea Link Project

Comments from Saxmundham Town Council arising from the Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) on the scope of the development held on Tuesday 11 November 2025.

We thank the ExA for questioning the Applicant concerning use of the land indicated white on sheet 1 of 6, 2.14.1 Indicative General Arrangements Plans - Suffolk (planninginspectorate.gov.uk). We specifically refer to the area between compounds S02 and S03 and the B1119. Due to the proximity of this land to Manor Gardens, and the associated disturbance to residents should it be developed, we would like to understand the reasoning for inclusion of such a large acreage.

In the absence of development we would welcome environmental mitigations, especially the planting of woodland, as highlighted in our Relevant Representation, Empowering Nature document. EN020026-000579-Sea Link Relevant Representation - Submission Version Redacted.pdf (planninginspectorate.gov.uk). Not only would this benefit the natural environment, but eventually help to screen the Converter Station from the B1119.

Other:

Saxmundham Town Council is concerned that there is not confirmation of the final architectural design for the Saxmundham Converter Station and Access Bridge over the River Fromus. We would request that the Applicant advises when the designs will be submitted.