



**National
Trust**

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Direct line: ██████████
09 March 2026

Planning Inspectorate

Dear Planning Inspectorate,

Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) for Sea Link update on progress in relation to Heads of Terms negotiations with National Grid Transmission

Response from the National Trust

With our staff, members, volunteers and supporters, the National Trust is the biggest conservation charity in Europe. We protect and care for places so people and nature can thrive. Many millions share the belief that nature, beauty and history are for everyone. So we look after the nation's coastline, historic sites, countryside and green spaces, ensuring everyone benefits. For everyone, for ever.

Current position on Heads of Terms negotiations

On 22 January 2026, the Applicant's agent re-issued the Heads of Terms with clarification on easement consideration. The Trust's agent subsequently provided a comprehensive written response on 10 February 2026, setting out comments and required amendments to the Heads of Terms, including matters relating to construction methodology, mitigation and easement width. A meeting to discuss these matters was held on 2 March 2026. The Applicant's agent has since responded in writing, and the Trust is currently considering those responses.

Further comments on prioritisation of National Trust Heads of Terms to avoid risk of triggering Special Parliamentary Procedure

In line with the National Trust's established approach to engagement with Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, the Trust considers it important that discussions on the Heads of Terms are prioritised and progressed without delay. Early resolution of land agreements is critical to providing certainty for both parties and to enabling the Trust to consider whether any objection can be resolved through agreement. Failure to make timely

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progress risks prolonging uncertainty and could ultimately result in the matter being referred to Special Parliamentary Procedure, which would be undesirable for all parties. The Trust therefore encourages National Grid to prioritise these negotiations so that issues relating to land rights, construction methodology and mitigation can be resolved through agreement wherever possible.

Yours sincerely


Estate Manager

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