

FAO Sarah Holmes
Lead Member of the Examining Authority
Sea Link DCO
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

9 January 2026

By email to southeastanglialink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk and by file transfer

Dear Ms Holmes,

Planning Act 2008 (as amended)

Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc (National Grid) for an Order granting Development Consent for Sea Link

Deadline 3 Cover Letter

This cover letter has been prepared by National Grid (the Applicant) to accompany their Deadline 3 submission made on 9 January 2026 of the SEA Link DCO Examination.

These submissions are set out in Table 1 below and are made in accordance with the revised Examination Timetable set out at **Annex A of the Rule 8(3), rule 9 and rule 17 - Applicant's request for proposed changes to the development consent order application and notice of variation to the examination timetable dated 5 December 2025 [PD-015]**.

The table below lists the documents submitted by the Applicant at Deadline 3.

Table 1: documents submitted at Deadline 3

Doc Ref	Document Title	Rev	Reason for Submission
Volume 2			
2.3 (D)	Land Plans Part 1 of 2	D	Updates incorporate Change Application Land Plans submitted at Deadline 1A.
2.3 (D)	Land Plans Part 2 of 2	D	Updates incorporate Change Application Land Plans submitted at Deadline 1A.
2.4 (C)	Special Category and Crown Land Plans Part 1 of 2	C	Updates incorporate Change Application Special Category and Crown Land Plans submitted at Deadline 1A.
2.4 (C)	Special Category and Crown Land Plans Part 2 of 2	C	Updates incorporate Change Application Special Category and Crown Land Plans submitted at Deadline 1A.
Volume 3			
3.1 (F)	Draft Development Consent Order (Clean and Tracked)	F	Updates incorporate Change Application submitted at Deadline 1A and in alignment with Annex E of Rule 6 [PD-010] .
3.2 (E)	Explanatory Memorandum (Clean and Tracked)	E	Updates incorporate Change Application submitted at Deadline 1A and in alignment with Annex E of Rule 6 [PD-010] .
Volume 4			
4.1 (B)	Funding Statement (Clean and Tracked)	B	Update to correct minor errata.
4.2 (F)	Statement of Reasons (Clean and Tracked)	F	Updates incorporate Change Application Land Plans submitted at Deadline 1A and in alignment with Annex E of Rule 6 [PD-010] .

4.2.1 (D)	Statement of Reasons Appendix A Compulsory Acquisition and Temporary Possession Powers (Clean and Tracked)	D	Updates to incorporate data refresh and errata.
4.2.2 (D)	Statement of Reasons Appendix B Schedule of Negotiations with Land Interests (Clean and Tracked)	D	Updates incorporate Change Application submitted at Deadline 1A and in alignment with Annex E of Rule 6 [PD-010] .
4.3 (D)	Book of Reference (Clean and Tracked)	D	Updates incorporate Change Application submitted at Deadline 1A and in alignment with Annex E of Rule 6 [PD-010] .

Volume 6

6.2.4.1 (D)	Part 4 Marine Chapter 1 Physical Environment (Clean and Tracked)	D	Updates to align with response to East Suffolk Council's submission at Deadline 2.
6.2.4.4 (F)	Part 4 Marine Chapter 4 Marine Mammals (Clean and Tracked)	F	Updates to reflect Applicant's response to ExQ1s [PD-017] .
6.4.4.1 (C)	ES Figures Marine Physical Environment (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updates to reflect Applicant's response to ExQ1s [PD-017] .
6.4.4.5 (C)	ES Figures Marine Ornithology (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updates to reflect Applicant's response to ExQ1s [PD-017] .
6.6 (E)	Habitats Regulations Assessment Report (Clean and Tracked)	E	Updates to reflect Applicant's response to ExQ1s [PD-017] .

Volume 7

7.4 (D)	Statement of Commonality (Clean and Tracked)	D	Updates to reflect new and updated Statements of Common Ground.
7.4.4 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Marine Management Organisation (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update on progression of discussions.
7.4.5 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Thanet District Council (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update on progression of discussions.

7.4.6 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Dover District Council (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update on progression of discussions.
7.4.7 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Kent County Council (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update on progression of discussions.
7.4.10 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Maritime and Coastguard Agency (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update on progression of discussions.
7.4.11 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Port of London Authority (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update on progression of discussions.
7.4.12 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Trinity House (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update on progression of discussions.
7.4.13 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with UK Chamber of Shipping (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update on progression of discussions.
7.4.15 (B)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Port of Ramsgate (Clean and Tracked)	B	Update on progression of discussions.
7.5.4.2 (C)	Outline Onshore Overarching Written Scheme of Investigation (OWSI) – Kent (Clean and Tracked)	C	To include figures missing from last submission.
7.5.6.1 (C)	Outline Air Quality Management Plan – Suffolk (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update in response to WR from ESC
7.5.6.2 (B)	Outline Air Quality Management Plan – Kent (Clean and Tracked)	B	Update to be consistent with update to the Suffolk AQMP.
Volume 9			
9.7 (D)	Applicant's Schedule of Changes to the Draft Development Consent Order (Clean and Tracked)	D	Updates incorporate Change Application submitted at Deadline 1A and in alignment with Annex E of Rule 6 [PD-010] .
9.15	Draft Statement of Common Ground with East Suffolk Council	A	Update on progression of discussions.
9.16 (C)	Land Rights Tracker	C	Updates incorporate Change Application submitted at Deadline 1A and to reflect Applicant's

			response to ExQ1s [PD-017] .
9.17.1	Suffolk Drainage Strategy	A	For information.
9.17.2	Kent Drainage Strategy	A	For information.
9.23	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Suffolk County Council	A	Update on progression of discussions.
9.29	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Environment Agency	A	Update on progression of discussions.
9.36	Applicant's Comments on Other Submissions Received at Deadline 2	A	Comments by Applicant on Other Submissions Received at Deadline 2.
9.36.4	Deadline 3 Cover Letter	A	This document.
9.40	Visitor and Tourism Assessment Technical Note – Suffolk	A	To support the assessment of visitor and tourism impacts and respond to concerns raised by third parties (including Local Planning Authorities) regarding potential adverse effects on visitor numbers, spending and perception.
9.41	Visitor and Tourism Assessment Technical Note – Kent	A	To support the assessment of visitor and tourism impacts and respond to concerns raised by third parties (including Local Planning Authorities) regarding potential adverse effects on visitor numbers, spending and perception.
9.43 (B)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Clean and Tracked)	B	Update on progression of discussions.
9.73	Applicant's Responses to First Written Questions	A	Response by Applicant to Examining Authorities First Written Questions [PD-017] .
9.73.1	Applicant's Responses to First Written Questions – Appendices	A	Appendix of Response by Applicant to Examining Authorities First Written Questions [PD-017] .

9.75 (B)	Status of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers and Protective Provisions (Clean and Tracked)	B	Updates in alignment with Annex E of Rule 6 [PD-010] .
9.77 (D)	Application and Examination Document Tracker	D	Update to reflect the Deadline 3 submission.
9.81	Applicant's Response to Suffolk Energy Action Solutions Relevant Representation – Michelle Bolger Expert Landscape Consultancy (MBELC) Report 2025	A	Response by the Applicant to Suffolk Energy Action Solutions (SEAS) Relevant Representation - Michelle Bolger Expert Landscape Consultancy (MBELC) Report 2025.
9.82	Operational Noise Contour Plan for Saxmundham Converter Station	A	In response to SEAS WR
9.83	Outline Code of Construction Practice (Clean and Tracked). Please note that this version has been updated and supersedes the version that was previously contained in the CEMP [APP-341] .	A	New document in response to request by ExA in ExQ1s [PD-017] .
9.84	Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC) (Clean and Tracked). Please note that this version has been updated and supersedes the version that was previously contained in the CEMP [CR1-043] .	A	New document in response to request by ExA in ExQ1s [PD-017] .

All updated documents are labelled as Revision (B), Revision (C) etc as applicable, and supersede the documents previously submitted by the Applicant.

Where applicable, these documents are provided in clean and tracked versions as requested in the Rule 6 Letter **[PD-010]**. The Application and Examination Document Tracker (**Application Document 9.77 (D)**) has been updated to reflect the above submissions.

Statements of Common Ground

Table 2 below lists the Statements of Common Ground submitted in accordance with Annex E of the **ExA's Rule 6 Letter [PD-010]** at Deadline 3. The Applicant has not submitted Statements of Common Ground at Deadline 3 where no substantive update has been made to the version submitted at a previous deadline.

Table 2: Statements of Common Ground Submitted at Deadline 3

Doc Ref	Document Title	Rev
7.4.4 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Marine Management Organisation (Clean and Tracked)	C
7.4.5 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Thanet District Council (Clean and Tracked)	C
7.4.6 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Dover District Council (Clean and Tracked)	C
7.4.7 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Kent County Council (Clean and Tracked)	C
7.4.10 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Maritime and Coastguard Agency (Clean and Tracked)	C
7.4.11 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Port of London Authority (Clean and Tracked)	C
7.4.12 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Gound with Trinity House (Clean and Tracked)	C
7.4.13 (C)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with UK Chamber of Shipping (Clean and Tracked)	C
7.4.15 (B)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Port of Ramsgate (Clean and Tracked)	B
9.15	Draft Statement of Common Ground with East Suffolk Council	A
9.23	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Suffolk County Council	A
9.29	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Environment Agency	A
9.43 (B)	Draft Statement of Common Ground with Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Clean and Tracked)	B

Conclusion

Should the ExA have any queries in relation to this letter, they are invited to contact me, Seb Stevens (Sebastian.Stevens@nationalgrid.com) in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]
Senior Project Manager
For and on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission