

To:
National Grid Electricity Transmission plc

Our Ref: EN020026

09 October 2026

Dear Sir or Madam,

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed Sea Link project (“the Proposed Development”)

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

1. Following the completion of the Examination on 5 May 2026, the Examining Authority submitted a Report and Recommendation in respect of its findings and conclusions on the above application to the Secretary of State on 30 July 2026. In accordance with section 107 of the Planning Act 2008, the Secretary of State has three months to determine the application.
2. **The Applicant** is requested to amend the Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments and associated control documents as follows:
 - Commitment BE07 to secure: “The Applicant will avoid relocating any sediment to within 50m of any Annex I *Sabellaria spinulosa* reef and/or any Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Section 41 habitats and species, identified during pre-construction surveys, unless otherwise agreed by the MMO in consultation with the statutory nature conservation body”.
 - Commitment MPE13 to include: “Grout bags must not be used adjacent to Goodwin Sands MCZ, unless filled with locally sourced sediment similar to that within the placement footprint.”.
 - Commitment B65 to apply equally to the construction phase.Commitments B45 and B50 to secure that Applicant must provide a report to the relevant local planning authority and Natural England, prior to, or as soon as practicable after, noisy works (generating over 60 decibels at the Sandwich Bay to Hacklinge Marshes SSSI) are undertaken between March and September. The report must detail the pre-commencement checks undertaken and any evidence of bird nesting.

DEADLINE FOR RESPONSE

3. The deadline for response is **23:59 on 16 October 2026**.
4. Responses should be submitted **by email only** to SouthEastAngliaLink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk.
5. Responses will be published on the Sea Link project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website **as soon as possible after 16 October 2026**:
<https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020026>
6. This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of whether to grant or withhold development consent for the Proposed Development or any part of the project. Nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what the eventual decision might be or what final conclusions the Secretary of State may reach on any particular issue which is relevant to the determination of the application.

Yours faithfully,

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[REDACTED]

Head of Planning

Department for Energy Security & Net Zero