



Planning Inspectorate
By email to SouthEastAngliaLink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Reference NEMO-NLL-OG-LTR-1034 rA.00
Date 09 February 2026

Dear Planning Inspectorate and Examiners,

Please see below responses to specific questions raised by the Examiner through the SEALink Examination process. In addition, supporting evidence is appended for further detail of the historic NemoLink Interconnector application and post-construction discharge of conditions.

Q1 - Provide a brief explanation as to why the decision was taken to switch from a trenchless landfall solution to an open cut solution at the detailed design stage. In particular, whether there were any ground conditions or other constraints that affected this decision?

A1 - The selection of route and installation approach for Nemo Link landfall works was based on risk analysis of site constraints, feasibility of installation techniques, and based upon the best industry practice at the time. The proposed installation method was discussed with consultees when the environmental impact assessment was completed and the project was consented. It is not correct to state that Nemo Link decided to “switch from a trenchless landfall to an open cut solution at the detailed design stage” as the Nemo Link Environmental Statement of February 2013 and related documents make clear, Nemo Link consistently preferred an open cut trench landfall at Pegwell Bay, in the “Service Station South” area, broadly replicating the Thanet Offshore Wind Farm approach. See attachments.

Q2 - Comment on whether unexploded ordnance was a particular constraint in Pegwell Bay as suggested by Save Minster Marshes [REP1-246].

A2 - No, while always a risk that is considered and managed, UXO risk was evaluated and was not a significant determining factor in the installation method selected for the landfall. Trenching is an industry standard approach, and it had recently been successfully implemented at multiple locations, including the near-by Thanet Offshore Wind Farm. This was accepted by consenting and other statutory bodies at that time.

Q3 - Share any ground information that NGV has not previously shared with the applicant relating to unexploded ordnance (UXO)/ground conditions.

A3 - Nemo Link has shared relevant information it still retains with the Applicant when requested to do so by the Applicant (subject to the commercial rights Nemo Link has to share such data). This includes Pegwell Bay landfall borehole logs and UXO survey data.

Q4 - Confirm whether NGV has any plans to undertake further mitigation or enhancement works in Pegwell Bay.

A4 – Extensive and detailed monitoring surveys were undertaken by Nemo Link Limited to assess the reinstatement and recovery of the saltmarsh following the cable installation works. The outcomes of these surveys were reviewed collectively, including the trends observed across the annual monitoring campaigns. Following a comprehensive review of all studies completed by Nemo Link, and using a weight of evidence approach, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) concluded that, although slow, the saltmarsh is recovering satisfactorily. Furthermore, it was acknowledged that undertaking additional remediation activities could introduce further negative impacts or damage to the surrounding saltmarsh communities.

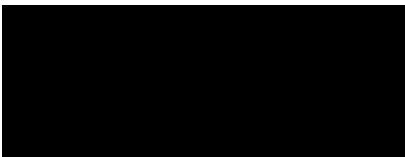
Nonetheless, Nemo Link Limited continues to carry out annual topographic surveys of the cable route and remains committed to the ongoing evaluation of the site's recovery.

Q5 – Provide any monitoring data relating to the recovery of the intertidal area (benthic ecology and bird foraging) following Nemo Link works.

A5 - The year 5 monitoring report and the discharge letter from MMO are appended. Also appended is the post-construction report on the intertidal invertebrates survey submitted to MMO.

We trust our responses and associated documentation satisfy your enquiries.

Yours faithfully,



██████████ – Nemolink Operations Director
For and on behalf of
Nemo Link Limited

Enclosed (Given size, links to MMO portal listed where necessary):
Nemo 2013 Application Environmental Documentation and approval
UK Marine Environmental Statement

<https://marinelicensing.marinemanagement.org.uk/mmofox5/download/parcel/ad9d0pk2rs5vnol3hsb7cklmft0ou0i5615pc9ucfe691dacnb5q1df96e19a9dcat29hhornnuuj8h870sb5pqn4subcggbsij/6ea2002de89618ff7eff3e96f71db178/Nemo+Link+UK+Marine+Environmental+Statement.pdf>

UK Marine Non-Technical Summary

<https://marinelicensing.marinemanagement.org.uk/mmofox5/download/parcel/ad9d0pk2rs5vnol3hsb7cklmft0ou0i5615pc9ucfe691dacnb5q1df96e19a9dcat29hhornnuuj8h870sb5pqn4subcggbsij/d1a04b8365be3e65738e878bfbefa572/Nemo+Link+UK+Marine+Non-Technical+Summary.pdf>

Volume II Nemo UK ES Tech Appendix

<https://marinelicensing.marinemanagement.org.uk/mmofox5/download/parcel/ad9d0pk2rs5vnol3hsb7cklmft0ou0i5615pc9ucfe691dacnb5q1df96e19a9dcat29hhornnuuj8h870sb5pqn4subcggbsij/5d76d76358534270c3d3310c581b95a8/Volume+II+Nemo+Marine+ES+Tech+Appendix.pdf>

MMO Decision Report Nemo

<https://marinelicensing.marinemanagement.org.uk/mmofox5/download/parcel/ad9d0pk2rs5vnol3hsb7cklmft0ou0i5615pc9ucfe691dacnb5q1df96e19a9dcat29hhornnuuj8h870sb5pqn4subcggbsij/bb14782637cc1c5b0dc09721fddd7d35/MMO+Decision+Report+Nemo.pdf>

MMO Nemo Link Appropriate Assessment MLA 2013 00072

<https://marinelicensing.marinemanagement.org.uk/mmofox5/download/parcel/ad9d0pk2rs5vnol3hsb7cklmft0ou0i5615pc9ucfe691dacnb5q1df96e19a9dcat29hhornnuuj8h870sb5pqn4subcggbsij/64a07a9fb4959130d79d5e99495b000b/MMO+Nemo+Link+Appropriate+Assessment+MLA+2013+00072.pdf>

Supplementary Environmental Information (SEI)

<https://marinelicensing.marinemanagement.org.uk/mmofox5/download/parcel/ad9d0pk2rs5vnol3hsb7cklmft0ou0i5615pc9ucfe691dacnb5q1df96e19a9dcat29hhornnuuj8h870sb5pqn4subcggbsij/ff7e2f835a902243b2483dbec8c13a07/Supplementary+Environmental+Information+SEI.pdf>

Nemo Saltmarsh Monitoring Documentation and discharge of conditions

Post Construction Intertidal Invertebrates Survey Report

<https://marinelicensing.marinemanagement.org.uk/mmofox5/download/parcel/ad9d0pk2rs5vnol3hsb7cklmft0ou0i5615pc9ucfe691dacnb5g1df96e19a9dcat29hhornnuuj8h870sb5pgn4subcggbsij/13e49a824377b00a9e75002b8c065074/CEAPEG0820+Technical+Report+%2526+Appendices.pdf>

R14.9 C01432 Nemo Link Covering Letter to Y5 Monitoring Report

<https://marinelicensing.marinemanagement.org.uk/mmofox5/download/parcel/ad9d0pk2rs5vnol3hsb7cklmft0ou0i5615pc9ucfe691dacnb5g1df96e19a9dcat29hhornnuuj8h870sb5pgn4subcggbsij/8f66ab4b93c0ce13c5aa34ce0f8f90f7/C01432+Nemo+Link+covering+letter+to+Y5+monitoring+report.pdf>

R14.9 KPAL Report EX051222_Nemo Link Year 5 Monitoring Report V2.0_18.07.23-Optimised

https://marinelicensing.marinemanagement.org.uk/mmofox5/download/parcel/ad9d0pk2rs5vnol3hsb7cklmft0ou0i5615pc9ucfe691dacnb5g1df96e19a9dcat29hhornnuuj8h870sb5pgn4subcggbsij/2cd2e6f79205814add7f7b9641acac87/KPAL+Report+EX051222_NEMO+Link+Year+5+Monitoring+Report+V2.0_18.07.23+-+Optimized.pdf

R14.9 20241210_MLA_2013_00072_R14.9_Y5 Monitoring_Report_Discharge_Letter_Final

Physical attachment.