

From: [REDACTED]
To: [South East Anglia Link](#)
Subject: ENO 20026 -Sea Link: IP Ref no.201719B7: My Comments
Date: 18 November 2025 17:49:15

[REDACTED]

Dear SEAL Team at the Planning Inspectorate

I have been singularly unsuccessful in uploading My Comments on ENO 20026 - Sea Link, to the Planning Inspectorate website.

Starting at this page <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020026/examination/have-your-say-during-examination>

I can input my IP Ref no./ select "Myself"/ input my full name/ input my email address/ insert my comments into the "Your comments" box.

My comments are less than 1500 words.

However, when I then click "Next", I am blocked from going any further on the Planning Inspectorate website.

The Examining Authority has advised that we may submit our comments to this email address: my comments are below.

BEGIN

ENO 20026 - Sea Link

IP Ref no. [REDACTED]

Myself

Helen Holmes

[REDACTED]

Comments on relevant representations

Make a comment

Lack of full & proper consultation

It is not a consultation if the residents of Kent are offered only one choice of site, and a site that is the most damaging, both environmentally and ecologically, simply because it is the cheapest option for National Grid. National Grid made a profit of £46billion in 2024: this company can afford to find an alternative site for the southern landfall of Sea Link in Kent.

Circumvention of the public consultation process

In an effort to now achieve planning permission for this stage of the Sea Link project, National Grid has changed their original build approach. The company intends to compulsory purchase The Old Hoverport site at the village of Cliffsend, as their core location to construct, operate & maintain the planned Sea Link pipeline.

This is a "brownfield" site, heavily polluted with coal soil & heavy metals. Developing such a site, that has **re-wilded**, **and** supports red list species, is subject to stringent planning & wildlife laws.

There was only a very short period for, and limited notification of, the required public consultation on this new proposal by National Grid.

Lack of full & proper site environmental studies

This cannot be regarded as a green energy project, given the environmental & ecological

damage that the scale & scope of the proposed build shall have.

There will be irreversible damage to:-

- **A Wetland of International Importance** (Thanet Coast & Sandwich Bay Ramsar site)
- **Kent's largest National Nature Reserve** (Sandwich and Pegwell Bay NNR);
- **a Marine Conservation Zone** (Thanet Coast Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ);
- **a Marine Protected Area (Pegwell Bay, cable landfall, North East Kent Marine Protected Area (NEKMPA) a highly protected area for nature conservation);**
- **3 SSSIs (Sites of Special Scientific Interest** (all Thanet Coast SSSI + Sandwich Bay & Hacklinge Marshes (overhead cables, converter, substation);
- **3 SACs (Special Areas of Conservation** protected areas: Thanet Coast, Sandwich Bay, Margate Long Sands);
- **2 SPAs (Special Protection Areas, Thanet Coast & Sandwich Bay)**
- **2 LWSs (Local Wildlife Sites:** Ash Level and South Richborough Pasture and Woods and Grassland Minster Marshes)

Previous & existing environmental damage by National Grid

National Grid caused irreparable damage to the salt marsh & marine habitats in 2018. The company reneged on environmental commitments to trenchless techniques, when installing the Nemo Link electricity cable, using open-cut trenching methods instead.

There is already silt run-off into the Minster Stream from National Grid's initial survey of the proposed Sea Link site. National Grid have not ensured environmental protection at these initial exploratory stages and will not do so when the full build starts.

More to the point, National Grid ***cannot***, because of the sheer nature of this proposed build, either guarantee, or ensure, mitigating environmental measures.

END

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Helen Holmes.

