

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

10 February 2026

By email to [southeastanglialink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto: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 4 Cover Letter**

This cover letter has been prepared by National Grid (the Applicant) to accompany their Deadline 4 submission made on 10 February 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 4.

**Table 1: documents submitted at Deadline 4**

Doc Ref	Document Title	Rev	Reason for Submission
<b>Volume 2</b>			
2.3 (E)	Land Plans Part 1 of 2	E	Plot splits with new ownership information.
2.3 (E)	Land Plans Part 2 of 2	E	Plot splits with new ownership information.
2.4 (D)	Special Category and Crown Land Plans Part 1 of 2	D	Errata plot.
2.4 (D)	Special Category and Crown Land Plans Part 2 of 2	D	Errata plot.
2.5.1 (C)	Work Plans - Suffolk	C	Update in response to <b>Action Points from Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 [No document reference provided in Examination Library]</b> .
2.5.2 (C)	Work Plans - Kent	C	Update in response to <b>Action Points from Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 [No document reference provided in Examination Library]</b> .
2.14.1 (B)	Indicative General Arrangements Plans - Suffolk	C	Update in response to <b>Action Points from Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 [No document reference provided in Examination Library]</b> .
<b>Volume 3</b>			
3.5 (B)	Consents and Agreements Position Statement (Clean and Tracked)	B	Update in response to Action Point 97 in <b>Action Points from Issue Specific Hearing 2 [EV6-033]</b> .
<b>Volume 4</b>			
4.1 (C)	Funding Statement (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update in response to AP 30 from CAH1.
4.2 (G)	Statement of Reasons (Clean and Tracked)	G	Errata.
4.2.1 (E)	Statement of Reasons Appendix A Compulsory Acquisition and Temporary	E	Plot splits with new ownership information and Errata.

	Possession Powers (Clean and Tracked)		
4.2.2 (E)	Statement of Reasons Appendix B Schedule of Negotiations with Land Interests (Clean and Tracked)	E	Update in response to <b>Action Points from Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1</b> [No document reference provided in Examination Library].
4.2.3 (C)	Statement of Reasons Appendix C Special Category Land Report (Clean and Tracked)	C	Errata
4.3 (E)	Book of Reference (Clean and Tracked)	E	Plot splits with new ownership information and Errata and updates in response to CAH1.
<b>Volume 6</b>			
6.2.2.1 (B)	Part 2 Suffolk Chapter 1 Landscape and Visual (Clean and Tracked)	B	Update in response to Question 2.018 in <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2)</b> [EV6-003].
6.2.2.2 (D)	Part 2 Suffolk Chapter 2 Ecology and Biodiversity (Clean and Tracked)	D	Update in response to <b>Action Points from Issue Specific Hearing 2</b> [EV6-033].
6.2.4.1 (E)	Part 4 Marine Chapter 1 Physical Environment (Clean and Tracked)	E	Updated in response to <b>Natural England's Comments on any further information/ submissions received by deadline 2 - Appendix D3 Natural England's Marine Physical Environment Advice on the Applicant's Pre-deadline 1 and Deadline 1 Documents</b> [REP-118] and <b>Written Representations (WRs) relating to Change Request 1 - Appendix J3A Natural England's Comments on Kent Landfall</b> [REP3A-028]

6.2.4.2 (D)	Part 4 Marine Chapter 2 Benthic Ecology (Clean and Tracked)	D	Updated in response to <b>Natural England's Written Representations (WRs) relating to Change Request 1 - Appendix E3a Natural England's Intertidal and Benthic Ecology Advice [REP3A-027]</b>
6.2.4.4 (G)	Part 4 Marine Chapter 4 Marine Mammals (Clean and Tracked)	G	Updated in response to <b>Natural England's Comments on any further information/ submissions received by deadline 2 - Appendix F3 Natural England's Advice on Marine Mammals [REP3-119]</b>
6.2.4.6 (D)	Part 4 Marine Chapter 6 Marine Archaeology (Clean and Tracked)	D	Updates to reflect Applicant's Responses to Written Representations on the Design Change Request, <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003]</b> and a data refresh.
6.2.4.7 (C)	Part 4 Marine Chapter 7 Shipping and Navigation (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updates to reflect Applicant's Responses to Written Representations on the Design Change Request and <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003].</b>
6.3.2.2.B (C)	ES Appendix 2.2.B Suffolk Wintering Bird Report (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update in response to Question 2.03 in <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003].</b>
6.3.2.7.H (B)	ES Appendix 2.7.H Preliminary Highway Impact Assessment (Clean and Tracked)	B	Errata

6.3.2.9.B (B)	ES Appendix 2.9.B Suffolk Construction Noise and Vibration Data (Clean and Tracked)	B	Update to title of table 1.2.
6.3.3.9.B (B)	ES Appendix 3.9.B Kent Construction Noise and Vibration Data (Clean and Tracked)	B	Update to title of table 1.2.
6.3.4.6.A (D)	ES Appendix 4.6.A Marine Archaeological Technical Report (Clean and Tracked)	D	Updates to reflect Applicant's Responses to Written Representations on the Design Change Request, <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003]</b> and a data refresh.
6.3.4.7.A (C)	ES Appendix 4.7.A Navigational Risk Assessment (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updates to reflect Applicant's Responses to Written Representations on the Design Change Request and <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003]</b> .
6.4.4.1 (D)	ES Figures Marine Physical Environment (Clean and Tracked)	D	Updated in response to <b>Natural England's Comments on any further information/ submissions received by deadline 2 - Appendix D3 Natural England's Marine Physical Environment Advice on the Applicant's Pre-deadline 1 and Deadline 1 Documents [REP-118]</b>
6.4.4.5 (D)	ES Figures Marine Ornithology (Clean and Tracked)	D	Updated to include KP numbering at boundaries of the Outer Thames Estuary SPA to inform response provided to <b>Action Points from Issue Specific Hearing 2 [EV6-033]</b> .

6.4.4.6 (C)	ES Figures Marine Archaeology (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updates to reflect Applicant's Responses to Written Representations on the Design Change Request, <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003]</b> and a data refresh.
6.4.4.6.A (C)	ES Figures Marine Archaeological Technical Report (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updates to reflect Applicant's Responses to Written Representations on the Design Change Request, <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003]</b> and a data refresh.
6.6 (F)	Habitats Regulations Assessment Report (Clean and Tracked)	F	Updated in response to <b>Natural England's Written Representations (WRs) relating to Change Request 1 - Appendix E3a Natural England's Intertidal and Benthic Ecology Advice [REP3A-027]</b>
6.11 (C)	Marine Conservation Zone Assessment (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updated in response to <b>Natural England's Written Representations (WRs) relating to Change Request 1 - Appendix E3a Natural England's Intertidal and Benthic Ecology Advice [REP3A-027]</b>
<b>Volume 7</b>			
7.5.1.1 (C)	Outline Construction Traffic Management and Travel Plan - Suffolk (Clean and Tracked)	C	Update to document figure showing AIL.
7.5.5 (C)	Outline Offshore Overarching Written Scheme of Investigation (OWSI) (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updates to reflect Applicant's Responses to Written Representations on the Design Change Request, <b>Supplementary Agenda</b>

			<b>additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003] and a data refresh.</b>
7.5.7.1 (C)	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan - Suffolk (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updates to reflect Applicant's Responses to Written Representations on the Design Change Request, <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003]</b> , and Local Impact Reports.
7.5.7.2 (C)	Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan - Kent (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updates to reflect Applicant's Responses to Written Representations on the Design Change Request, <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003]</b> , and Local Impact Reports.
7.5.11 (C)	Outline Marine Mammal Mitigation Plan (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updated at Deadline 4
7.7 (C)	Marine Biosecurity Plan (Clean and Tracked)	C	Updated at Deadline 4
7.12.1 (B)	Design Principles - Suffolk (Clean and Tracked)	B	Update in response to <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003]</b> .
<b>Volume 9</b>			
9.12 (B)	Outline Navigation and Installation Plan (Clean and Tracked)	B	Updates to reflect Applicant's Responses to Written Representations on the Design Change Request and <b>Supplementary Agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) [EV6-003]</b> .
9.16 (D)	Lands Rights Tracker	D	Updates reflect updates to the Book of Reference and to reflect <b>Action Points from</b>

<b>Issue Specific Hearing 2 [EV6-033].</b>			
9.28 (B)	Winter Bird Use of Golden Plover Enhancement Area (Clean and Tracked)	B	Updates to reflect engagement with Dover District Council.
9.38.5	Deadline 4 Cover Letter	A	This document.
9.77 (E)	Application and Examination Document Tracker	E	Update to reflect Deadline 4 submission.
9.85	Outline Fisheries Liaison and Co-existence Plan	A	Provided in response to the ExA's First Written Questions – Question 1CF2
9.86	Applicant's Comments on Other Submissions Received at Deadlines 3 and 3A	A	Response by Applicant to comments received at Deadlines 3 and 3A.
9.87	Applicant's Comments on Responses to First Written Questions	A	Response by Applicant to other Interested Parties responses to <b>First Written Questions [PD-017]</b> .
9.88	Applicant's Written Summaries of Oral Submissions to Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1	A	As required by the Examining Authority in the <b>Rule 8(3) Letter [PD-015]</b> .
9.89	Applicant's Written Summaries of Oral Submissions to Issue Specific Hearing 2	A	As required by the Examining Authority in the <b>Rule 8(3) Letter [PD-015]</b> .
9.90	Applicant's Response to January Hearing Action Points from Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 (CAH1) and Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) – Deadline 4	A	As required by the Examining Authority in the <b>Rule 8(3) Letter [PD-015]</b> .
9.90.1	Hearing Actions Deadline 4 Appendix J Piling Noise Dataset	A	Appendix data set for <b>Application document 9.90 Applicant's Response to January Hearing Action Points from Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 (CAH1) and Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) – Deadline 4</b> .
9.91	Applicant's Comments on Change Request (CR1)	A	As required by the Examining Authority in the <b>Rule 8(3) Letter [PD-015]</b> .

	Relevant and Written Representations		
9.92	Outline Cable Specification and Installation Plan	A	New document responding to requests from the Ports.
9.93	Offshore Decommissioning Technical Note	A	Document to support response by Applicant to <b>Examining Authorities First Written Questions [PD-017]</b> .
9.94	Planning Statement Addendum	A	Updated to answer Questions <b>ISH2.01 and ISH2.01</b> of <b>EV6-003</b> Supplementary agenda additional questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) In respect of the draft NPPF and the National Policy Statements for Energy.
9.96	Water Depth Baseline Study – Shipping and Navigation Technical Note	A	New document to reflect Action Point 10 in <b>Action Points from Issue Specific Hearing 2 [EV6-033]</b> .
9.97	Applicant's Responses to Supplementary Agenda Additional Questions for Issue Specific Hearing 2	A	As required by the Examining Authority in the <b>Rule 8(3) Letter [PD-015]</b> .
9.98	Admiralty Charts Extracts	A	Document to support response by Applicant to <b>Examining Authorities First Written Questions [PD-017]</b> .
9.101	Kent Onshore Scheme – Fluvial Flooding from the River Stour Technical Note	A	In response to new information provided by the EA in their submission REP2-144.
9.103	The Equalities Act 2010 Supplemental Note	A	Submitted further to Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1.
9.104	Areas of Safeguarded Water Depth Plan	A	Provided in response to Action Point 92 in <b>Action Points from Issue Specific Hearing 2 [EV6-033]</b> .
9.105	Supplement to the Preliminary Cumulative Highway Impact Assessment in Suffolk	A	To supplement Application Document 6.3.2.13.B ES Appendix 2.13.B Preliminary Cumulative Highway Impact Assessment [APP-142] in

			response to comments received during examination.
9.111	Applicant's Response to Socio-economic, Tourism and Recreation and Health and Wellbeing Submissions	A	Applicant's responses to Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism, and Health and Wellbeing matters raised by Interested Parties (IP) at previous submissions during examination.
9.112	Benhall Railway Bridge - Crossing Feasibility Study	A	New document to support response by Applicant to comments received at Deadlines 3 and 3A and <b>Action Points from Issue Specific Hearing 2 [EV6-033]</b> .
9.113	The Coralline Crag Technical Note	A	Provided in response to Action Point 76 in <b>Action Points from Issue Specific Hearing 2 [EV6-033]</b> .
9.114	Interim Phase 3 Archaeological Report Suffolk	A	Outlines preliminary results of the archaeological evaluation undertaken for the area associated with Change 3 in Suffolk

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 (E)**) has been updated to reflect the above submissions.

### **Post Hearing Actions**

As set out above, the Applicant is submitting **9.90 Applicant's Response to January Hearing Action Points from Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 (CAH1) and Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) – Deadline 4**.

During those hearings, a number of aspects of the draft Order were discussed, and certain actions taken by the Applicant to review or adjust drafting. Those actions included providing updates on the progress of certain drafting matters (e.g. Article 10), where it was accepted that a final agreed position could not be reached by Deadline 4. The Applicant has sought to address all such drafting changes and updates via the submissions in the above table, including amended drafting where appropriate (e.g. Article 27). This includes an updated version of the Requirements,

being Schedule 3 to the draft Order. The Applicant is aware that the ExA is scheduled to be producing its next round of written questions (ExQ2) in due course. Whilst the draft Order itself is not formally programmed to be submitted again to the ExA until Deadline 5, in order to assist with the examination the Applicant proposes to submit a revised version of the dDCO (incorporating all the matters set out above, as well as any other matters where it is possible to do so) at the earlier Deadline 4a, alongside an amended version of **9.84 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC) (Clean) [REP3-078]**. The Applicant trusts that this will assist by having both those updated documents available together at the earliest possible deadline.

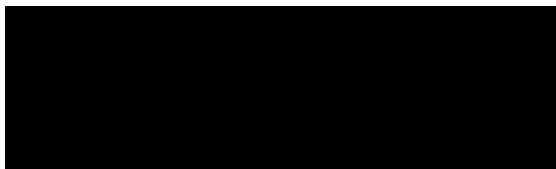
### **Late Deadline 3 Submissions**

The Applicant will seek to respond to the late Deadline 3 Submissions made by Suffolk Energy Action Solutions (SEAS) [**REP3-136 to REP3-144**], as appropriate, by Deadline 4a.

### **Conclusion**

Should the ExA have any queries in relation to this letter, they are invited to contact me, [REDACTED]@nationalgrid.com) in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,



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