

The Great Grid Upgrade

Sea Link

Sea Link

Volume 9: Examination Submissions

Document 9.109: Applicant's Response to Remaining Hearing Action Points

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1. About this Document

1.1 Purpose of this Document

1.1.1 This document provides National Grid Electricity Transmission plc's (the Applicant's) response to outstanding Action Points addressed to the Applicant at Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 held on 27 January 2026, Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2 held on Wednesday 25 March 2026, and Issue Specific Hearing 3 held 25 March to 27 March 2026 in respect of the Sea Link Project. This is in respect of points due to be addressed at Deadline 7.

1.2 Structure

1.2.1 The Examining Authority (ExA) issued a list of action points during the Hearings and subsequently published the actions from the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 in written form on 2 February 2026, action points from Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2 in written form on 26 March 2026, and action points from Issue Specific Hearing 3 in written form on 30 March 2026, in the following documents:

- **Action Points arising from Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 (CAH1) held on Tuesday 27 January 2026 [EV6-034];**
- **Action Points arising from Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2 (CAH2) held on Wednesday 25 March 2026 [EV8-006]; and**
- **Action Points arising from Issue Specific Hearing 3 (ISH3) on environmental issues held on Wednesday 25 March to Friday 27 March 2026 [EV9-018].**

1.2.2 This document provides responses to those actions, due at Deadline 7, that were specifically addressed to the Applicant. Where appropriate, the Applicant has made minor stylistic or grammatical adjustments to the wording of the action points for clarity; however, these changes are not considered material and do not alter the substance of the actions or the Applicant's response.

2. Applicant's Response to Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1

2.1 The Applicant's Response to Actions Table

Table 2.1 Response to Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 (27 January 2026)

Action No.	ExA Description	Applicant's Response	Deadline
AP27	<p>Applicant Submit a section 135 case to explain how the scheme could go ahead without the benefit of crown land if crown consent will not be obtained by the close of the examination.</p>	<p>Crown rights are covered at Section 41 of the draft DCO. A request for S135(1) consent has been requested from the Crown and is in negotiation. Significant progress has been made and it is anticipated that the S135 consent will be obtained shortly after the close of examination.</p> <p>The Applicant continues to actively liaise with The Crown Estate in respect of the S135 consent. Heads of Term for the voluntary land agreement are agreed and progressing with legals.</p>	Deadline 7
AP29	<p>Applicant Submit a section 127/138 case setting out how the proposed development could proceed without impeding the ability of the Statutory Undertaker, who have objected, carrying out their undertakings for any outstanding objections.</p>	<p>The Applicant's case for the application of sections 127 and 138 is set out in Application Document 9.106.1 The Applicant's Section 127 and Section 138 Statement.</p>	Deadline 7

3. Applicant's Response to Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2

3.1 The Applicant's Response to Actions Table

Table 3.1 Response to Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2 (Wednesday 25 March 2026)

Action No.	ExA Description	Applicant's Response	Deadline
AP31	Applicant, SPR Applicant and SPR to provide wording for protective provisions for any areas outstanding.	The Applicant has continued to negotiate with SPR in respect of the EA1N and EA2 projects. The Applicant has included in the draft Order submitted at Deadline 7, proposed Protective Provisions in respect of the SPR companies and projects, and will continue to negotiate with SPR to seek to reach agreement on all aspects before the decision-making stage.	Deadline 7
A32	Applicant, Suffolk County Council Applicant and Suffolk County Council to provide wording for protective provisions for any areas outstanding.	The draft Order includes Protective Provisions in favour of the local highways authorities, which will benefit SCC in respect of its function as local highway authority. The Applicant is of the view that the proposed Protective Provisions will provide appropriate protection and control to the highways authorities, in the context of the proposals and nature of the interventions in the local highway.	Deadline 7

4. Applicant's Response to Issue Specific Hearing 3

4.1 The Applicant's Response to Actions Table

Table 4.1 Response to Issue Specific Hearing 3 (25 March to 27 March 2026)

Action No.	ExA Description	Applicant's Response	Deadline
AP30	ESC, SCC Respond to the proposed permissive paths and whether they should be proposed as public rights of way?	The Applicant has set out its reasoning in proposing permissive paths in Application Document 9.153 Applicant's Response to the ExA's Rule 17 Letter (please refer to point 7.1).	Deadline 7

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