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nationalgrid

Anglian Water Stakeholder Agreement Norwich to Tilbury Statement of Common Ground

1. Purpose of the Statement of Common Ground

This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared to outline the areas of agreement and any remaining points of discussion between National Grid and Anglian Water regarding specific issues arising during construction and/or operation from the interface between the proposed Norwich to Tilbury Project and Anglian Water assets.

The aim is to clarify the shared understanding of any issues and facilitate an efficient resolution process.

2. Parties to the SoCG

This SoCG is agreed between National Grid and Anglian Water Services Limited.

3. Background

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc ('National Grid') owns and maintains the national high voltage electricity transmission network throughout England and Wales. The transmission network connects the power from where it is generated to the regional Distribution Network Operators who then supply businesses and homes.

National Grid holds the Transmission Licence for England and Wales, and its statutory duty is to develop and maintain an efficient, coordinated and economical system of electricity transmission and to facilitate competition in the generation and supply of electricity, as set out in the Electricity Act 1989.

National Grid has developed plans for Norwich to Tilbury (referred to as the 'Project'). The Project would support the UK's net zero target through the connection of new low carbon energy generation in East Anglia and by reinforcing the transmission network.

The Project comprises reinforcement of the transmission network between the existing Norwich Main Substation in Norfolk and Tilbury Substation in Essex, via Bramford Substation, the new East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) Substation and the new Tilbury North Substation.

The reinforcement is needed because the existing transmission network, even with current upgrading, will not have sufficient capacity for the new renewable energy (a substantial proportion of which would be generated by offshore wind) that is expected to connect to the network over the next 10 years and beyond. Completion of the Project, together with other new

reinforcements across the country, will meet this future energy transmission demand both in East Anglia and across the UK.

The Project is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), and National Grid is seeking development consent under statutory procedures set by government. NSIPs are projects of certain types, over a certain size, which are considered by the government to be of national importance, hence permission to build them needs to be given at a national level, by the relevant Secretary of State (in this case the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero). Instead of applying to the local authority for planning permission, the developer must apply to the Planning Inspectorate for a Development Consent Order (DCO) that would grant development consent.

National Grid will submit an application for development consent to the Planning Inspectorate. The Examining Authority (consisting of one or more examining inspectors), after a period of public examination, would make their recommendation to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, who in turn would decide on whether development consent should be granted for the Project.

The Project is identified as critical to delivering a network which supports the clean power pathways for 2030 delivery.

The Planning Act 2008 places duties on National Grid as the DCO applicant to consult with prescribed or affected persons as well as to take account of responses to consultation and publicity. In accordance with these statutory requirements, National Grid has undertaken two non-statutory and one statutory consultation to inform its proposals, with further recent targeted consultations.

Further details of the Norwich to Tilbury proposed DCO can be found via the following weblink:

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/norwich-to-tilbury>

4. Stakeholder Interests

Anglian Water has legitimate interests that interact with the Norwich to Tilbury proposals. These have been identified as:

- the network of Anglian Water water supply and sewerage assets (above and below ground);
- managing water resources, supplying water and sewerage services;
- managing the risk of flooding to water supply and sewerage facilities and flood risks from the failure of their infrastructure; and,
- the delivery of forthcoming investment schemes.

National Grid is seeking to ensure that the interests of both parties and how they may be affected by the interaction are understood. From this position the aim is for the parties to agree actions to avoid or reduce the implications and for any remedial measures to be agreed. On this basis we seek the input from Anglian Water to demonstrate how their interests may be affected, how Anglian Water or National Grid and its contractors can collectively reduce those effects and input to agree the implementation of such measures.

National Grid and Anglian Water have identified approximately 341 physical interactions between Norwich to Tilbury and Anglian Water Assets. These interactions and Anglian Waters associated requests for mitigation are categorised below by the nature of the interaction. Any site-specific interaction requests are to be defined further to the below crossing categorisations through continued detailed design and engagement.

The chronology of National Grid's engagement with Anglian Water Services Limited to date, and the evolution of the Project's design is summarised as follows:

- 2023
 - Introductory meeting to detail the proposed Norwich to Tilbury scheme and project team members
- 2024
 - Meeting to understand Anglian Water strategic pipelines in development
 - Engagement on anticipated impacts on existing Anglian Water assets and protective Provisions
 - Discussion of utility connections required to compounds
 - Meeting to discuss and agree AC Interference methodologies and provision of pipeline data
 - Detailing of cabling impacts including isothermal impacts and various construction methodologies
 - Discussion around significant clashes identified by Anglian Water Services Limited
 - Updates to the crossing schedule following Statutory Consultation
 - Initiation of Protective Provisions discussions
 - Meetings to discuss Anglian Water AMP8 proposals at Forngett End Water Recycling Centre
- 2025
 - Discussion encompassing all project interactions.
 - Further discussion on AC Interference impacts to Anglian Water Services Limited assets.
 - Further engagement on Protective Provision discussions
 - Initial development of items to be included within the Statement of Common Ground.

5. Matters Agreed

Issue	Agreement reached	Date agreed	Relevant documentation
Bunwell Hill Water Recycling Centre (WRC)	04/07/25 - Access to RG48 appears to be along Brick Kiln Lane which is also the access to the Bunwell Hill water recycling centre (WRC). Anglian Water will require 24/7 access to be maintained to our WRC for our operatives.	09/07/25 – National Grid will ensure access is maintained throughout the construction period of Norwich to Tilbury for Bunwell Hill water recycling centre. Any required traffic measures will be discussed with Anglian Water in advance.	

6. Matters Currently Under Discussion

Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid response (including date)	Relevant documentation
New permanent access routes at CSECs and substations	04/07/25 – Under review	09/07/25 – Engagement ongoing	
Cable Sealing End Compounds (CSEC) interface	Proximity to Anglian Water strategic water main assets and potential need for diversions to be discussed.	09/07/25 – Engagement is ongoing with the relevant National Grid & Anglian Water teams to agree requirements and mitigations for the proximity of CSEC's to Anglian Water assets.	

Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid response (including date)	Relevant documentation
	Including landscaping/planting/BNG areas identified for environmental enhancement close to CSECs.		
Diversions of Anglian Water assets (see matter on PPs for Anglian Water below)	<p>04/07/25 - Anglian Water's initial assessment considers there is likely to be a large number of asset diversions required to reduce the risk to ongoing maintenance, investments, and emergency operations introduced by the Project's OHL and underground cabling easements, and safe working areas. These diversions may lead to additional costs, particularly where Anglian Water needs to divert assets outside the powers conferred by the DCO and use its own statutory powers to undertake the works. This will cause delays as negotiations with Third Parties will need to be undertaken.</p> <p>Ongoing discussion required to explore whether the overall number of assessed diversions can be reduced through appropriate mitigation measures to minimise risks to AW and NGET assets.</p>	<p>09/07/25 – Further engagement is ongoing to identify such interactions where Anglian Water believe diversions may be required. National Grid seek to understand the project drivers behind any potential diversions and what can be done to mitigate the need for any diversions. It is expected further clarity on the construction methodology utilised may minimise or eliminate such drivers.</p> <p>After such further engagement with National Grid and if any diversionary needs remain then National Grid would seek to agree these with Anglian Water in terms of commercials and timeframes.</p>	

Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid response (including date)	Relevant documentation
Alternating Current (AC) Interference	04/07/25 - Anglian Water has engaged to date on AC Interference studies. The Project will need to undertake measures to identify the location, depth and material of our assets, as we do not have cathodic protection records for assets within the Project area. Ongoing engagement is required to ensure the appropriate mitigation measures are identified and documented.	09/07/25 - AC Interference studies detailing both AC Corrosion and Impressed Voltages impacts have been conducted and a modelling report provided to Anglian Water for review and comment. Methodology of the modelling has been agreed with Anglian Water in advance of undertaking the studies. Engagement on the AC Interference impacts and subsequent mitigation requirements is ongoing.	
Connections required for water supply and wastewater discharge (temporary / permanent)	04/07/25 - Anglian Water encourages early pre-planning engagement on any temporary or permanent water/wastewater connections to ensure these can be planned for effectively and efficiently.	09/07/25 – Requirement for timely engagement in both permanent and temporary water/wastewater connections is noted. National Grid’s delivery partners will be progressing such connections directly with Anglian Water.	
Non-domestic water requests	04/07/25 - Non-domestic water requirements that exceed 20m ³ /day at construction compounds with concrete batching plants within Anglian Water’s supply area, are to be assessed through the submission of a Water Resources Assessment to Anglian Water, assessed within the ES, and included as a requirement in the DCO.	09/07/25 – Based on the early assessments done to date it is likely only the potential concrete batching plants will exceed the 20m ³ /day threshold. National Grid will submit a Water Resource Assessment to Anglian Water for these locations.	

Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid response (including date)	Relevant documentation
Surface water run-off management and drainage strategy through construction and operation	04/07/25 - Anglian Water would seek to be consulted on the discharge of the DCO requirement for a surface water and drainage strategy to ensure there are no impacts on the operation of our assets, either from connections to our network or the design and location of any attenuation features.	09/07/25 – Requested requirement for Anglian Water consultation on the discharge of the DCO requirement for a surface water and drainage strategy is noted.	
Management of interfaces with Anglian Water AMP8 investment schemes including strategic interconnector pipelines and Forncett End WRC works	04/07/25 - Collaboration needed on managing interfaces through potential overlapping delivery timescales.	09/07/25 – National Grid and Anglian Water have previously engaged on future AMP8 schemes as known at the time and will continue to do so. It is noted these schemes are at various levels of development and Anglian Water are requested to keep National Grid informed as development progresses on areas interacting with Norwich to Tilbury.	
Agreeing bespoke Protective Provisions for Anglian Water for inclusion in the draft DCO	04/07/25 - There are outstanding matters that appear to be unresolved which were referred to in an email dated 15.11.2024 from Anglian Water to the Project's legal team. Anglian Water has not received any update or response to these matters.	09/07/25 – National Grid's legal representatives are considering these outstanding points. These points have been yet unaddressed due to outstanding design matters such as the potential need for diversions which would impact National Grid's response.	

6.1 Site Specific Interactions

Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid Position (including date)	Relevant documentation
Forncett End WRC	<p>04/07/25 - There are programmed investments at the Forncett End WRC to be delivered in AMP8 (2025-2030) to install infrastructure to remove Phosphorus and Nitrogen to technically achievable limits. This infrastructure is required to meet environmental obligations to address water quality in The Broads Special Conservation Area (SAC) and the nutrient pollution standards proscribed by the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act's (2023) amendments to the Water Industry Act 1991. At this early stage in the AMP, we have yet to determine the design and delivery options required to install the necessary infrastructure on site and address the engineering challenges this would present due to the existing process streams and the alignment of the final effluent culvert/outfall to the south of our site.</p> <p>Anglian Water is therefore currently unable to confirm whether the existing operational land to the south of the Forncett End WRC would need to be utilised for the AMP8 investments in nutrient removal infrastructure</p>	<p>09/07/25 - Norwich to Tilbury seeks to oversail with overhead conductor, an area of Anglian Water operational land not currently utilised but intended to be utilised during AMP8 plans. National Grid have requested further information on the intended usage of this parcel of land south of the treatment plant in order to understand if both parties may mutually co-exist.</p> <p>If deemed unable to co-exist then to compensate for the reduced operational abilities of the treatment plant due to being unable to use the southern section of land for its intended purpose, National Grid have proposed to Anglian Water to provide an alternate area of land in lieu of that of the land made inoperable within which Anglian Water could undertake the AMP8 proposed development. This area of land would be within the field immediately to the east of the treatment plant.</p> <p>Initial Anglian Water response to the proposed land swap details engineering challenges to this by way of an existing culvert/outfall they would seek to utilise within the existing parcel of operational land.</p>	

Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid Position (including date)	Relevant documentation
	<p>where the 400kV OHL over the southern area of our operational land would present increased risks and operational challenges in delivering AMP8 investments on site (for delivery by 31st March 2030) and ongoing maintenance of these assets, or if the land proposal would provide a suitable mitigation. The final effluent culvert/outfall will remain under the OHL swathe/easement as currently proposed, and therefore any maintenance or repairs to this asset would be impacted by the health and safety risks presented by high voltage power lines and the attendant costs and time this confers.</p> <p>Anglian Water will continue to progress these investment schemes through the delivery milestones, which could provide further clarity on our position in due course. The only certainty to avoid introducing significant constraints to our site, would be achieved by re-aligning the OHL so it does not cross our operational land. In any event there is likely to be an interface between the delivery of both the Norwich to Tilbury project and the installation of the nutrient removal infrastructure on site which will require further cooperation and collaboration between both</p>	<p>National Grid request to be updated as soon as further design information is known for the planned use of Forncett End WRC upgrade works.</p>	

Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid Position (including date)	Relevant documentation
	parties on matters such as access to our site and cumulative impacts on traffic and transport.		
Shenfield and Hutton WRC	04/07/25 - Proximity of OHL to WRC and risks to future operational works, enhancement, and maintenance on site. Use of the Shenfield & Hutton access track as a haul road for the Project.	09/07/25 – Further engagement with Anglian Water will be undertaken to fully understand the concerns of Norwich to Tilbury on the Shenfield and Hutton WRC.	
Ardleigh/Wick Lane Reservoir	04/0725 - Construction and operation of the OHL across the reservoir to include appropriate measures to safeguard the operation of the reservoir and take account of the Reservoir Incident Alerting Procedure through the construction stage, which could lead to the closure of Wick Lane in an emergency.	09/07/25 – National Grid seek further engagement on the site specific safeguarding measures required by Anglian Water to protect reservoir.	

7. Signatures

This Statement of Common Ground is agreed upon by the undersigned parties:

For National Grid

Name: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

For Anglian Water Services Limited

Name: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

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