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Date: 28th April 2026

Dear Inspectors,

Response to Inspectors Rule 17 Letter (issued 21st April 2026)

PINS Ref: EN020026 – Sea Link

Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission for an Order Granting Development Consent for Sea Link

Please find enclosed Dover District Council's (DDC) responses to the Inspectors Rule 17 Letter.

- 1.1** The Council has reviewed Suffolk County Council's (SCC) answer and suggested amended wording for article 10 in response to ExQ3GEN17. DDC has no concerns with this wording.
- 1.7** The Council has no comments to make on this matter which relates to the Suffolk element of the development.
- 1.9** Schedule 4 (Discharge of Requirements – Article 54) requires the relevant authority to give notice of its decision on the application within a period of 35 days and where no determination is made within this period, it is taken that all parts of the application are granted. The Council note's the ExA's recommended amendment to the use of the 35 day decision period within the dDCO in relation to articles 11(3), 15(9), 17(2), 20(9), 22(8) and 50(9) to 56 days, to allow for consultation and proper scrutiny. Whilst there is a provision in 1(c) for a longer period of time to be agreed between the parties, for consistency with other parts of the order, it is suggested that the 35 day period is extended to 56 days to allow for proper scrutiny.
- 3.5** The Council has been in discussions with the applicant and understands they will be submitting a position statement at deadline 7 (also linked to 5.9).
- 4.5** The Council has no comments to make on the adequacy of the scope of preconstruction surveys in the oLEMP.
- 4.7** The Council has received a draft UU which it is in the process of commenting on and expects will be signed.
- 9.1** The Council has no comments to make on this issue.

I hope these responses adequately identify DDC's current position in respect of these matters and assist the Examination accordingly.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Principal Planning Officer
Development Management