

APPLICATION BY NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION FOR AN ORDER
GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR SOUTH EAST ANGLIA LINK (SEA LINK)

PINS REFERENCE: EN020026

Interested Party Reference [REDACTED]

OFH statement 24/03/2026

FROM: Karen McKenzie

Good morning, Madam and Members of the Panel. I'm Karen McKenzie.
Resident of Thanet and member of Save Minster Marshes

I would like to start by saying I am confused about the timetable we are now following. I prepared for the Open Floor Hearing in February to address CR1, but that hearing was cancelled. I have therefore assumed that today's hearing covers not only CR1, but also any documentation that has been changed or added since Deadline 4. I am sure I am not alone in this confusion.

And regarding additional document, just in the last 11 days, the applicant has submitted another 149 documents, 56 of which are updates to existing ones. Many are on their 6th iteration and Habitats is on its 7th. In many cases, the changes appear minor, such as altered titles or capitalisation, but the volume makes it extremely difficult to identify what has materially changed. It seems deliberate. It has been nigh impossible to review all these documents in the time frame. I think the Applicant is now pushing the Rochdale Envelope too far. They weren't ready and they still aren't.

I am sure I am not alone in finding that this process is unfairly stacked in favour of the applicant and disadvantages those of us who do not work full-time on this project as the applicant and you yourselves do. Given the volume of new and revised material, I imagine it is a challenge even for you to keep pace.

Turning specifically to Change 1 and the proposed extension to the Draft Order Limits at the Hoverport: the documentation appears to imply that the applicant now intends to use the north-eastern part of the slipway, rather than the southernmost section, in order to avoid the saltmarsh. However, by allowing the southern area to remain part of the DOL, it appears to me that the applicant would still be permitted to damage this area of saltmarsh

APPLICATION BY NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION FOR AN ORDER
GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR SOUTH EAST ANGLIA LINK (SEA LINK)

PINS REFERENCE: EN020026

Interested Party Reference [REDACTED]

OFH statement 24/03/2026

FROM: Karen McKenzie

is not removed and should you recommend approval to the Secretary of State as the application currently stands.

I also note that REP2-011, the Construction Method Technical Note, was only published on 18 February. Table 2.1 of which lists a number of *options* for construction, which suggests there still remains uncertainty about whether the least damaging methods will actually be used. As I have said previously, the project has completely failed to apply the first step of the mitigation hierarchy, which is avoidance of damage to this important RAMSAR site.

I recognise that this is primarily a written process, and that three minutes is insufficient to address all of my remaining concerns. I would therefore respectfully request that you will allow me, and others, to provide additional written information where concerns have not been adequately addressed throughout the remainder of the examination.

Thank you for listening.