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Norwich to Tilbury

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Final Issue B

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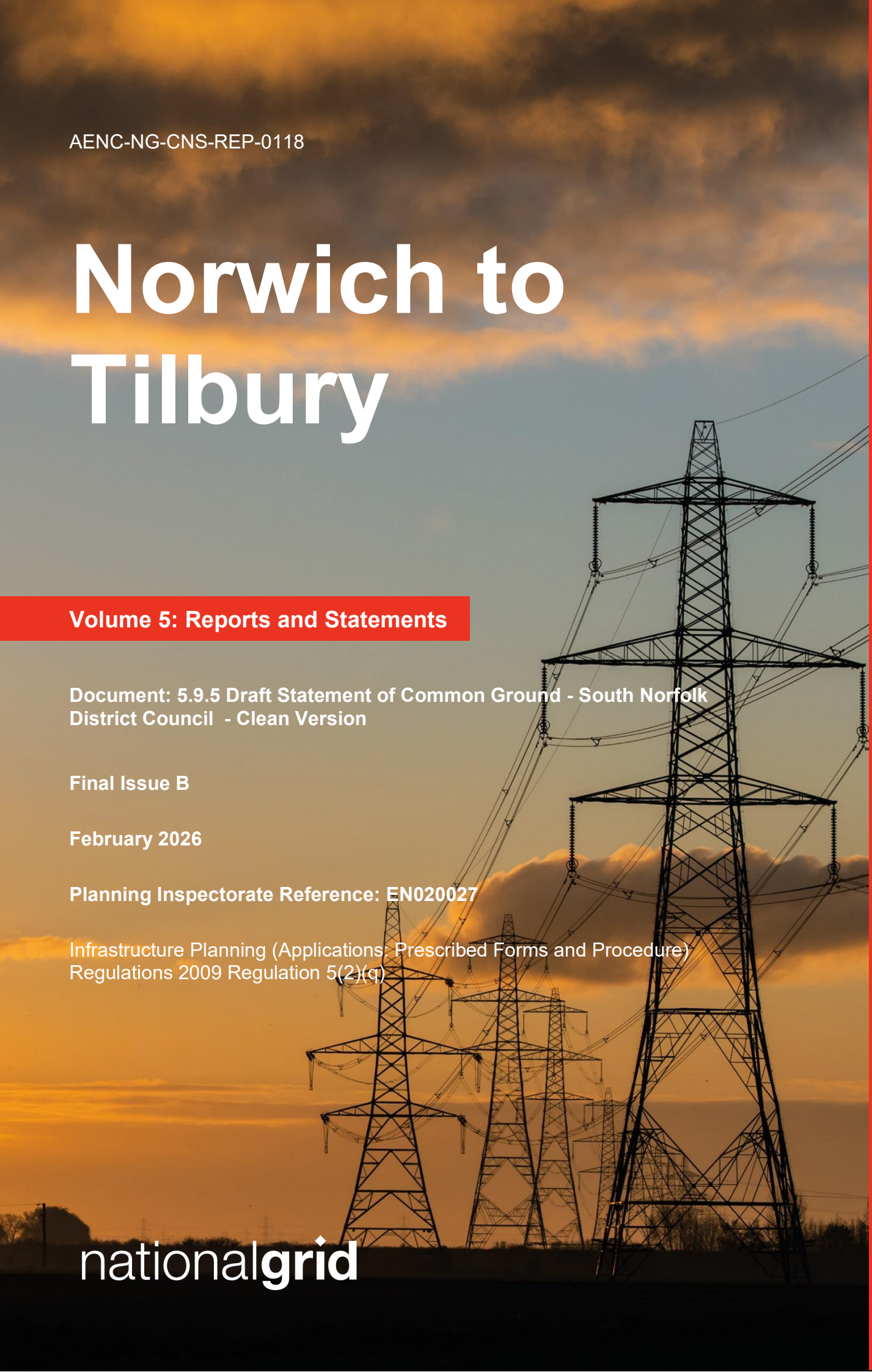

nationalgrid

Revision History

Version	Date	Submitted at
A	29 August 2025	DCO Application
B	26 February 2026	Deadline 1

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

1.1.1 This draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (referred to as National Grid within this document) and South Norfolk District Council (SNDC). It identifies areas of the Norwich to Tilbury project (the 'Project') within the Development Consent Order (DCO) application (the Application) where matters are agreed, under discussion or not agreed between the parties.

1.1.2 This SoCG has been structured to reflect topics of the Application which are relevant to SNDC. The applicable matters considered within this SoCG apply to SNDC's statutory remit. The following bullet points present the topics included in this SoCG (they are also presented in Section 3):

- Project development, description and design
- Ecology and Biodiversity
- Air Quality
- Noise and Vibration
- Health and Wellbeing
- Historic Environment
- Landscape and Visual
- Socioeconomics, Recreation and Tourism
- Cumulative Effects
- Development Consent Order Other Matters

Note: This draft SoCG has been prepared at an early phase of the DCO process, at Deadline 1. It is intended to be a live and working document which will be updated as the Project progresses and shared with South Norfolk District Council at key points for discussion. A final SoCG will be prepared ahead of the close of the DCO Examination. Unlike a final SoCG, this draft SoCG has not been officially signed by either party.

1.2 Project Description

1.2.1 The Project is a proposal by National Grid to upgrade the electricity transmission system in East Anglia between Norwich and Tilbury, comprising:

- A new 400 kilovolt (kV) electricity transmission connection of approximately 180 km overall length from Norwich Main Substation to Tilbury Substation via Bramford Substation, a new East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) Substation and a new Tilbury North Substation, including:

  - Approximately 159 km of new overhead line supported on approximately 509 pylons, either standard steel lattice pylons (approximately 50 m in height) or low height steel lattice pylons (approximately 40 m in height) and some of which would be gantries (typically up to 15 m in height) within proposed Cable Sealing End (CSE) compounds or existing or proposed substations
  - Approximately 21 km of 400 kV underground cabling, some of which would be located through the Dedham Vale National Landscape (an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB1)
- Up to seven new CSE compounds (with permanent access) to connect the overhead lines to the underground cables
- Modification works to connect into the existing Norwich Main Substation and a substation extension at the existing Bramford Substation
- A new 400 kV substation on the Tendring Peninsula, referred to as the EACN Substation (with a new permanent access). This is proposed to be an Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) substation
- A new 400 kV substation to the south of Orsett Golf Course in Essex, referred to as the Tilbury North Substation (with a new permanent access). This is proposed to be a Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation
- Modifications to the existing National Grid Electricity Transmission overhead lines to facilitate the connection of the existing network into the new Tilbury North Substation to provide connection to the Tilbury Substation
- Ancillary and/or temporary works associated with the construction of the Project.

1.2.2 In addition, third party utilities diversions and/or modifications would be required to facilitate the construction of the Project. There would also be land required for environmental mitigation and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).

1.2.3 As well as the permanent infrastructure, land would also be required temporarily for construction activities including, for example, working areas for construction equipment and machinery, site offices, welfare, storage and temporary construction access.

1.2.4 The Project would be designed, constructed and operated in accordance with applicable health and safety legislation. The Project will need to comply with design safety standards including the Security and Quality of Supply Standard (SQSS), which sets out the criteria and methodology for planning and operating the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS). This informs a suite of National Grid policies and processes, which contain details on design standards required to be met when designing, constructing and operating assets such as those proposed for the Project.

1.3 Format and Structure of this Document

1.3.1 This SoCG is structured as follows:

- **Section 2** provides a summary of the key engagement undertaken to date with SNDC
- **Section 3** summarises the key matters and captures the status of each issue / matter
- **Section 4** includes the sign off sheet

2. Record of Key Engagement

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 National Grid has engaged with SNDC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted Consultations in Spring 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular 'Thematic Group' meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and draft documentation at key stages

2.1.2 Further details on National Grid's engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

2.2 Summary of Key Engagement

2.2.1 Table 2.1 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and SNDC.

Table 2.1 Summary of key engagement between National Grid and SNDC

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2023 - Ongoing	Meeting	SNDC monthly informal catch-up meetings and ad hoc as required.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Meeting	Discussions regarding the Waveney Valley and the Waveney Valley Alternative.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for statutory consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Works In, Over and Under Watercourses technical note.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (Outline CoCP) and draft Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (Outline LEMP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultation
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the 2nd iterations of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the 2nd iteration draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop

Date	Format	Topic/Description
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Statement of Common Ground for comment.
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated draft OCoCP and OLEMP for comment.
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued Appendix D to the OLEMP - Outline Landscape Proposals
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued Appendix H to the OCoCP – Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy.
November 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2026	Meeting	Meeting to progress Statement of Common Ground
January 2026	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to DCO requirements
January 2026	Meeting	All host authority workshop
Ecology and Biodiversity		
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including SNDC.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the BNG Strategy to stakeholders including SNDC.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments on the BNG report.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the 2nd iteration of the Outline LEMP
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Arboricultural Impact Assessment.
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments on the 2nd iteration of proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
Air Quality		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the EIA Assessment, including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
June 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
July 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
August 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
September 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
October 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting – aim was to seek agreement on the Historic Environment

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		Methodology with respect to study area and assessment approach.
November 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
December 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
January 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Technical Note	National grid shared the Historic Environment Viewpoint documents and shapefiles
February 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Viewpoint Meeting to discuss proposed viewpoints
February 2025	Technical Note	National Grid shared the draft Historic Environment Baseline Report
February 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss the Heritage Baseline Report.
March 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated the Historic Environment Viewpoints information to stakeholders including SNDC.
April 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.
May 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
June 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
June 2025	Meeting	National Grid shared the Archaeological Fieldwork Summary.
July 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
August 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
September 2025	Technical note	National Grid shared Priority Geophys Prelim Grayscales with stakeholders for consideration
September 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
October 2025	Meeting	An optional thematic group meeting to discuss feedback on the Historic Environment section of the ES.
October 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting

Date	Format	Topic/Description
November 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
November 2025	Technical Note	National Grid shared shapefiles of the Phase 2 Geophysical Survey with the priority survey areas
December 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
December 2025	Technical Note	National Grid shared the WSI for the Phase 2 Geophysical Survey
January 2026	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the Historic Environment Section of the Statement of Common Ground.
January 2026	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2026	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2026	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Supplementary Environmental Information submitted to Planning Inspectorate on the geophysical survey and archaeological trial trenching completed to date with the Archaeology Working Group Stakeholders.
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	Thematic Group meeting – proposed viewpoint locations - Norfolk
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
May 2023	Meeting	EIA viewpoints meeting - Norfolk
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).

Date	Format	Topic/Description
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid responded to feedback received on viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits with SNDC and other stakeholders following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to discuss viewpoints – Norfolk.
October 2024	Meeting	Focus meeting to discuss the National Landscape.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated viewpoint information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
December 2024	Meeting	Methodology and VP discussion with Norfolk County Council and South Norfolk District Council.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology

Date	Format	Topic/Description
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
March 2025	Technical Note	National Grid issued the 3rd Socio-economics Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
September 2025	Meeting	An optional thematic group meeting to discuss feedback on the.Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism section of the ES.

3. Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion

3.1 Overview

3.1.1 This chapter details the matters relevant to SNDC which have been agreed, not agreed or are under discussion between the parties. Matters are arranged by topic (using broad headings, or EIA chapter headings where appropriate) and each matter is given a unique reference number to aid identification.

3.1.2 The red, amber, green status shows the level of agreement with SNDC. Descriptions of the different levels are summarised in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Agreement status for matters presented in Section 3

Status	Description
Not Agreed	Indicates a final position, where it has not been possible to resolve the issue to the agreement of both parties and there remains a difference of opinion.
Under Discussion	Indicates where issues are the subject of active on-going discussion.
Agreed	Indicates where an issue has been agreed or resolved satisfactorily to the agreement of both parties.

3.1.3 Engagement will continue as the Project develops and progresses through the various stages of the DCO process.

3.1.4 Sections that remain highlighted in yellow within these tables show points where both parties will seek to discuss and where possible agree a position in due course. The parties have been unable to do so at this stage because the relevant information is still being authored ahead of submission of the DCO application. These points will be the subject of ongoing discussion with stakeholders once the Environmental Statement and other relevant documentation is published.

3.1.5 Table 3.2 to Table 3.10 provides the matters agreed, not agreed or under discussion in relation to the various topics.

3.2 Project Development, Description and Design

Table 3.2 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to project development, description and design matters

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
Strategic options/needs case				
3.2.1	Needs case	Norwich to Tilbury is being proposed because the existing network in East Anglia doesn't have sufficient capacity to manage the expected (and in some cases, contracted) increase in offshore wind farms (and interconnectors) needing to connect to the grid as part of the Government's target of reaching net zero by 2050. The project sits alongside other work to reinforce and upgrade the existing network in East Anglia. Norwich to Tilbury is listed as a key project in Appendix 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report.	SNDC Response to Statutory Consultation (26/07/2024): South Norfolk District Council recognises the need for increased capacity to the existing electricity transmission networks across the Eastern Region in order to cope with the additional new energy generation from offshore windfarms, nuclear power and interconnection with other countries and particularly the significant amount of energy generation above current capacity connecting into Norwich Main and Necton. The Council equally understands that the project would assist in meeting the UK's energy ambition to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 and the Governments Clean Energy target of 2030	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
3.2.2	Project timing	Timing for the project is driven by the needs case – when offshore wind farms are contracted to connect to the UK network – the first of which are contracted to connect in 2030. National Grid is legally obliged (under our Transmission Owner License) to provide capacity at the dates formally agreed in contracts with energy generators (or customers) by NESO. Appendix 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report shows that the constraint costs associated with a delay to the project timing as being between £2.7 and £2.8 billion.	SNDC Response to Statutory Consultation (26/07/2024): Following the Independent Review commissioned by Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex County Council's which suggested that the delivery is not needed until 2035, we also have concerns regarding the timing of the proposal. SNDC acknowledges the govts Clean Power 2030 Action Plan and its mission (Dec 2024) setting out its plan for infrastructure pathways and capacity ranges, setting out the emphasis for Norwich to Tilbury to enable energy to be transmitted throughout the UK.	Under discussion
3.2.3	Onshore route	An onshore route allows for greater energy capacity and connectivity to feed into the grid. In assessing offshore options to deliver the same capacity as an onshore overhead line, we would need to build three subsea cables and associated infrastructure, which would add significant cost and not meet the needs case for Norwich to Tilbury. Updated Strategic Options and Backcheck Review documents published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial	SNDC Response to Statutory Consultation (26/07/2024): SNDC consider that a coordinated, Offshore approach would be our preferred solution, to minimise onshore infrastructure. If this is proven to be undeliverable then the Council considers that support should be given to the Undergrounding the whole route.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
		implications for alternative routes, including offshore alternatives.		
3.2.4	Predominantly overhead line route	Norwich to Tilbury has been designed in line with policy statement EN-5 (which covers the development of new energy infrastructure) which concludes that in most cases, the government expects that overhead lines will be appropriate and should be used as standard to reinforce the grid. Updated Strategic Options and Backcheck Review documents published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial implications for alternative routes, including underground alternatives. The work undertaken shows that undergrounding, including using HVDC cables, would be significantly more expensive and have environmental impacts and present engineering challenges. Due to the higher price that would be involved in an underground alternative, we do not believe that this would be the most suitable option as all costs ultimately go onto domestic energy bills.	SNDC Response to Statutory Consultation (26/07/2024): SNDC consider that a coordinated, Offshore approach would be our preferred solution, to minimise onshore infrastructure. If this is proven to be undeliverable then the Council considers that support should be given to the Undergrounding the whole route.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
Project development process - Design				
3.2.5	Waveney Valley	At statutory consultation in 2024, The Applicant presented proposals for an overhead line across the Waveney Valley, along with an underground cable alternative for community and stakeholder feedback. After considering feedback, and the findings of our ground investigation (GI) and environmental surveys, the decision was made to proceed with an overhead line in this area. This decision considered a range of factors, including potential environmental impacts, planning policy, cost to consumers and alternate installation techniques for underground cables in response to GI surveys and the Waveney and Little Ouse Recovery project. Mitigation, including landscape enhancement, will be discussed in relevant thematic group meetings with The Applicant's EIA team and South Norfolk's topic specialists.	SNDC Response to Targeted Consultations (03/03/2025): South Norfolk District Council wishes to express its significant disappointment at National Grid's decision to not pursue the undergrounding. South Norfolk District Council is of the view that there is a need to mitigate and offset the impacts of the scheme through the Waveney Valley, given that it meets, in principle, the criteria of NPS EN5 para 2.11.6. We considered that a scheme of landscape enhancement, should be used to offset (at least partially) the residual adverse impacts of the overhead lines that are now confirmed as being proposed for the Waveney Valley.	Not Agreed
Project development process - Consultation				
3.2.6	2022 non-statutory consultation	Non-statutory consultation took place between 21 April 2022 – 16 June 2022. Details of this consultation are outlined in the Consultation Strategy, and responses to feedback received during consultation are included in the Feedback Report.	SNDC agree the consultations were undertaken.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
		The non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published Consultation Strategy.		
3.2.7	2023 non-statutory consultation	Non-statutory consultation took place between 27 June 2023 – 21 August 2023. Details of this consultation are outlined in the Consultation Strategy, and responses to feedback received during consultation are included in the Feedback Report. The non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published Consultation Strategy.	SNDC agree the consultations were undertaken.	Agreed
3.2.8	2024 statutory consultation	Statutory Consultation took place from Wednesday 10 April 2024 to 26 July 2024 (the end date was extended from 18 June 2024 due to the general election.) Details of this consultation are outlined in the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). Responses to feedback received during statutory consultation are contained within the **Consultation Report [APP-066].** The statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published SoCC.	SNDC agree the consultations were undertaken.	Agreed
3.2.9	2025 targeted consultation	Targeted consultations for Norfolk took place from 30 January 2025 – 3 March 2025. Details of these consultations are outlined in the Targeted Consultation Strategy and associated targeted consultation leaflets and environmental	SNDC agree the consultations were undertaken.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
		implications of change documents. Responses to feedback received during targeted consultation are contained within the **Consultation Report [APP-066]**. The targeted consultations were undertaken in accordance with the published Targeted Consultation Strategy. The approach to targeted consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance: Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (April 2024).		
Other matters as required				

3.3 Ecology and Biodiversity

Table 3.3 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Ecology and Biodiversity

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.3.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Ecology and Biodiversity assessment is presented in **Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126]** and **Section 8.2 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026].** All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	SNDC acknowledge the assessment was undertaken in line with current legislation.	Agreed
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.3.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.3.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within **Section 8.4** of **Chapter 8** (**Ecology and Biodiversity**) of the **ES [AS-026]**. Further survey information from the 2025 season has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in November	SNDC raised concern at statutory consultation that the surveys were incomplete due to the being completed via desktop and aerial. SNDC position pending review of the updated (November 2025) version of Chapter 8 of the ES and oLEMP.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		2025, achieving coverage of 97% of the Order Limits.		
3.3.4	Assessment methodology	The assessment methodology was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The assessment methodology was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.3.5	Survey Methodology	The survey methodology was agreed through a Technical Note issued in May 2024 outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.	The survey methodology was agreed through a Technical Note issued in May 2024 outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.	Agreed
3.3.6	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Ecology and Biodiversity assessment are summarised in **Section 8.4** of **Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)** of the **ES [AS-026]**. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. The Applicant will continue to engage on this topic following SNDC review of the additional survey information.	SNDC position pending review of the updated (November 2025) version of Chapter 8 of the ES and oLEMP.	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.3.7	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Ecology and Biodiversity are presented in **Section 8.5** of **Chapter 8** (**Ecology and Biodiversity**) of the **ES [AS-026]**. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	SNDC position pending review of the updated (November 2025) version of Chapter 8 of the ES and oLEMP.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		The Applicant will continue to engage on this topic following SNDC review of the additional survey information.		
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.3.8	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Ecology and Biodiversity effects, are set out in **Section 8.6** of **Chapter 8** (**Ecology and Biodiversity**) of the **ES [AS-026]**. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. The Applicant will continue to engage on this topic following SNDC review of the additional survey information.	SNDC position pending review of the updated (November 2025) version of Chapter 8 of the ES and oLEMP.	Under discussion
3.3.9	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Ecology and Biodiversity effects during construction are summarised in **Section 8.6** of **Chapter 8** (**Ecology and Biodiversity)** of the **ES [AS-026]** and set out in the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]**. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. The Applicant will continue to engage on this topic following SNDC review of the additional survey information.	SNDC position pending review of the updated (November 2025) version of Chapter 8 of the ES and oLEMP.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
3.3.10	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in **Section 8.6** of **Chapter 8** (**Ecology and Biodiversity**) of the **ES [AS-026]**. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. The Applicant will continue to engage on this topic following SNDC review of the additional survey information.	SNDC position pending review of the updated (November 2025) version of Chapter 8 of the ES and oLEMP.	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.3.11	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in **Section 8.7** of **Chapter 8** (**Ecology and Biodiversity**) of the **ES [AS-026]**. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate. The Applicant will continue to engage on this topic following SNDC review of the additional survey information.	SNDC position pending review of the updated (November 2025) version of Chapter 8 of the ES and oLEMP.	Under discussion
3.3.12	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in **Section 8.7** of **Chapter 8** (**Ecology and Biodiversity**) of the **ES [AS-026]**. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	SNDC position pending review of the updated (November 2025) version of Chapter 8 of the ES and oLEMP.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		The Applicant will continue to engage on this topic following SNDC review of the additional survey information.		
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.3.13	Outline CoCP	The **Outline CoCP [APP-300]** includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in **Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)** of the **ES [AS-026]** and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. A meeting was held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]**. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. A meeting was held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the **Outline CoCP [APP-300].** A further iteration of the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]** was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing. The Applicant will continue to engage with SNDC on this topic.	No further comments to date on the CoCP following the meetings on 9th October 2024 and 29th January 2025, it is therefore assumed that SNBC are content with the structure of the Outline CoCP. The content of the CoCP is still under discussion.	Under Discussion
3.3.14	Outline LEMP	The Outline LEMP includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in **Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026]** and is appropriate.	SNDC in response to the 1st iteration of the oLEMP asked for each of the sections be separated for each district. SNDC in response to the 1st iteration of the oLEMP stated that the BNG hierarchy needs to be considered as part	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		A meeting was held in October to agree on the structure for the **Outline LEMP [AS-046].** A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. A meeting was held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the **Outline LEMP [AS-046**]. A further iteration of the **Outline LEMP [AS-046]** was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing. SNDC comments are noted, and the Applicant will continue to engage with SNDC on this matter. The Applicant will continue to engage with SNDC on this topic.	of the LEMP as enhancement of onsite habitats of medium, high, and very high distinctiveness would be expected to be delivered. Compensation is compulsory under the Environment Act and while BNG is expected to become statutory for NSIPs in Nov 2025, EN1 promotes its early adoption by NSIPs.	
3.3.15	Badger licenses	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025: • The Outline CoCP and OLEMP propose appropriate mitigation for badgers, with 10 setts identified in South Norfolk and 5 unavoidable across the full route. Subject to implementation, impacts on badgers under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 are not considered significant. District Level Licensing will mitigate impacts on Great Crested Newts and no other licences are anticipated at this stage. However, further ecological surveys will be required at	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
			detailed design. If reptile translocation is necessary, the receptor site must be identified, secured and maintained for the lifetime of the scheme.	
3.3.16	Vegetation removal	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025: • General authorisation to remove vegetation identified as "potentially affected" is inappropriate because it is ambiguous, too general and leaves the interpretation for National Grid's decision resulting in a lack of clarity for enforcement purposes.	
3.3.17	Replacement Planting	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025: • Impose a ten-year replacement period for failed planting, consistent with other DCOs (e.g. Hornsea Three Offshore Wind Farm Order 2020 – see requirement 9).	
Other matters as required				
3.3.18	Royden Fen CWS	The Applicant has noted these comments and this item is under discussion. At the time of writing the Applicant is investigating design options to remove Royden Fen CWS from the project Order Limits and to include a sufficient exclusion buffer from the local wildlife	SNDC stated in the statutory consultation responses that Royden Fen CWS has been incorrectly identified as being located within Suffolk. It is not clear what the overhead line mitigation works involve and it is requested that the temporary attenuation drainage is re-designed to avoid the	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		site boundary. Ways to minimise/remove potential hydrological impacts on the CWS are also being carefully considered as part of the design process. Full assessment detail for Royden Fen CWS will be included with the Ecology and Biodiversity Chapter of the Environment Impact Assessment. **Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	CWS, and a suitable buffer (works exclusion zone) provided around the CWS. The extent of hydrological impacts on the ecological interest of the CWS is of serious concern and must be clearly considered, for each CWS, within the ES. The inclusion of the CWS within the red line is contrary to EN-1 Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy which states that projects should follow the mitigation hierarchy and avoid harm. The CWS should be avoided in its entirety and a suitable buffer provided between the works area and CWS boundary. SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025 The Council acknowledges that the route has largely been designed to avoid direct impacts on statutory designated sites, including Flordon Common SSSI, Forncett Meadows SSSI, Aslacton Parish Land SSSI and Shelfanger Meadows SSSI. However, their close proximity to the works raises concerns about potential indirect impacts during construction. Roydon Fen, a County Wildlife Site, is likely to experience direct impacts. While a compensation strategy via the Waveney and Little Ouse Recovery (WaOL) Project is proposed, no justification has been provided for	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
			why avoidance or mitigation measures were not considered. This lack of explanation is unacceptable. Compensation can only be acceptable if there are no alternative means of delivering the project without the harms or routes to harm.	
3.3.19	Waveney Valley Alternative (WVA)	The Applicant has noted these comments and this item is under discussion. The Applicant has noted that the overhead line design has been taken forward in this area that would minimise ecological impacts in the Waveney Valley.	SNDC stated in the statutory consultation responses that there was concern about the ecological impacts of both the proposed overhead line and Waveney Valley Alternative and the potential for loss of irreplaceable habitats.	Under discussion
3.3.20	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	Although not currently mandatory for NSIP applications, The Applicant is committed to delivering a minimum of 10% BNG for the Norwich to Tilbury scheme. This 10% net gain will be delivered through a combination of on site and off site measures. The Applicant shared the Biodiversity Net Gain strategy with stakeholders in January 2025.	SNDC stated in the statutory consultation responses that BNG should be secured as part of the Development Consent Order and maintained for at least 30 years (if not the lifetime of the project).	Agreed
3.3.21	Draft Arboriculture Impact Assessment (AIA)	The Applicant issued the draft AIA in March 2025. SNDC comments are noted, and the Applicant will continue to engage on this matter.	Email response from Robin Taylor dated 7th May 2025: South Norfolk Council is concerned that the Arboricultural survey has identified multiple significant trees that will be compromised by the current proposals; these include several irreplaceable veteran specimens.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
			As the survey has been undertaken subsequent to the design of a route alignment, it is requested that a review is undertaken in light of the findings in order to address the first principle of mitigation – avoidance – in respect of the veteran and other most significant trees. It is disappointing the detailed survey data regarding the trees is not presented at this stage for our information.	

3.4 Air Quality

Table 3.4 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Air Quality

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.4.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Air Quality assessment is presented in **Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126]** and **Section 7.2** of **Chapter 7 (Air Quality)** of the **ES [APP-147]**. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	SNDC confirm agreement in this matter.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.4.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.4.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within **Section 7.4** of **Chapter 7 (Air Quality)** of the **ES [APP-147]**. **Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant sought information from the South Norfolk ASR 2024 data set as highlighted in **Appendix 7.2 Air Quality Baseline Data [APP-149].**	Contact has not been made with SNDC to ascertain if we have any monitoring data.	Not Agreed
3.4.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Air Quality was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The methodology for assessing Air Quality was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.4.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with Air Quality are summarised in **Section 7.4** of **Chapter 7 (Air Quality)** of the **ES [APP-147]**. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. **Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant sought information from the South Norfolk ASR 2024 data set as highlighted in **Appendix 7.2 Air Quality Baseline Data [APP-149].**	No contact has been made with SNDC to obtain our monitoring data.	Not Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.4.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Air Quality are presented in **Section 7.5** of **Chapter 7 (Air Quality)** of the **ES [APP-147]**. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. **Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant sought information from the South Norfolk ASR 2024 data set as highlighted in **Appendix 7.2 Air Quality Baseline Data [APP-149]**	No contact has been made with SNDC to obtain our monitoring data.	Not Agreed
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.4.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Air Quality effects, are set out in **Section 7.6** of **Chapter 7 (Air Quality)** of the **ES [APP-147]**. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. The Applicant notes SNDC position and will continue to engage on this matter.	The use of a haul road and avoiding population centres is standard practice for this type of development. Further embedded measures should be included, including the judicial siting of compounds and designing the proposed works to minimise air pollution.	Under discussion
3.4.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in **Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)** of the **ES [APP-147]** and set out in the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]**. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	The proposals are generally acceptable, however, the measures required at each point along the route will have to be designed in relation to the proposed works to be carried out at each location.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		The Applicant notes SNDC position and will continue to engage on this matter.		
3.4.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in **Section 7.6** of **Chapter 7 (Air Quality)** of the **ES [APP-147]**. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	As the proposed method of construction has not been stipulated at this time, SNDC cannot agree that the additional mitigation will be appropriate and adequate.	Not Agreed
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.4.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in **Section 7.7** of **Chapter 7 (Air Quality)** of the **ES [APP-147]**. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate. The Applicant notes SNDC position and will continue to engage on this matter.	This is generally accepted. However, the main contractor will have to reassess the impact once the actual construction techniques are established.	Under discussion
3.4.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in **Section 7.7** of **Chapter 7 (Air Quality)** of the **ES [APP-147]**. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	This is not in this section but is agreed.	Agreed
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.4.12	Outline CoCP	The **Outline CoCP [APP-300]** includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in **Chapter 7 (Air Quality)** of the **ES [APP-147]**. and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.	The Outline Code of Construction Practice does not list the mitigation measures it merely points to the Air Quality Chapter.	Not Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		Meeting held on October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held on January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline LEMP. A further iteration of the Outline LEMP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing. **Updated position (February 2026):** Mitigation measures are outlined in the Dust Management Plan that forms part of the Outline CoCP (**Document: 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice Appendix D - Outline Dust Management Plan [APP-304]**)		
Other matters as required				

3.5 Noise and Vibration

Table 3.5 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Noise and Vibration

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.5.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Noise and Vibration assessment is presented in **Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126]** and **Section**	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		14.2 of **Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)** of the **ES [APP-256]**. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.5.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.5.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within **Section 14.4** of **Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)** of the **ES [APP-256]**.	No monitoring has been undertaken at all to provide details of the background noise levels.	Not Agreed
3.5.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Noise and Vibration was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The methodology for assessing Noise and Vibration was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.5.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with Noise and Vibration are summarised in **Section 14.4** of **Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)** of the **ES [APP-256]**. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. **Updated position (February 2026):** Percussive piling has been assumed in the assessment as a worst-case. The use of an alternative method, where this can be done, would result in lower noise and vibration levels. Where percussive piling is required and an alternative method cannot be used, best practicable means (BPM) will be	The assessment has been based on the use of percussive piles for the foundations of the pylons while the geotechnical assessment has not been undertaken to detail which foundation method is more appropriate.	Not Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		employed to reduce effects as far as possible. Specific mitigation measures will be determined by the contractor following their detailed assessments. The contractor is committed to undertake additional detailed noise and vibration assessments based on their specific methodologies by commitment NV05 of the **Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) [APP-300]** and the **Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) [APP-306].** Additionally, the contractor(s) are committed to employing best practicable means to reduce the effects of construction noise and vibration by commitment NV01 of **the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The Outline CoCP [APP-300**] also includes a number of other related commitments.		
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.5.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Noise and Vibration are presented in **Section 14.5** of **Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)** of the **ES [APP-256]**. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. **Updated position (February 2026):** The assessment assumes that baseline noise levels are low along the route. As such, the lowest threshold for potential significant adverse effects from the 'ABC' method is used. There is therefore no need to undertake surveys. Surveys would only	The receptors have been identified but the base line noise levels have not been undertaken. The noise levels which the receptors would be subjected to has not been provided merely isolines of rough predicted noise levels.	Not Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		serve to potentially increase the threshold, where applicable. This is therefore proportionate, and worst-case.		
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.5.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Noise and Vibration effects, are set out in **Section 14.6** of **Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)** of the **ES [APP-256]**. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. **Updated position (February 2026):** The assessment does not include mitigation such that noise and vibration 'hot-spots' can be identified where mitigation is required to avoid significant adverse effects. Best practicable means (BPM) will be employed by the contractor(s) to avoid significant adverse effects and reduce adverse effects. The contractor is committed to undertake additional detailed noise and vibration assessments based on their specific methodologies by commitment NV05 of the **Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) [APP-300] and the Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) [APP-306].** Additionally, the contractor(s) are committed to employing best practicable means to reduce the effects of construction noise and vibration by commitment NV01 of the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The Outline**	The report does not propose any embedded mitigation measures as the report states that they will use BS5228 but that Main Works Contractor will decide on the proposed mitigation measures once they have done their own assessment. The vibration levels which have been chosen are mostly to stop damage to buildings rather than stopping nuisance to humans.	Not Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		CoCP [APP-300] also includes a number of other related commitments. With regards to "The vibration levels which have been chosen are mostly to stop damage to buildings rather than stopping nuisance to humans", this is incorrect. The assessment considers both potential effects on people, as well as potential damage to buildings and structures.		
3.5.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in **Section 14.6** of **Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)** of the **ES [APP-256]** and set out in the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]**. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. **Updated position (February 2026):** The assessment does not include mitigation such that noise and vibration 'hot-spots' can be identified where mitigation is required to avoid significant adverse effects. Best practicable means (BPM) will be employed be the contractor(s) to avoid significant adverse effects and reduce adverse effects. The contractor is committed to undertake additional detailed noise and vibration assessments based on their specific methodologies by commitment NV05 of the **Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) [APP-300]** and the **Outline Noise**	The report does not propose any embedded mitigation measures as the report states that they will use BS5228 but that Main Works Contractor will decide on the proposed mitigation measures once they have done their own assessment. The vibration levels which have been chosen are mostly to stop damage to buildings rather than stopping nuisance to humans.	Not Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) [APP-306]. Additionally, the contractor(s) are committed to employing best practicable means to reduce the effects of construction noise and vibration by commitment NV01 of the **Outline CoCP [APP-300].** The **Outline CoCP [APP-300]** also includes a number of other related commitments. With regards to "The vibration levels which have been chosen are mostly to stop damage to buildings rather than stopping nuisance to humans", this is incorrect. The assessment considers both potential effects on people, as well as potential damage to buildings and structures.		
3.5.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in **Section 14.6** of **Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)** of the **ES [APP-256]**. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. **Updated position (February 2026):** The assessment does not include mitigation such that noise and vibration 'hot-spots' can be identified where mitigation is required to avoid significant adverse effects. Best practicable means (BPM) will be employed be the contractor(s) to avoid significant adverse effects and reduce adverse effects. The contractor is committed to undertake additional detailed noise and vibration	The report does not propose any embedded mitigation measures as the report states that they will use BS5228 but that Main Works Contractor will decide on the proposed mitigation measures once they have done their own assessment. The vibration levels which have been chosen are mostly to stop damage to buildings rather than stopping nuisance to humans.	Not Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		assessments based on their specific methodologies by commitment NV05 of the **Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) [APP-300]** and the **Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) [APP-306]**. Additionally, the contractor(s) are committed to employing best practicable means to reduce the effects of construction noise and vibration by commitment NV01 of the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The Outline CoCP [APP-300]** also includes a number of other related commitments. With regards to "The vibration levels which have been chosen are mostly to stop damage to buildings rather than stopping nuisance to humans", this is incorrect. The assessment considers both potential effects on people, as well as potential damage to buildings and structures.		
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.5.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in **Section 14.7** of **Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)** of the **ES [APP-256]**. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate. **Updated position (February 2026):** The assessment does not include mitigation such that noise and vibration 'hot-spots' can be identified where mitigation is required to avoid significant adverse effects. Best practicable means (BPM) will be employed	The report does not propose any embedded mitigation measures as the report states that they will use BS5228 but that Main Works Contractor will decide on the proposed mitigation measures once they have done their own assessment. The vibration levels which have been chosen are mostly to stop damage to buildings rather than stopping nuisance to humans.	Not Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		be the contractor(s) to avoid significant adverse effects and reduce adverse effects. The contractor is committed to undertake additional detailed noise and vibration assessments based on their specific methodologies by commitment NV05 of the **Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) [APP-300]** and the **Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) [APP-306**]. Additionally, the contractor(s) are committed to employing best practicable means to reduce the effects of construction noise and vibration by commitment NV01 of the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The Outline CoCP [APP-300**] also includes a number of other related commitments. With regards to "The vibration levels which have been chosen are mostly to stop damage to buildings rather than stopping nuisance to humans", this is incorrect. The assessment considers both potential effects on people, as well as potential damage to buildings and structures.		
3.5.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in **Section 14.7** of **Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)** of the **ES [APP-256]**. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate. **Updated position (February 2026):** With regards to "The operation effects were assessed, but the proposed line of pylons is	The operation effects were assessed, but the proposed line of pylons is not definite and is subject to change. As such the operation effects cannot be said to be truly quantified.	Not Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		not definite and is subject to change. As such the operation effects cannot be said to be truly quantified", this is incorrect. A low noise 'triple araucaria' conductor system is proposed and committed to. Adverse effects from operational noise are not expected, even directly underneath the line. This is therefore the case irrespective of any movement within the Limits of Deviation (LoD). Although scoped out of the ES, information relating to operational noise from the overhead line is presented in **Appendix 15.5 – Operational Noise from Overhead Lines Informative [APP-261]**		
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.5.12	Outline CoCP	The **Outline CoCP [APP-300]** includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in **Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)** of the **ES [APP-256]** and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held onOctober 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held on January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline LEMP. A further iteration of the Outline LEMP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing. **Updated position (February 2026):** The contractor is committed to undertake additional detailed noise and vibration	The CoCP includes generalities with regards to mitigation measures but also states that it will be the Main Contractors role to establish the mitigation measures. Therefore, the report is unacceptable.	Not Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		assessments based on their specific methodologies by commitment NV05 of the **Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) [APP-300**] and **the Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) [APP-306].** Additionally, the contractor(s) are committed to employing best practicable means to reduce the effects of construction noise and vibration by commitment NV01 of the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]**. The **Outline CoCP [APP-300]** also includes a number of other related commitments.		
Other matters as required				
3.5.13	Percussive Piling	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1). With regards to "The project appears to rely entirely on percussive piling", this is incorrect. Percussive piling has been assumed in the assessment as a worst-case. The use of an alternative method, where this can be done, would result in lower noise and vibration levels. Where percussive piling is required and an alternative method cannot be used, best practicable means (BPM) will be employed to reduce effects as far as possible. Specific mitigation measures will be determined by the contractor following their detailed assessments.	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025 • The project appears to rely entirely on percussive piling, which is a major source of noise and vibration nuisance. No justification for this approach has been provided and critically, no geo-environmental or geotechnical investigations have been undertaken to confirm whether percussive piles are appropriate for site conditions. Without this information, the suitability of pile types cannot be established. Once pile types are confirmed, the noise and vibration assessment must be revised to reflect actual construction methods. The vibration assessment should also include impacts from construction traffic,	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		The contractor is committed to undertake additional detailed noise and vibration assessments based on their specific methodologies by commitment NV05 of the **Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) [APP-300] and the Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) [APP-306].** Additionally, the contractor(s) are committed to employing best practicable means to reduce the effects of construction noise and vibration by commitment NV01 of **the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The Outline CoCP [APP-300]** also includes a number of other related commitments.	consistent with approaches adopted in other DCOs such as Hornsea 3 Offshore Wind Farm. That assessment is currently missing.	

3.6 Health and Wellbeing

Matters relating to Health and Wellbeing will be responded to by Norfolk County Council.

3.7 Historic Environment

Comments from SNDC regarding Historic Environment relate to Built Heritage only. SNDC defer to Norfolk County Council for archaeological advice.

Table 3.6 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to the Historic Environment

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.7.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Historic Environment assessment is presented in **Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning**	SNDC confirmed their agreement on this matter during a meeting in January 2026.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		Policy Context) [APP-126] and **Section 11.2** of **Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)** of the **ES [AS-068]**. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.7.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate. The study area was also agreed through subsequent thematic group meetings where further comments were addressed.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate. The study area was also agreed through subsequent thematic group meetings where further comments were addressed.	Agreed
3.7.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within **Section 11.4** of **Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)** of the **ES [AS-068]**.	SNDC confirmed their agreement on this matter during a meeting in January 2026.	Agreed
3.7.4	Assessment methodology	The Scoping Opinion stated: "*The Applicant should make effort to discuss and agree relevant non-designated heritage assets for assessment and the detailed assessment methodology with relevant local planning authorities.*" The assessment methodology has been discussed at a number of Historic Environment Thematic Group Meetings held between July 2022 and October 2024.	SNDC confirmed their agreement on this matter during a meeting in January 2026.	Agreed
3.7.5	Key parameters and assumptions (General)	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Historic Environment assessment are summarised in **Section 11.4** of **Chapter 11 (Historic**	SNDC confirmed their agreement on this matter during a meeting in January 2026.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		Environment) of the **ES [AS-068]**. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. In March 2025, the Applicant issued an updated version of the Historic Environment (HE) Viewpoints information.		
3.7.6	Key parameters and assumptions (Viewpoints)	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Historic Environment assessment are summarised in **Section 11.4** of **Chapter 11** (**Historic Environment**) of the **ES [AS-068]**. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. In March 2025, the Applicant issued an updated version of the Historic Environment (HE) Viewpoints information. The Applicant will continue to engage on this matter.	SNDC would like to have further discussions with National Grid regarding viewpoints to aid understanding of the positioning of some of the viewpoints and the resulting visualisations.	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.7.7	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Historic Environment are presented in **Section 11.5** of **Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)** of the **ES [AS-068]**. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	SNDC confirmed their agreement on this matter during a meeting in January 2026.	Agreed
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.7.8	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Historic Environment effects, are set out in **Section 11.6** of **Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)** of the **ES [AS-068]**. Embedded mitigation is considered	SNDC does not consider this matter applicable for this topic as the nature of the activities is not going to damage assets.	Not applicable

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.		
3.7.9	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in **Section 11.6** of **Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)** of the **ES [AS-068]** and set out in the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]** The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SNDC does not consider this matter applicable for this topic.	Not applicable
3.7.10	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in **Section 11.6** of **Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)** of the **ES [AS-068]**. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. The Applicant will continue to engage regarding this matter.	Matter to remain under discussion.	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.7.11	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in **Section 11.7** of **Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)** of the **ES [AS-068]**. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	SNDC confirmed their agreement on this matter during a meeting in January 2026.	Agreed
3.7.12	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in **Section 11.7** of **Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)** of the **ES [AS-068]**. The	SNDC confirmed their agreement on this matter, with the exception of listed buildings, during a meeting in January	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate. The Applicant will continue to engage on the matter.	2026. Further discussion required regarding listed buildings.	
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.7.13	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction mitigation measures specified in **Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)** of the **ES [AS-068]** and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held on October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held on January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline LEMP. A further iteration of the Outline LEMP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.	SNDC confirmed their agreement on this matter during a meeting in January 2026.	Agreed
Other matters as required				
3.7.14	Church of All Saints	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025 • Church of All Saints, Tibbenham (1049992) – Grade I (Sections 3.2.369 & 3.2.370) – The baseline report states that the church's setting is informed by its roadside location within Tibbenham and nearby village assets. However,	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
			this underplays its prominence: the church's substantial tower is highly visible across the parish to the west, including from Manor House and Diss Road. Approaching from Mill Road, views of the tower reinforce the important status of the building within the parish. The front elevation of Manor House (1179387) appears deliberately designed with bay windows to capture views of the church across open fields. – While the report acknowledges that the setting extends to the order limits with views to the northwest, it fails to recognise the church's role as a landmark within the wider parish setting and the intervisibility between heritage assets, which will be significantly compromised by pylons and wires. Given the church's high grade and value, the impact should be assessed as moderate adverse significant of effect, equating to mid less than substantial harm, not "lower less than substantial" as currently stated.	
3.7.15	Church of Remigius	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025 • Church of Remigius (1050237) Grade I (3.2.403 & 3.2.404) – The setting is informed by "its location on the northern edge of the	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
			Waveney Valley with views over the valley to the south." For much of its history the church was set within a rural location, and although there is urban development, the aspect to the south remains rural and well preserved. The pylons and wires will have a significant and intrusive detrimental impact on the relationship of the church with its rural hinterland to the south that is well preserved, including views of the church from the Angles Way footpath. Although the assessment states that the setting makes a moderate contribution, this has taken into account the change to the rural setting to the north as part of the setting, however the setting to the south remains preserved and therefore 7 continues to make a considerable contribution to the significance of the asset as the remaining well preserved element of the setting. There is moderate adverse significant of effect and therefore significant, and the level of harm should be mid less than substantial harm.	
3.7.16	Kenningham Hall	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025 • Kenningham Hall (1373056) – Grade II (Section 3.2.472)	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
			– During the operational phase, the proximity of industrial pylons will cause a significant visual intrusion into the hall's setting, which currently makes a considerable contribution to its value. Despite some vegetation, the scale and closeness of pylons and wires will remain highly visible from all directions. The impact should not be considered moderate adverse harm and significant and thus should equate to mid less than substantial harm and not low substantial harm.	
3.7.17	Elm Farmhouse	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025 • Elm Farmhouse (1373558) – Grade II (Sections 3.2.574 & 3.2.575) – The farmhouse's setting is defined by its agricultural and rural context, which contributes considerably to its significance. The proximity of pylons and wires will substantially alter this setting, resulting in moderate adverse significant of effect and significant , not "minor adverse" as stated. The conclusion of mid less than substantial harm is appropriate. Note: Elm Farmhouse is located west of Hapton, not East.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
3.7.18	Manor House	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025 • Manor House (1179387) – Grade II – Currently assessed as "minor adverse" significant of effect and therefore not significant underestimates the importance of intervisibility with Tibbenham Church. The House's front elevation, including bay windows, appears deliberately oriented to capture views of the church tower across open fields. This design intention amplifies the significance of the relationship. The impact should be moderate adverse significance of effect, equating to mid less than substantial harm.	Under discussion
3.7.19	Flordon Hall	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025 • Flordon Hall (1050698) – Grade II* – Flordon Hall's setting is informed by its agricultural landscape and historic farmyard. Built c.1600 by the Kemp family, its E-shaped plan facing East was a conscious design statement intended to be viewed across open farmland, particularly from Long Lane.. The Tithe Map of c1840 shows the fields between Long Lane and Hall marked with K which can be	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
			taken as being owned by the Kemps and associated with the Hall. Pylons and wires, while not blocking views, will introduce a dominant presence, undermining this design intention. Given the asset's high grade and 8 significance, the harm should be considered high less than substantial harm.	

3.8 Landscape and Visual

Table 3.7 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Landscape and Visual

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.8.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Landscape and Visual assessment is presented in **Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126]** and **Section 13.2 Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226]** of the **ES**. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	SNDC acknowledge the assessment was undertaken in line with current legislation.	Agreed
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.8.2	Study area	The study area for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and the Scoping Opinion	The study area for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and the Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic workshops. A meeting was held in September 2024 to seek to agree the study area and discuss where changes had been proposed. A further meeting was held in December 2024 to follow up on any additional changes to the study area. In the meeting held in December 2024, SNDC agreed the viewpoints with the exception of the area at Waveney Valley. SNDC would want to review any further potentially significant changes to the project and be given the opportunity to consider any changes needed to the viewpoints.	and through subsequent thematic workshops. In the meeting held on 3rd December 2024, the viewpoints, with the exception of the Waveney Valley, were discussed and agreed by the representatives of NCC and SNDC. SNDC would want to review any further potentially significant changes to the project and be given the opportunity to consider any changes needed to the viewpoints.	
3.8.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within **Section 13.4** of **Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)** of the **ES [APP-226]**. The Applicant will continue to engage on this matter.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion
3.8.4	Assessment methodology (including LVIA methodology and viewpoints)	A meeting was held September 2024 to seek to agree the detailed methodology. In the meeting held in December 2024, SNDC agreed the viewpoints with the exception of the area at Waveney Valley. SNDC would want to review any further potentially significant changes to the project and be given the opportunity to consider any changes needed to the viewpoints.	The outline methodology for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic workshops In the meeting held on 3rd December 2024, the viewpoints, with the exception of the Waveney Valley, were discussed and agreed by the representatives of NCC and SNDC. SNDC would want to review any	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		The Applicant issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology in March 2025.	further potentially significant changes to the project and be given the opportunity to consider any changes needed to the viewpoints.	
3.8.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Landscape and Visual assessment are summarised in **Section 13.4** of **Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)** of the **ES [APP-226]**. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. The Applicant will continue to engage on this matter.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.8.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Landscape and Visual are presented in **Section 13.5** of **Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)** of the **ES [APP-226]**. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. The Applicant will continue to engage on this matter.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.8.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Landscape and Visual effects, are set out in **Section 13.6** of **Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)** of the **ES [APP-226]**. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		The Applicant will continue to engage on this matter.		
3.8.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Landscape and Visual effects during construction are summarised in **Section 13.6** of **Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)** of the **ES [APP-226]** and set out in the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]**. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. The Applicant will continue to engage on this matter.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion
3.8.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in **Section 13.6** of **Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)** of the **ES [APP-226]**. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. The Applicant will continue to engage on this matter.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.8.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in **Section 13.7** of **Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)** of the **ES [APP-226]**. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate. The Applicant will continue to engage on this matter.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
3.8.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in **Section 13.7** of **Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)** of the **ES [APP-226]**. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate. The Applicant will continue to engage on this matter.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.8.12	Outline CoCP	The **Outline CoCP [APP-300]** includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in **Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)** of the **ES [APP-226]** and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held inJanuary 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP. A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing. The Applicantwill continue to engage on this matter.	The content of the oCoCP is still under discussion. SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discission
3.8.13	Outline LEMP	The **Outline LEMP [APP-321]** includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in **Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)** of the **ES [APP-226]** and is appropriate.	The content of the oLEMP is still under discussion. SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		Meeting held in October 2025 to agree on the structure for the Outline LEMP. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline LEMP. A further iteration of the Outline LEMP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing. The Applicant will continue to engage on this matter.		
Other matters as required				
3.8.14	Pre-construction condition surveys	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	Relevant Representation: Paragraph 13.6.6 – LV02 proposes: "Pre-construction condition surveys will be undertaken during the construction period…" This appears contradictory and requires clarification.	Under Discussion
3.8.15	Reinstated Habitat Monitoring	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	Relevant Representation: Paragraph 13.8.1 – Reinstated habitats are proposed to be monitored for only five years. The Council requests this period be extended to 10 years, consistent with other DCOs and local planning permissions, with management continuing for the lifetime of the scheme.	Under Discussion

3.9 Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism

Table 3.8 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.9.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Socioeconomics, Recreation and Tourism assessment is presented in **Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126]** and **Section 15.2** of **Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)** of the **ES [APP-265].**	SNDC acknowledge the assessment was undertaken in line with current legislation.	Agreed
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.9.2	Study area	The Scoping Opinion stated *"The Applicant should seek to agree the study area with the relevant local authorities".* A meeting was held on November 2024 to seek to agree this point in the Scoping Opinion. During the Thematic Group Meeting (August 2023), SNDC requested further expansion to the study area proposed to capture potential employment in the wider cities, towns, and settlements as a result of the Project. It is proposed by The Applicant that West Suffolk, Norwich City Council and Ipswich Borough Council will be included in the wider study area. Following meeting held in November 2024, it was agreed that the study area for businesses was expanded from 1km-3km to	Study area was agreed through the meeting held on 14th November 2024.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		take into capture potential visual effects on businesses.		
3.9.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within **Section 15.4** of **Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)** of the **ES [APP-265].**	SNDC acknowledge the assessment was undertaken in line with current legislation.	Agreed
3.9.4	Assessment methodology	The Scoping Opinion stated *""The ES should detail the criteria used to identify businesses likely to be affected and the Applicant should seek to agree these with relevant local authorities".* A meeting was held in September 2024 to seek to agree the points raised in the Scoping Opinion. During the Thematic Group Meeting (August 2023), SNDC requested that the Project should report on significant effects on users of airfields within the ES. The Applicant responded that this would be included.	SNDC confirm their agreement on the matter and note the inclusion of the Review of the Aviation Impact in the ES as requested.	Agreed
3.9.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment are summarised in **Section 15.4** of **Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)** of the **ES [APP-265]**. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	SNDC confirm their agreement on this matter.	Agreed
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.9.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism are presented in **Section 15.5** of **Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and**	SNDC confirm their agreement on this matter.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		Tourism) of the **ES [APP-265]**. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.		
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.9.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects, are set out in **Section 15.6** of **Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)** of the **ES [APP-265]**. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion
3.9.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects during construction are summarised in **Section 15.6** of **Chapter 15 (Socioeconomics, Recreation and Tourism)** of the **ES [APP-265]** and set out in the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]**. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents. Note no document reference given to the Outline CoCP.	Under discussion
3.9.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in **Section 15.6** of **Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)** of the **ES [APP-265]**. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.9.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in **Section 15.7** of **Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)** of the **ES [APP-265]**. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	SNDC asking for clarification on the tourism assessment in the ES.	Under discussion
3.9.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in **Section 15.7** of **Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)** of the **ES [APP-265]**. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	Matter still under discussion	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.9.12	Outline CoCP	The **Outline CoCP [APP-300]** includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in **Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)** of the **ES [APP-265]**. and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP. A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.	The content of the CoCP is still under review and discussion.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
Other matters as required				

3.10 Cumulative Effects

Table 3.9 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Cumulative Effects

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.10.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Cumulative Effects assessment is presented in **Chapter 2** (**Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context**) **[APP-126]** and **Section 17.2** of **Chapter 17** (**Cumulative Effects**) of the **ES [APP-281]**. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	SNDC confirm their agreement on this matter.	Agreed
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.10.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.10.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within **Section 17.4** of	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		Chapter 17 (**Cumulative Effects**) of the **ES [APP-281]**.		
3.10.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Cumulative Effects was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The methodology for assessing Cumulative Effects was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.10.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Cumulative Effects assessment are summarised in **Section 17.4** of **Chapter 17** (**Cumulative Effects**) of the **ES [APP-281]**. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.10.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Cumulative Effects are presented in **Section 17.5** of **Chapter 17** (**Cumulative Effects**) of the **ES [APP-281]**. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	SNDC confirm their agreement on this matter. .	Agreed
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.10.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Cumulative Effects, are set out in **Section 17.6** of **Chapter 17** (**Cumulative Effects**) of the **ES [APP-281]**. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
3.10.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Cumulative Effects during construction are summarised in **Section 17.6** of **Chapter 17** (**Cumulative Effects**) of the **ES [APP-281]** and set out in the **Outline CoCP [APP-300]**. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents. Note	Under discussion
3.10.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in **Section 17.6** of **Chapter 17** (**Cumulative Effects**) of the **ES [APP-281]**. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.10.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in **Section 17.7** of **Chapter 17** (**Cumulative Effects**) of the **ES [APP-281]**. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion
3.10.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in **Section 17.7** of **Chapter 17** (**Cumulative Effects**) of the **ES [APP-281]**. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	SNDC position pending full review of the ES documents.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.10.12	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in **Chapter 17** (**Cumulative Effects**) of the **ES [APP-281]** and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held on 9th October to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP. A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.	The content of the CoCP is still under review and discussion.	Under discussion
Other matters as required				
3.10.13	Large-scale energy infrastructure	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025: • The Council notes a concentration of large-scale energy infrastructure proposals and consents within South Norfolk and the wider Norwich area, including: – Tasway Energy Park – 700MW Solar and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) NSIP (Phase One consultation ongoing). – East Pye – 500MW Solar and BESS NSIP (formal submission anticipated in the New Year).	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
			– Consented and proposed TCPA renewable energy schemes around Norwich Main and along the proposed pylon route. – Orsted Hornsea Project Three Offshore Windfarm NSIP cable routes and converter station northwest of Norwich Main; – Equinor Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm Extension Projects (SEP and DEP) cable routes and converter station south of Norwich Main	
3.10.14	Existing pylon network	**Updated position (February 2026):** The Applicant provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025: • The existing network of pylons running from Norwich into Suffolk already imposes a significant visual presence. The proposed Project will introduce an additional line of pylons in close proximity to the existing network, resulting in two parallel lines dominating the rural landscape. This raises serious concerns regarding: – Harm to rural character and visual amenity; – Adverse effects on the setting of heritage assets.	Under discussion
3.10.15	Existing Infrastructure	**Updated position (February 2026):** National Grid provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant	SNDC provided the following comments in the relevant representations on 27th November 2025:	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	SNDC's Position	Status
		representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	The Council is concerned that the cumulative effect of these Projects, together with existing infrastructure, will result in: Landscape and Heritage Harm as a result of industrial-scale infrastructure incompatible with rural character; Ecological Impact as a result of potential loss of habitats and biodiversity. Community Disruption due to noise, disturbance and disruption during construction and operation phases; Economic Consequences due to negative impacts on local businesses and tourism e.g. South Norfolk with its Market Towns of Diss, Harleston, Loddon and Wymondham; numerous Heritage assets including medieval churches; the Waveney Valley; Boudicca Way; museums; walking and cycling routes which provide a rich tourism/visitor offer. Any reduction in visitor numbers due to disruption or diminished attractiveness of the area will negatively affect hospitality, retail and cultural sectors.	

3.11 Development Consent Order

The matters below are still under discussion between both parties.

Table 3.10 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Development Consent Order

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	South Norfolk District Council's Position	Status
3.11.1	DCO Requirements	National Grid provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	Refer to SNDC relevant representation	Under discussion
3.11.2	DCO Wording	National Grid provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1)	Refer to SNDC relevant representation	Under discussion
Other matters as required				

3.12 Other Matters

4. Confirmation of Agreement

The above SoCG is agreed between National Grid and South Norfolk District Council on the date specified below.

Signed for and on behalf of National Grid:

……..……

Date:

……..……

Signed for and on behalf of South Norfolk District Council:

……..……

Date:

……..……

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Reference
AIL	Abnormal Indivisible Loads
AIS	Air Insulated Switchgear
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BNG	Biodiversity Net Gain
CoCP	Code of Construction Practice
CSE	Cable Sealing End
CTMP	Construction Traffic Management Plan
DCO	Development Consent Order
EACN	East Anglia Connection Node
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ES	Environmental Statement
GI	Ground Investigation
GW	Gigawatt
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
NCR	National Cycle Route
NETS	National Electricity Transmission System
NPSs	National Policy Statements
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
PRoW	Public Right of Way
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SNDC	South Norfolk District Council
SPZ	Source Protection Zone
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

Abbreviation	Full Reference
ZoI	Zone of Influence
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

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