

The Great Grid Upgrade

Sea Link

Sea Link

Volume 9: Examination Submissions

Document 9.75: Schedule of Progress of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers and Protective Provisions

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020026

Version: C
March 2026

nationalgrid

Page intentionally blank

Contents

1.	About This Document	1
1.1	Introduction	1
2.	Schedules of Statutory Undertakers and Protective Provisions	3
2.1	Affected Statutory Undertakers and Parties Requesting Protective Provisions	3
2.2	Protective Provisions in the DCO	3
2.3	Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers	4
2.4	Protective Provisions and Side Agreements	17
	Table 2.1: Schedule of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers – Deadline 5 Update	4
	Table 2.2: Protective Provisions and Side Agreements – Deadline 5 Update	18

Sea Link Document Control

Version			
Date	Version	Status	Description / Changes
18/11/2025	A	Final	Deadline 1
09/01/2026	B	Final	Deadline 3 update
10/03/2026	C	Final	Deadline 5 update

1. About This Document

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Pursuant to Annex E of the Rule 6 Letter, issued by the Examining Authority to the Applicant on 19 September 2025, this document provides details relating to the status of negotiations with statutory undertakers, providing further detail of ongoing discussions between the applicant and those statutory undertakers with outstanding concerns which have not been provided within the Land Rights Tracker, including:

1.1.2 A schedule of progress in relation to each statutory undertaker where s127 and/ or s138 of the PA2008 applies and that sets out:

- An up-to-date list of statutory undertakers.
 - The nature of their undertakings.
 - The statutory undertaker's land, rights or apparatus that would be affected and how it would be affected.
 - The progress made in discussions with statutory undertakers since the last update in relation to the tests set out in s127(3)(a) or (b), s127(6)(a) or (b) and s138(4) of the PA2008.
 - Any agreement or differences between the applicant and the statutory undertaker about whether the tests have been met.
 - A summary of the progress made since the last update, any outstanding matters, the next steps to be taken, and the progress anticipated by the close of the examination.
- A schedule of progress in relation to the protective provisions included in the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO), and any related side agreements, setting out:
 - The name of each organisation that each protective provision applies to where this is not identified in the dDCO.
 - The scope and purpose of any relevant side agreements with each organisation.
 - Whether the protective provisions and any side agreements have been agreed with each organisation, providing written evidence from each party of any agreement. If written confirmation is not received by all relevant parties before the close of the examination, then the ExA may be minded to recommend to the Secretary of State that it does not make a decision until it has satisfied itself that the protective provisions and any relevant side agreements have been agreed.
 - A summary of the progress made since the last update, any outstanding matters, the next steps to be taken, and the progress anticipated by the close of the examination.

- 1.1.3 Due to this information being published on the project webpage, commercial and/or confidential details are not included.

2. Schedules of Statutory Undertakers and Protective Provisions

2.1 Affected Statutory Undertakers and Parties Requesting Protective Provisions

- 2.1.1 Table 2.1 provides a schedule of progress in relation to each SU where s127 and/or S138 of the Planning Act 2008 applies, based on information contained in Application Document 4.2 (H) Statement of Reasons and the Application Document 9.16 (F) Land Rights Tracker.
- 2.1.2 This is the third iteration of this schedule, which is to be submitted to the Examining Authority at Deadline 5.
- 2.1.3 The Applicant will continue to engage with relevant statutory undertakers and parties requesting protective provisions as the DCO examination progresses. As such, the schedule will be updated at regular intervals over the course of the examination, providing updates on the status of the Applicant's negotiations.

2.2 Protective Provisions in the DCO

- 2.2.1 Schedule 15 of the dDCO sets out the Applicant's standard protective provisions in two parts. These protective provisions are in favour of the following undertakers:
- Part 1: Electricity, Gas, Water and Sewerage Undertakers
 - Part 2: Operators of Electronic Communications Code Networks
- 2.2.2 In addition to the standard protective provisions in Schedule 15, the Applicant is negotiating bespoke protective provisions and other side agreements with a range of statutory undertakers and other parties who have requested them. Where sufficiently progressed, bespoke protective provisions are included in the dDCO. Updates on the status in each case are as below.
- 2.2.3 The current position of the negotiation of protective provisions is generally summarised as either 'requested' or 'under negotiation'. The former indicates that a party has requested protective provisions, but discussions have not confirmed if this is the most appropriate mechanism for securing their asks. Under negotiation is where discussion about the content of protective provisions is ongoing. In some cases a bespoke narrative is required to explain the current position.
- 2.2.4 This schedule will be updated to reflect ongoing negotiations with statutory undertakers and other parties and further iterations of this document submitted at future deadlines.

2.3 Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers

Table 2.1: Schedule of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers – Deadline 5 Update

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
Anglian Water Services Limited	Water and Sewage	Suffolk: 1/11, 1/13, 1/14, 1/16, 1/17, 1/18, 1/20, 1/21, 1/22, 1/23, 1/24, 1/25, 1/26, 1/27, 1/28, 1/29, 1/30, 1/31, 1/32, 1/33, 1/34, 1/35, 1/36, 1/37, 1/38, 1/39, 1/40, 1/41, 1/42, 1/43, 1/44, 1/45, 1/46, 1/47, 1/48, 1/49, 1/52, 1/56, 1/57, 1/58, 1/60, 1/64, 1/67, 1/75, 1/76, 1/77, 1/78, 1/79, 1/80, 1/81, 1/82, 1/83, 1/84, 1/85, 1/86, 1/87, 1/90, 1/92, 1/93, 1/94, 1/95, 1/99, 1/100, 2/1, 2/5, 2/6, 2/7a, 2/7b, 2/20c, 2/73, 2/77, 3/17, 3/38, 3/39, 3/40, 3/45, 3/46, 3/47, 3/49, 3/51, 3/53, 3/55, 3/56, 3/57, 3/59,	The Proposed Project HVDC cable route crosses or is situated in close proximity to a number of pipes for Foul Water Rising Mains, Effluent pipes and Gravity Foul Sewers. In addition, the proposed bridge for a permanent access route over the River Fromus requires foundation and abutment construction	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with the statutory undertaker and has made substantial progress towards agreement on a set of protective provisions. Given the stage in the examination process, the Applicant has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5 although these are not yet agreed by the statutory undertaker. It is expected that agreement will be reached before the end of the examination process.

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
		3/63, 4/2, 4/4, 4/5, 4/6, 4/8, 4/9, 4/10, 4/11, 4/14, 4/15, 4/16, 4/17, 4/19, 4/24, 4/25, 4/26, 5/1, 5/2, 5/27, 5/29, 5/32			
Northumbrian Water Group Limited (Essex & Suffolk Water)	Water and Sewage	Suffolk: 1 /2, 1 /4, 1/5, 1/7, 1/8, 1/9, 1/10, 1/11, 1/13, 1/16, 1/17, 1/19, 1/31, 1/32, 1/45, 1/74, 1/76, 1/77, 1/78, 1/81, 1/86, 1/87, 1/90, 1/92, 1/93, 1/94, 1/95, 1/98, 1/99, 1/100, 2/20c, 2/40, 2/43, 2/49, 2/52, 2/55, 2/57, 2/58, 2/59, 2/61, 2/65, 2/66, 2/77, 2/84, 2/100, 5/14, 5/17, 5/19, 6/3	The Proposed Project has 1x trenchless crossing methodology for HVDC cable to run underneath a Distribution Main; 3x open cut HVDC cables crossing Distribution Mains; protection required for Mains underneath bellmouths and haul roads.	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with the statutory undertaker and has made substantial progress towards agreement on a set of protective provisions. Given the stage in the examination process, the Applicant has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5 although these are not yet agreed by the statutory undertaker. It is expected that agreement will be reached before the end of the examination process. There are also ongoing negotiations relating to an Asset Protection Agreement.
Southern Water Services Limited	Water and Sewage	Kent: 1/1, 1/7, 1/8, 1/10, 2/81, 2/82, 2/83, 3/41, 3/44, 3/46, 3/47, 3/49, 3/52, 3/53, 3/54, 3/74, 3/75, 3/77, 3/79,	The Proposed Project interfaces with a number of Foul Water Rising Mains, Water Trunk Mains and Water Mains	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	The Applicant received bespoke protective provisions from Southern Water on 03/03/2026. The Applicant has reviewed the draft protective provisions and has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
		3/80, 3/81, 3/85, 3/86, 3/87, 3/91, 3/92, 3/95, 3/96, 3/97, 3/97a, 3,99, 3/100, 3/101, 3/102, 4/5, 4/6, 4/7, 4/10, 4/11, 4/12, 4/13, 4/19, 4/19a, 4/21, 4/22, 4/23, 4/25, 4/26, 4/27, 6/1	associated with HVDC trenchless crossings, construction of haul roads and Temporary Attenuation Outfall Pipe crossings.		the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5 although these are not yet agreed. The Applicant will continue to engage with the statutory undertaker. The Applicant expects to reach agreement during the period of the examination.
Cadent Gas Limited	Gas Transporter	Suffolk: 1/2, 1/4, 1/5, 1/7, 1/8, 1/9, 1/10, 1/11, 1/12, 1/49, 1/50, 1/53, 1/58, 1/64, 1/67, 1/74, 1/88, 1/89, 1/91, 1/92, 1/93, 1/94, 1/95, 1/96, 1/98, 1/99, 2/5, 2/6, 2/7a, 2/7b, 5/14, 5/17, 5/19, 5/27, 5/29, 5/32	The Proposed Project will require an open cutting HVDC crossing underneath Cadent's gas main running north to south in Leiston Road and underneath a gas main under the old railway line. Depending on separation NGET may need to expose Cadent's asset to install cathodic protection. Construction of a temporary bellmouth may interface with apparatus in the verge.	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with the statutory undertaker and has made substantial progress towards agreement on a set of protective provisions. Given the stage in the examination process, the Applicant has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5. The Applicant understands that these are agreed between the parties, subject to one minor point. It is expected that agreement will be reached on these before the end of the examination, as well as in relation to a separate side agreement.

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
Southern Gas Networks Limited	Gas Transporter	Kent: 3/12, 3/13, 3/14, 3/15, 3/80, 3/87, 3/88, 3/91, 3/92, 3/93, 3/96, 3/100, 4/2, 4/26	2x medium pressure mains interface with the access road and temporary construction compound, and the trenchless HVDC cable requiring monitoring during drilling.	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with the statutory undertaker and has made substantial progress towards agreement on a set of protective provisions. Given the stage in the examination process, the Applicant has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5 although these are not yet agreed by the statutory undertaker. It is expected that agreement will be reached on these before the end of the examination process as well as on a separate side agreement.
City Fibre Holdings Limited	Telecommunications	Suffolk: 1/1	Fibre cable within the highway.	The Applicant is pursuing negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	The Applicant will continue to pursue engagement with the statutory undertaker, however, to date there has been no response from City Fibre Holdings Limited. The Applicant maintains its expectation that the statutory undertaker will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.
EXA Infrastructure	Telecommunications	Suffolk:	Haul road interface requiring asset protection to be installed	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests.	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with the statutory undertaker

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
		3/35, 3/37, 3/40, 3/60, 3/61, 3/63, 3/64, 4/3, 4/4	and HVDC open cut cable installation requiring appropriate clearance.	The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	At this stage and based on discussions with the statutory undertaker including in relation to the signed SoCG [REP1-090] submitted at deadline 1, the Applicant anticipates that the statutory undertaker will rely on the standard protective set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.
National Grid Electricity Transmission plc	Electricity Transmitter	Kent: 1/1, 1/2, 1/3, 1/4, 1/5, 1/7, 1/8, 1/9, 1/10, 1/11, 1/12, 1/13, 1/14, 1/15, 1/16, 1/17, 1/18, 1/20, 1/21, 1/22, 1/49a, 1/69, 1/70, 1/71, 1/72, 1/73, 2/2, 2/3, 2/4, 2/5, 2/6, 2/7, 2/8, 2/10, 2/11, 2/12, 2/13, 2/14, 2/15, 2/16, 2/17, 2/18, 2/19, 2/20, 2/20b, 2/20d, 2/22a, 2/23, 2/24, 2/26, 2/27, 2/28, 2/29, 2/30, 2/31, 2/32, 2/33, 2/34, 2/35, 2/36, 2/36a, 2/37, 2/38, 2/40, 2/41, 2/42, 2/44, 2/46, 2/47, 2/48, 2/49, 2/50, 2/51, 2/52, 2/53, 2/54, 2/55, 2/56, 2/57, 2/58, 2/59,	Subsoil fronting land to the southwest of Kings End Cottage, Richborough Road Interface with existing overhead electricity distribution lines in Kent and Suffolk.	N/A	N/A

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
National Grid Ventures Limited	Electricity Generator	<p>2/60, 2/61, 2/62, 2/63, 2/65, 2/66, 2/67, 2/68, 2/69, 2/70, 2/71, 2/72, 2/73, 2/74, 2/75, 2/76, 2/77, 2/81, 2/84, 2/85, 2/91, 2/98, 2/99, 2/105, 3/1, 3/16, 3/17, 3/18, 3/59, 3/60, 3/61, 3/65, 4/10, 4/25</p> <p>Suffolk:</p> <p>1/49a, 1/69, 1/70, 1/71, 1/72, 1/73, 2/10, 2/11, 2/14, 2/15, 2/16, 2/17, 2/18, 2/19, 2/20, 2/20b, 2/20d, 2/22a, 2/23, 2/24, 2/26, 2/27, 2/28, 2/29, 2/31, 2/32, 2/33, 2/34, 2/35, 2/36, 2/36a, 2/37, 2/38, 2/40, 2/41, 2/99, 3/1, 3/16, 3/17, 3/</p>	HVDC crosses underground electricity transmission lines.	<p>The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests.</p> <p>The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.</p>	<p>The Applicant is continuing its engagement with the statutory undertaker.</p> <p>tThe Applicant maintains its expectation that National Grid Ventures will rely on the standard protective provisions</p>

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
					set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.
Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd	Railways	<p>Kent: 2/56, 2/65, 2/66, 2/67, 2/69, 2/70, 2/71, 2/72, 2/73, 2/74, 2/75, 2/76, 2/78, 2/79, 2/84, 2/107, 2/108, 2/109, 2/110, 2/111, 2/112, 2/113, 2/114, 2/115, 2/116, 2/117, 2/123, 2/186, 2/187, 2/188, 3/3, 3/80, 3/86, 3/87</p> <p>Suffolk: 5/27, 5/29, 5/32, 7/22, 7/26, 7/21</p>	<p>Kent: Use of 2x level crossings forming part of the public highway; 1x construction access using an existing level crossing, requiring upgrades to the level crossing and protection to the rails; 400kV overhead lines to be installed over the rail line.</p> <p>Suffolk: Overbridging of the Benhall Rail Bridge.</p>	<p>The Applicant is continuing to pursue engagement with the statutory undertaker. If agreement cannot be reached before the end of the Examination period, the Applicant will be required to make s127 and s138 submissions.</p> <p>The Applicant is currently of the view that NRIL is the only party where S.127 is engaged.</p>	<p>The Applicant is continuing to pursue engagement with the statutory undertaker but has not yet received comment on its proposed protective provisions..</p> <p>Given the stage in the examination process, the Applicant has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5. These are not agreed by the statutory undertaker and the Applicant expects a further meeting will be needed to discuss the outstanding points.</p>
OCU Group Limited	Telecommunications	<p>Kent: 2/110, 2/114, 2/116</p>	<p>Interface with underground fibre cables.</p>	<p>The Applicant is pursuing negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests.</p> <p>The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.</p>	<p>The Applicant will continue to pursue engagement with the statutory undertaker as necessary on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>In the absence of further engagement the Applicant maintains the expectation that the statutory undertaker will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.</p>

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
Openreach Limited	Telecommunications	<p>Kent: 1/1, 1/2, 2/81, 2/82, 2/83, 3/2, 3/4, 3/5, 3/6, 3/9, 3/11, 3/13, 3/15, 3/16, 3/18, 3/19, 3/22, 3/23, 3/25, 3/26, 3/35, 3/88, 3/90, 3/91, 3/92, 3/97, 3/97a, 3/98a 3/100, 3/101, 3/111, 4/4, 4/10, 4/12, 4/13, 4/18, 4/19, 4/19a 4/21, 4/22, 4/23, 4/24, 4/26, 4/28, 6/1, 6/6</p> <p>Suffolk: 1/1, 1/12, 1/14, 1/16, 1/18, 1/25, 1/50, 1/72, 1/74, 1/75, 1/76, 1/81, 2/2, 2/3, 2/4, 2/27, 2/28, 2/31, 2/40, 2/43, 2/44, 2/49, 2/51, 2/52, 2/53, 2/55, 2/73, 2/77, 3/4, 3/5, 3/53, 3/54, 3/55, 3/56, 3/57, 3/58, 3/60, 3/61, 3/62, 3/64, 4/12, 4/13, 4/27, 5/14, 5/17, 5/18, 5/19, 5/22, 6/3, 6/6</p>	<p>Trenchless HVDC cable crossing Openreach ducts and open cut HVDC cable crossing Openreach ducts requiring appropriate clearance and monitoring; haul road and temporary bellmouth operating under existing overhead lines require clearances to be managed and asset protection for ducts.</p>	<p>The Applicant is pursuing further negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.</p>	<p>The Applicant will continue to pursue engagement with the statutory undertaker. In the absence of further engagement the Applicant maintains the expectation that the statutory undertaker will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.</p>

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
Scottish Power (UK) Renewables (SPR) Limited	Electricity Generator	Suffolk: 1/49a, 1/69, 1/70, 1/71, 1/72, 1/73, 2/4, 2/5, 2/6a, 2/7a, 2/7b, 2/8, 2/8a, 2/9, 2/10, 2/10a, 2/11, 2/11b, 2/12, 2/13, 2/14, 2/15, 2/15b, 2/16, 2/17, 2/18, 2/20, 2/20b, 2/20c, 2/20d, 2/20e, 2/20f, 2/35, 2/36, 2/37, 2/38, 2/42, 2/46, 2/47, 2/48, 2/57, 2/58, 2/59, 2/60, 2/61, 2/63, 2/64, 2/65, 2/66, 2/68, 2/69, 2/70, 2/71, 2/72, 2/72a, 2/72c, 2/78, 2/78a, 2/78b, 2/79, 2/79a, 2/99, 3/17, 3/38, 3/39, 3/40, 3/45, 3/46, 3/47, 3/49, 3/51, 3/53, 3/55, 3/56, 3/57, 3/59, 3/63, 4/2, 4/4, 4/5, 4/6, 4/8, 4/9, 4/10, 4/11, 4/14, 4/15, 4/16, 4/17, 4/19, 4/24, 4/25, 4/26, 5/1, 5/2	The Proposed Project Order Limits overlap with land owned by SPR UK Ltd	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with the statutory undertaker and has made substantial progress towards agreement on a set of protective provisions. Given the nature and complexity of the commercial interface with SPR, the Applicant has not yet included any proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5. It is however expected that agreement will be reached before the end of the examination process.
East Anglia ONE North (EA1N)	Electricity Generator	Suffolk: 2/5a, 2/6a, 2/7, 2/8, 2/10, 2/11a,	The Proposed Project cable ducts and haul	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests.	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with the statutory undertaker and has made

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
		2/11b, 2/12, 2/13, 2/15, 2/15a, 2/17, 2/18, 2/19, 2/20, 2/20a, 2/20b, 2/20c, 2/20d, 2/20e, 2/22a, 2/23, 2/24, 2/25, 2/26, 2/27, 2/28, 2/29, 2/32, 2/33, 2/34, 2/35, 2/36, 2/36a, 2/37, 2/38, 2/39, 2/40, 2/42, 2/42a, 2/43, 2/46, 2/46a, 2/47, 2/47a, 2/48, 2/49, 2/52, 2/53, 2/55, 2/57, 2/58, 2/59, 2/60, 2/61, 2/63, 2/64, 2/65, 2/66, 2/67, 2/68, 2/69, 2/70, 2/71, 2/72, 2/72a, 2/72b, 2/72c, 2/73, 2/75, 2/76, 2/77, 2/78a, 2/78b, 2/79, 2/80, 2/81, 2/82, 2/83, 2/84, 2/99.	roads will cross EA1N export cables.	The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	substantial progress towards agreement on a set of protective provisions. Given the nature and complexity of the commercial interface with SPR, the Applicant has not yet included any proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5. It is however expected that agreement will be reached before the end of the examination process.
East Anglia TWO (EA2)	Electricity Generator	Suffolk: 2/5a, 2/6a, 2/7, 2/8, 2/10, 2/11a, 2/11b, 2/12, 2/13, 2/15, 2/15a, 2/17, 2/18, 2/19, 2/20, 2/20a, 2/20b, 2/20c, 2/20d, 2/20e, 2/22a, 2/23, 2/24, 2/25, 2/26, 2/27, 2/28, 2/29,	The Proposed Project cable ducts and haul roads will cross EA2 export cables.	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with the statutory undertaker and has made substantial progress towards agreement on a set of protective provisions. Given the nature and complexity of the commercial interface with SPR, the Applicant has not yet included any proposed bespoke protective provisions in the

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
		2/32, 2/33, 2/34, 2/35, 2/36, 2/36a, 2/37, 2/38, 2/39, 2/40, 2/42, 2/42a, 2/43, 2/46, 2/46a, 2/47, 2/47a, 2/48, 2/49, 2/52, 2/53, 2/55, 2/57, 2/58, 2/59, 2/60, 2/61, 2/63, 2/64, 2/65, 2/66, 2/67, 2/68, 2/69, 2/70, 2/71, 2/72, 2/72a, 2/72b, 2/72c, 2/73, 2/75, 2/76, 2/77, 2/78a, 2/78b, 2/79, 2/80, 2/81, 2/82, 2/83, 2/84, 2/99.			version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5. It is however expected that agreement will be reached before the end of the examination process.
Thanet OFTO Limited	Electricity Generator	Kent: 5/1, 5/6, 5/8, 5/9, 5/17, 5/25, 5/26, 5/27, 5/28, 5/29, 5/30, 5/30a, 5/31, 5/32, 5/33, 5/34, 5/35, 5/36, 5/37, 5/39, 5/40, 5/41, 5/42, 5/43, 5/44, 5/45, 5/46, 5/47, 5/48,	Easement crossing required.	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with the statutory undertaker on an ongoing basis. At this stage the Applicant maintains its expectation that Thanet OFTO Limited will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.
UK Power Network Services (South East) Limited	Electricity Transmitter	Kent: 1/2, 1/5, 1/7, 1/14, 1/18, 1/19, 2/12, 2/15, 2/27, 2/35, 2/36, 2/39, 2/40, 2/41, 2/42, 2/45, 2/49, 2/50, 2/51,	Interfaces requiring diversion of underground and overhead lines, or sufficient	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	The Applicant is awaiting bespoke protective provisions from the statutory undertaker. Upon receipt the Applicant will review the proposed protective provisions and continue to engage with the statutory undertaker. It is anticipated that

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
		2/54, 2/55, 2/60, 2/62, 2/63, 2/64, 2/65, 2/72, 2/73, 2/83, 2/84, 2/85, 2/86, 2/145, 2/146, 2/149, 2/150, 2/151, 2/152, 2/155, 2/156, 2/158, 2/159, 2/168, 2/173, 2/174, 2/180, 3/2, 3/7, 3/8, 3/42, 3/43, 3/46, 3/47, 3/48, 3/52, 3/53, 3/54, 3/55, 3/56, 3/57, 3/58, 3/59, 3/60, 3/61, 3/62, 3/65, 3/74, 3/75, 3/77, 3/78, 3/79, 3/80, 3/82, 3/84, 3/85, 3/87, 3/88, 3/90, 3/91, 3/92, 3/95, 3/96, 3/97, 3/97a, 3/111, 4/5, 4/6, 4/10, 4/11, 4/13, 4/18, 4/19, 4/21, 4/22, 4/23, 4/24, 4/25, 4/26, 4/27, 6/1, 6/3, 6/4, 6/5, 6/6. Suffolk: 1/11, 1/25, 1/49a, 1/69, 1/70, 2/1, 2/3, 2/5, 2/6, 2/6a, 2/7, 2/7b, 2/8, 2/8a, 2/9, 2/11a, 2/12, 2/14, 2/15, 2/15a, 2/19, 2/20,	clearance during construction		bespoke protective provisions will be submitted at Deadline 6. Subject to the above, at this stage the statutory undertaker will be able to rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
		2/20a, 2/20c, 2/20d, 2/24, 2/25, 2/36, 2/37, 2/38, 2/42, 2/42a, 2/43, 2/44, 2/46, 2/46a, 2/55, 2/73, 2/77, 2/84, 2/99, 2/100, 2/102, 2/103, 2/104, 3/2, 3/5, 3/10, 3/11, 3/12, 3/14, 3/15, 3/16, 3/19, 3/20, 3/21, 3/22, 3/39, 3/40, 3/41, 3/54, 3/62, 3/63, 3/64, 4/5, 4/7, 4/16, 4/18, 4/27, 5/14, 5/17, 5/18, 5/19, 5/21, 5/22			
The River Stour (Kent) Internal Drainage Board	Internal Drainage Board	2/84, 2/108, 2/111, 2/112, 2/113, 2/114, 2/117, 2/118, 2/119, 2/120, 2/123, 2/123, 2/132, 2/135, 2/136, 2/181, 2/184, 2/186, 3/1, 3/2, 3/58, 3/62, 3/64, 3/66, 3/7, 3/99, 4/9	Land drain	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	The Applicant is not seeking to disapply the Land Drainage Act 1991, therefore bespoke protective provisions will not be required. However the Applicant will continue to engage with the statutory undertaker on an ongoing basis.
Virgin Media Limited	Telecommunications	Suffolk: 4/13, 5/14, 5/17, 5/19	Apparatus within verge and carriageway at Leiston Road - Lower cabled ducts in grass verge to below	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the	The Applicant will continue to engage with the statutory undertaker on an ongoing basis. At this stage and based on discussions with the statutory undertaker including in relation to the draft SoCG [REP1-098]

Statutory Undertaker	Nature of Undertaking	Plots	Land, rights or apparatus affected	Engagement of s.127 and/or s.138	Status of negotiation
			proposed construction depth of the new haul road.	statutory tests before the end of the examination.	submitted at deadline 1, the Applicant anticipates that the statutory undertaker will rely on the standard protective set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.
Vodafone Limited	Telecommunications	Suffolk: 4/13, 5/14, 5/17, 5/19	Vodafone assets in Leiston Road	The Applicant is in active negotiations with a view to addressing the relevant tests. The Applicant will make any necessary submission addressing the statutory tests before the end of the examination.	The Applicant will continue to engage with the statutory undertaker on an ongoing basis. At this stage and based on discussions with the statutory undertaker including in relation to the draft SoCG [REP1-099] submitted at deadline 1, the Applicant anticipates that the statutory undertaker will rely on the standard protective set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.

2.4 Protective Provisions and Side Agreements

Table 2.2: Protective Provisions and Side Agreements – Deadline 5 Update

Organisation	Status of protective provisions	Scope and purpose of any relevant side agreement	Current position	Progress since last update
Anglian Water	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	- The Applicant does not anticipate that a side agreement will be required with Anglian Water.	Under negotiation	<p>The Applicant has been continuing its engagement with Anglian Water. Bespoke protective provisions are included in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5, although these are not yet agreed by the statutory undertaker. The Applicant will continue to engage with the statutory undertaker.</p> <p>The Applicant expects to reach agreement during the period of the examination.</p>
Cadent Gas Limited	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	The parties are close to agreement on a side agreement in relation to insurance and security provision.	Under negotiation	<p>The Applicant is continuing its engagement with the statutory undertaker and has made substantial progress towards agreement on a set of protective provisions.</p> <p>Given the stage in the examination process, the Applicant has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5. The Applicant understands that these are agreed between the parties, subject to one minor point. It is expected that agreement will be reached</p>

Organisation	Status of protective provisions	Scope and purpose of any relevant side agreement	Current position	Progress since last update
Kent County Council (Highways Authority)	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	The Applicant does not anticipate that a side agreement will be required with Kent County Council (as highway authority).	Under negotiation	<p>before the end of the examination.</p> <p>The Applicant has been continuing its engagement with Kent County Council. The proposed protective provisions for the benefit of the local highways authorities is included in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5, although these are not yet agreed by Kent County Council.</p>
Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd (NRIL)	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	A Basic Asset Protection Agreement is in place. The Applicant understands that a Framework Agreement may be required and is awaiting a draft of this document.	Under negotiation	<p>The Applicant is continuing to pursue engagement with NRIL but has not yet received comment on its proposed protective provisions.</p> <p>The Applicant has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5. These are not agreed by the statutory undertaker and the Applicant expects a meeting will be needed to discuss the outstanding points.</p>
Southern Gas Networks Limited (SGN)	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	There are ongoing negotiations relating to a side agreement, likely to cover insurance and security provision.	Under negotiation	<p>The Applicant is continuing its engagement with SGN and is close to agreement on a set of protective provisions.</p> <p>The Applicant has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the</p>

Organisation	Status of protective provisions	Scope and purpose of any relevant side agreement	Current position	Progress since last update
Suffolk County Council (Highways Authority) (SCC)	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	The Applicant does not anticipate that a side agreement will be required with Suffolk County Council (as highway authority).	Under negotiation	<p>dDCO submitted at Deadline 5 although these are not yet agreed by the statutory undertaker.</p> <p>It is expected that agreement will be reached before the end of the examination process. There are also ongoing negotiations relating to a side agreement.</p> <p>The Applicant has been continuing its engagement with SCC. The proposed protective provisions for the benefit of the local highways authorities are included in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5, although these are not yet agreed by SCC.</p> <p>The Applicant expects to reach agreement during the period of the examination.</p>
Dock and Harbour Authority (Harwich Haven Authority) (HHA)	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement.	The parties are in ongoing discussions regarding a side agreement relating to protections around project vessels with Restricted Ability to Manoeuvre (RAM) and under keel clearance.	Under negotiation	The Applicant understands from ongoing engagement with HHA that a side agreement may now be sought in place of bespoke protective provisions. Discussions between the parties are ongoing.
Port of London Authority (PLA)	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	The Applicant does not anticipate that a side agreement will be required with PLA.	Under negotiation	<p>The Applicant is continuing its engagement with PLA and is close to agreement on a set of protective provisions.</p> <p>The Applicant has included its proposed bespoke protective</p>

Organisation	Status of protective provisions	Scope and purpose of any relevant side agreement	Current position	Progress since last update
London Gateway Port	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	The Applicant does not anticipate that a side agreement will be required with London Gateway Port.	Under negotiation	<p>provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5 although these are not yet agreed.</p> <p>It is expected that agreement will be reached before the end of the examination process.</p>
Scottish Power (UK) Renewables Limited (East Anglia ONE North (EA1N) and East Anglia TWO (EA2))	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	<p>SPR has indicated that a Crossing Agreement will be required.</p> <p>There is a proposed suite of commercial agreements between NGET and SPR which are in train, addressing the various physical and commercial interfaces.</p>	Under negotiation	<p>The Applicant has received draft bespoke protective provision from SPR (EA1N/EA2).</p> <p>Given the complexity of the commercial interface, and whilst further discussion of the protective provisions between the parties is required, the Applicant has not included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5.</p> <p>It is expected that agreement will be reached before the end of the examination process.</p>

Organisation	Status of protective provisions	Scope and purpose of any relevant side agreement	Current position	Progress since last update
East Suffolk Water Management Board (ESWMB)	The Applicant has confirmed that it does not intend to disapply the Land Drainage Act 1991, therefore protective provisions will not be required.	The Proposed Project will remain subject to the requirements of the statutory drainage regime, including requiring consent for the erection or alteration of structures affecting an ordinary watercourse and IDB byelaws relating to works near watercourses. Hence no side agreement is understood to be required.	Protective provisions not required.	Following a meeting between the parties on 17/02/2026 ESWMB confirmed that protective provisions will not be required if the Applicant does not propose to disapply the Land Drainage Act 1991.
Quintas Energy (Manston Thorne Limited)	Quintas Energy has referred the Applicant back to UKPN who hold the Manston Thorne connection.	The Applicant does not anticipate that a side agreement will be required with Quintas Energy.	It is expected that Quintas Energy on behalf of Manston Thorne will now rely on the standard protective provisions on the face of the DCO.	No further engagement.
Northumbrian Water Group Limited (NWG) (Essex and Suffolk Water)	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	An Asset Protection Agreement is under negotiation relating to the Applicant's compliance with the terms of the protective provisions.	Under negotiation	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with NWG and is close to agreement on a set of protective provisions. The Applicant has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5 although these are not yet agreed. It is expected that agreement will be reached before the end of the examination process. There are also ongoing negotiations in relation to an asset protection agreement.

Organisation	Status of protective provisions	Scope and purpose of any relevant side agreement	Current position	Progress since last update
Sizewell C Ltd (SZC)	The Applicant is pursuing further discussion in order to reach agreement.	N/A.	Requested	The Applicant has pursued further discussions with SZC to determine their requirements, however, SZC has to date not provided a further response regarding protective provisions.
Southern Water Services Limited	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	The Applicant will consider any requests from Southern Water in respect of a side agreement.	Under negotiation	<p>The Applicant received bespoke protective provisions from Southern Water on 03/03/2026.</p> <p>The Applicant has reviewed the draft protective provisions and has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the dDCO submitted at Deadline 5 although these are not yet agreed. The Applicant will continue to engage with the statutory undertaker.</p> <p>It is expected that agreement will be reached before the end of the examination process.</p>
BT (British Telecommunications plc) (UK to Netherlands cable; UK to Belgium cable; Farland cable; Mercator cable)	The Applicant anticipates that BT will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	BT has indicated that a Crossing Agreement (out of service and in service) will be required.	Under negotiation	<p>The Applicant is pursuing further discussions with BT to determine their requirements.</p> <p>In any event, they would benefit from the standard provisions in respect of telecoms operators.</p>
EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Limited (Sizewell B)	The SoCG between the parties confirms that the Proposed Project does not encroach on to Sizewell B operational land.	N/A	N/A	Following agreement of the SoCG no further engagement on this matter has been necessary.

Organisation	Status of protective provisions	Scope and purpose of any relevant side agreement	Current position	Progress since last update
UK Power Networks Limited (UKPN)	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach agreement on bespoke protective provisions.	The Applicant does not anticipate that a side agreement will be required with UKPN.	Under negotiation	<p>The Applicant is awaiting bespoke protective provisions from UKPN and will continue to engage with the statutory undertaker on an ongoing basis. Upon receipt the Applicant will review the proposed protective provisions and continue to engage with the statutory undertaker. It is anticipated that bespoke protective provisions will be submitted at Deadline 6.</p> <p>In any event, at present, UKPN would benefit from the standard provisions in respect of electricity undertakers in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.</p>
National Grid Electricity Transmission plc	National Grid Electricity Transmission plc will benefit from the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	N/A	N/A	N/A
City Fibre Holdings Limited	The Applicant anticipates that City Fibre Holdings Limited will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	N/A	City Fibre Holdings Limited did not submit a Relevant Representation and has not requested any further protection.	The Applicant has sought further engagement with City Fibre Holdings Limited with no response to date.
OCU Group Limited	The Applicant anticipates that OCU Group Limited will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	N/A	OCU Group Limited did not submit a Relevant Representation and has not requested any further protection.	The Applicant has sought further engagement with OCU Group Limited with no response to date.

Organisation	Status of protective provisions	Scope and purpose of any relevant side agreement	Current position	Progress since last update
Openreach	The Applicant anticipates that Openreach will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	N/A	Openreach did not submit a Relevant Representation and has not requested any further protection.	The Applicant has sought further engagement with Openreach with no response to date
Thanet OFTO Limited	The Applicant anticipates that the Thanet OFTO will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	Thanet OFTO has indicated that a Crossing Agreement will be required.	Under negotiation	The Applicant is maintaining ongoing discussions with Thanet OFTO Limited regarding a Crossing Agreement.
Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm Limited	The Applicant anticipates that Five Estuaries will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	Five Estuaries has indicated that a Crossing Agreement will be required.	Under negotiation	The Applicant is maintaining ongoing discussions with Five Estuaries regarding a Crossing Agreement.
North Falls Offshore Wind Farm Limited	The Applicant anticipates that North Falls will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	North Falls has indicated that a Crossing Agreement will be required.	Under negotiation	The Applicant will pursue further discussions with North Falls to determine their requirements.
National Grid Ventures (NGV) Lion Link	The Applicant anticipates that NGV will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	The Applicant does not currently anticipate that a side agreement will be necessary.	N/A	Discussions between the parties are ongoing. The engagement is reflected in the draft SoCG [REP1-102] between the parties submitted at deadline 1 and the Coordination Document [APP-363] which formed part of the original application
EXA Infrastructure	The Applicant anticipates that EXA Infrastructure will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	N/A	EXA Infrastructure did not submit a Relevant Representation and has not requested any further protection.	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with EXA Infrastructure. At this stage and based on discussions with the statutory

Organisation	Status of protective provisions	Scope and purpose of any relevant side agreement	Current position	Progress since last update
				undertaker including in relation to the signed SoCG [REP1-090] submitted at deadline 1, the Applicant anticipates that the statutory undertaker will rely on the standard protective set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.
BritNed Development Limited	The Applicant anticipates that BritNed Development Limited will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	BritNed has indicated that a Crossing Agreement will be required.	Under negotiation	The Applicant will pursue further discussions with BritNed to determine their requirements.
Virgin Media	The Applicant anticipates that the Virgin Media will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	N/A	Virgin Media did not submit a Relevant Representation and has not requested any further protection.	The Applicant will continue to engage with Virgin Media, the outcomes of which will be reflected in the next version of the draft SoCG [REP1-098] between the parties, .
Vodafone	The Applicant anticipates that the Vodafone will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	N/A	Vodafone did not submit a Relevant Representation and has not requested any further protection.	The Applicant will continue to engage with the Vodafone, the outcomes of which will be reflected in the next version of the draft SoCG [REP1-099] between the parties.
NeuConnect Britain Ltd	The Applicant anticipates that the stakeholder will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	A Crossing Agreement is expected to be required.	Under negotiation	The Applicant will pursue further discussions with NeuConnect to determine their requirements.
Gridlink Interconnector Limited	The Applicant anticipates that the stakeholder will rely on the standard protective provisions	Gridlink Interconnector Limited has indicated a Crossing Agreement will be required.	Under negotiation	The Applicant is maintaining ongoing discussion with Gridlink to determine their requirements.

Organisation	Status of protective provisions	Scope and purpose of any relevant side agreement	Current position	Progress since last update
	set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.			
Lumen Technologies UK Limited (Pan European Crossing cable; Tangerine cable)	The Applicant anticipates that the stakeholder will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	A Crossing Agreement is expected to be required.	Under negotiation	The Applicant will continue to engage with Lumen Technologies UK Limited to determine their requirements.
EXA Infrastructure (Q&E North Cable)*	The Applicant anticipates that the stakeholder will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	A Crossing Agreement is expected to be required.	Under negotiation	The Applicant will continue to engage with EXA Infrastructure regarding marine interfaces on an ongoing basis.
Blue Transmission London Array Limited	The Applicant anticipates that the stakeholder will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	The Applicant does not anticipate that a side agreement will be required with Blue Transmission London Array.	No action required	N/A
Riveroak Strategic Partners (RSP) (authorised undertaker for the Manston Airport Development Consent Order 2022)	The Applicant is seeking to establish the nature of protections required.	RSP is to confirm the nature of any side agreement which it requires.	Riveroak Strategic Partners submitted a Relevant Representation seeking to understand interfaces between the two projects. The Applicant is pursuing further engagement.	The Applicant is continuing its engagement with Riveroak Strategic Partners, seeking to establish what mechanism will be most appropriate for securing the required protection.
TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited (Transmission Investment – EA1 cable)	The Applicant anticipates that the stakeholder will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	A Crossing Agreement is expected to be required.	Under negotiation	The Applicant will continue to engage with TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited to determine their requirements.
Scottish Power (UK) Renewables Limited (SPR) East Anglia Three	The parties are in discussion and are seeking to reach	A Crossing Agreement is required.	Under negotiation	The Applicant received draft bespoke protective provisions for EA3 on 23/02/2026.

Organisation	Status of protective provisions	Scope and purpose of any relevant side agreement	Current position	Progress since last update
	agreement on bespoke protective provisions.			While further discussion of the protective provisions between the parties is required, the Applicant has included its proposed bespoke protective provisions in the version of the DCO submitted at Deadline 5.
Nemo Link Limited	The Applicant anticipates that the stakeholder will rely on the standard protective provisions set out in Schedule 15 of the dDCO.	A Crossing Agreement is required.	Under negotiation	The Applicant will continue to engage with Nemo Link to determine their requirements.

*Denotes a change of ownership

National Grid plc
National Grid House,
Warwick Technology Park,
Gallows Hill, Warwick.
CV34 6DA United Kingdom

Registered in England and Wales
No. 4031152
nationalgrid.com