



# Planning Inspectorate

Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission for an order granting development consent for the Sea Link project

Agenda for open floor hearing (OFH):

Hearing	Date	Location
<b>Open floor hearing 3 (OFH3)</b>	<b>Tuesday 24 March 2026</b>  <b>Registration and seating available from: 9:00am</b>  <b>Virtual registration process from: 9:30am</b>  <b>Event start: 10.00am</b>  <b>See annex A for further details</b>	All hearings will be blended events at:  South Gallery Rooms 20-22 Excel London 1 Western Gateway Royal Victoria Dock London E16 1XL  and  By virtual means using Microsoft Teams OR at one of the satellite venues hosted by the applicant:  <b>Suffolk:</b>  Deben Suite Ufford Park Yarmouth Road Melton Woodbridge IP12 1QW  <b>Kent:</b>  Unit 18 (1st Floor), Innovation House, Innovation Way, Ramsgate Road, Sandwich, CT13 9FF  Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered

## Agenda items

Please note that the following agenda is indicative and may be amended by the Examining Authority (ExA) at the start of the hearing session.

1. **Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the hearing**
2. **Purpose of the open floor hearing**
3. **Confirmation of those who have notified the ExA of a wish to be heard at the open floor hearing and the order in which parties will be heard**
4. **Representations by interested parties and others**

Each interested party (IP) who has indicated a wish to speak will be invited in turn by the ExA to speak. Following each submission, the ExA may wish to ask the speaker questions.

Speakers will be heard in the order shown under the list of speakers in **annex A**.

The order has been determined as follows:

1. Parties who pre-registered at deadlines 3 or 4A and who haven't spoken at a previous OFH.
2. Parties who pre-registered at deadlines 3 and 4A and who have spoken at a previous OFH.
3. Parties who did not pre-register at deadlines 3 or 4A and who haven't spoken before.
4. Parties who did not pre-register at deadlines 3 or 4A and who have spoken before.

Speakers will be allocated the following maximum speaking times:

- 3 minutes for individual IPs, including businesses.
- 6 minutes for those representing groups, membership organisations or Councils.

Persons without IP status, as defined by section 102 of the Planning Act 2008, are referred to as Non-Interested Parties (Non-IP); however this is not intended to suggest a lack of interest in the application. Any Non-IPs that are being heard at the discretion of the ExA are included in the list of speakers in **annex A**. The same maximum speaking times and procedure will apply as for IPs.

The ExA may ask questions of IPs, Non-IPs and the applicant about matters arising from written and oral submissions. If they do so during a timed oral submission, the time taken by the ExA will not count against the speaking time.

Those who have not previously registered to participate in this hearing and have not been allocated a slot in the speaking list at **annex A**, are unlikely to be able to speak on the day due to the number of registered participants.

5. **Close of the open floor hearing**

## Participation, conduct and management of open floor hearings

OFHs are hearings where interested parties (IP) who are individuals, groups and organisations have the opportunity to raise any matters that they consider are important and relevant to the consideration of the application.

Submissions should be based on your previous representations made in writing. The ExA has read all of these, and representations made at the OFHs do not need to repeat these, but should provide further detail, explanation or evidence to help inform the ExA.

To allow everyone to have a fair opportunity to be heard, the time limits shown on the agenda will be strictly applied. The ExA will hear from all IPs who have pre-registered to speak at the OFHs. If on the day there are individuals who are not registered but who wish to make submissions at one of the OFHs, the ExA will use its discretion to hear these should time permit (please see further information about this below).

Speakers have been given either a virtual or physical (in-person) slot, based on the information provided during the registration process. This information is confirmed in the list of speakers in **annex A**. Please contact the case team as soon as possible using the contact details below if you wish to attend via a different method, or if you are no longer able to attend.

It would also assist the ExA if written summaries of anything that you say are submitted by **deadline 6 (Monday 13 April 2026)**.

People who have land or rights affected by compulsory acquisition or temporary possession are affected persons (AP) and have a right to be heard at a compulsory acquisition hearing (CAH). If you are an AP wishing to speak about your land or rights then a CAH will be the best forum to raise any such issues. **A CAH will be held on the morning of Wednesday 25 March**. Please contact the case team as soon as possible using the contact details below if you would like to speak at the CAH and have not already registered to do so.

The ExA has asked the applicant to attend this hearing. The applicant may be asked by the ExA to address questions raised by IPs in summary form at the end of the hearing and in written submissions. It is not the purpose of these hearings to enable the applicant to make its case. Any applicant responses to specific IPs' oral cases will be made in writing unless invited to respond by the ExA.

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the [project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website](#) closer to the event date. IPs and members of the public who wish to observe the hearing can view and listen to the hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording, after it has concluded.

### Requests to be heard

The deadline to request to be heard at OFH3 was Tuesday 10 March 2026. Anyone wishing to speak at OFH3 who did not make their request by this date should note that it is unlikely there will be time for additional parties to be heard in the sessions

programmed. The ExA will use its discretion to hear additional parties should time permit, however this will depend on the progress made in each session. If your request cannot be accommodated, then please submit your representation in writing by **deadline 6, 23:59pm Monday 13 April 2026**. This is a predominantly written process and submissions given orally are not given any more weight to those received in writing.

### **Event registration process**

Parties who have registered to speak at the OFH will receive a joining instruction email no later than 5pm Monday 23 March which will include a link to the virtual event on Microsoft Teams, and a telephone number should they need to participate by telephone. The joining instruction email will be sent to all registered parties, including those due to appear in person.

If you have not received your joining instructions by the time stated above, please contact the Planning Inspectorate case team as soon as possible via the contact details below.

If you are attending virtually, please join at the virtual registration start time set out in the relevant agenda to ensure that the registration process is completed in good time. If necessary, it will be possible to leave the Microsoft Teams meeting after the initial registration process, however, please ensure that you re-join at least 15 minutes before the anticipated start time of the session you are due to speak at.

If you are attending in person, you should ensure that you arrive at the venue at least 15 minutes before the anticipated start time of the session you are due to speak at.

### **Satellite Venues in Kent and Suffolk**

The satellite venue locations at Kent and Suffolk will be hosted by CVS International, an independent production company, on behalf of the applicant. There will not be any representatives from National Grid Electricity Transmission (the applicant) or the Planning Inspectorate present at the satellite venues.

If you have any questions or issues concerning the Sea Link project or examination procedures during the hearings (or at any time) please use the contact details below:

For queries specifically concerning the Sea Link project:

National Grid Electricity Transmission

[contact@sealink.nationalgrid.com](mailto:contact@sealink.nationalgrid.com)

0808 134 9569

FREEPOST SEA LINK

For queries concerning the examination procedures for the Sea Link project (e.g., hearing participation, deadline submissions, etc):

The Planning Inspectorate Sea Link Case Team

[southeastanglialink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:southeastanglialink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

0303 444 5000

Sea Link Case Team

Planning Inspectorate

c/o QUADIANT

69 Buckingham Avenue

Slough

SL1 4PN

## **Advice**

To help you participate effectively, the Planning Inspectorate has published the following advice:

- [Advice Note 8.5 – The Examination: hearings and site inspections.](#)
- [Advice Note 8.6 – Virtual examination events.](#)

This material includes advice on how to use Microsoft Teams (our virtual event system) and on protecting your personal data during virtual events.

**Annex A**

**OFH3 Tuesday 24 March 2026**

**Start 10:00am (registration in-person from 09:00 and virtually from 9:30am)**

Order	Name	Time (mins)	Virtual (V) /Satellite (Sat) venue (Suffolk or Kent)/ London
1.	Coral Duncan	3	Sat S
2.	Good Connections Walberswick Ltd (represented by Philip Smith)	6	V
3.	Iain Brown	3	V
4.	Joan Edlis	3	Sat S
5.	Louise Chadwick	3	V
6.	Ramsgate Town Team (represented by Councillor (Cllr) Tricia Austin)	6	V
7.	Stephanie Jane Harrison	3	Sat K
8.	Stephen Byrne	3	Sat S
9.	Stephen James Palmer	3	Sat S
10.	Tessa Wojtczak	3	Sat S
11.	Victoria Caroline Hambley	3	V
12.	Virginia Dow	3	V
13.	Sharon O'Brien	3	Sat S
14.	Andrew McDonald	3	V
15.	Caroline Pope	3	Sat K
16.	Charlotte Fox	3	Sat S
17.	David Stevens	3	V
18.	East Suffolk Communities Energy Partnership (represented by Cllr Robin Sanders)	6	Sat S
19.	East Suffolk Council (represented by Cllr Tom Daly)	6	V
20.	Fiona Gilmore	3	V
21.	Friston Parish Council (represented by Michael Mahony)	6	London
22.	Suffolk Action Save East Suffolk (represented by Michael Mahony)	6	London
23.	Save Minster Marshes (represented by George Cooper)	6	V
24.	Glynis Robertson	3	Sat S
25.	Gordon Young	3	V
26.	Karen McKenzie	3	V
27.	Karl Pearsall	3	Sat S
28.	Marianne Nola Fellowes	3	Sat S
29.	Norman Kenneth Bate	3	Sat S
30.	Paul Atkinson	3	V
31.	Philip Smith	3	V
32.	Piers Antony Sturridge	3	V
33.	Rhett Griffiths	3	V
34.	Sarah Courage	3	Sat S

**Annex A**

35.	Saxmundham Town Council (represented by Cllr Geraldine Barker)	6	V
36.	Suffolk County Council (represented by Cllr Richard Rout)	6	V
37.	Suffolk Energy Action Solutions (represented by James Burton)	6	V
38.	Sheridan Steen	3	Sat S
39.	Snape Parish Council (represented by Cllr Andrew McDonald)	6	V
40.	Thanet Green Party (represented by Cllr Becky Wing)	6	Sat K
41.	Timothy John Harrison	3	Sat K
42.	Katie Graham	3	V
43.	Kent County Council (represented by Cllr Jamie Henderson)	6	Sat K
44.	Ramsgate Town Council (represented by Cllr Trevor Shonk)	6	V
45.	Sue Skeen	3	V
46.	Therese Coffey MP	6	V
47.	Alexandra Lapot	3	V
48.	Aldeburgh & Leiston council (represented by Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf)	6	V
49.	Aldeburgh town council (represented by Cllr Jocelyn Bond)	6	V
50.	Beltrani Luigi	3	V
51.	Britten Pears Arts (represented by Henry Young)	6	V
52.	Emma Waller	3	V
53.	Kent Wildlife Trust (represented by Emma Waller)	6	V
54.	Georgina Burns	3	Sat S
55.	Hannah Mckeown	3	Sat K
56.	Humphery Hawksley	3	V
57.	Kelsale & Yoxford Ward (represented by Cllr Julia Ewart)	6	Sat S
58.	Marlesford Parish Council (represented by Cllr Richard Cooper)	6	V
59.	Matthew Denny	3	V
60.	Michael Hills	3	Sat S
61.	Stephanie Bunn	3	Sat S
62.	Suffolk and Essex Coast & Heaths National Landscape Partnership (represented by Simon Amstutz)	6	V
63.	Susan Bridges	3	Sat S
64.	Westleton Parish Council (represented by Cllr Andrew Turner)	6	V
65.	Woodbridge Town Council (represented by Cllr Robin Sanders)	6	Sat S
66.	Thanet Villages (represented by Cllr Abi Smith)	6	V