

Norwich to Tilbury - Anglian Water Written Representation - Deadline 1

Interested Party Reference number: [REDACTED]

Anglian Water is the statutory sewerage undertaker for the entire order limits covered by the Norwich to Tilbury grid upgrade (the Project), and the statutory water undertaker for sections of the Order Limits within Norfolk, part of Mid Suffolk district and Babergh district (Suffolk), and within Essex, areas covered by Colchester City Council, and parts of Braintree district.

Following a review of the draft DCO and associated application documents submitted for examination, our Relevant Representation [RR-0216] outlined the principal areas we identified in terms of outstanding matters to be addressed through the examination.

PROTECTIVE PROVISIONS

A copy of Anglian Water's template Protective Provisions was supplied to the Project Team and their legal representatives through the pre-application period. Anglian Water has welcomed further discussion with the Applicant through the pre-examination period, to include our bespoke Protective Provisions under 'Schedule 16 Protective Provisions' of the Draft Development Consent Order (DCO) [APP-056] to ensure that the necessary protections and measures are undertaken in discussion with Anglian Water when the Project moves forward to delivery. These are substantively agreed between both parties.

Anglian Water will therefore maintain our objection to the inclusion of the 'standard' set of protective provisions for the benefit of statutory electricity, gas, water and sewerage undertakers contained in the draft DCO (Schedule 16 Part 1), until such time as bespoke Protective Provisions for the protection of Anglian Water are agreed. The Applicant has confirmed that it is the intention that an agreed set of Protective Provisions will be set within the draft DCO.

DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

Engagement between Anglian Water and National Grid Energy Transmission (the Applicant) up to the point of submission, and outstanding matters for further discussion are outlined in the draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) [APP-113] submitted with the DCO application. This is further referenced in Document 5.8 Potential Main Issues for Examination [APP-087] which identifies PMI5 Impacts on Statutory Undertakers and reflects the ongoing discussions with Anglian Water to resolve outstanding issues.

Anglian Water has continued to engage with the Applicant throughout the intervening pre-examination period which has included further technical meetings on targeted issues of concern, and these continue to be progressed. It is noted in the Rule 8 Letter that updated SoCGs are required at the mid-examination point, at Deadline 4. We will continue to progress outstanding matters with the Applicant in the intervening period to assist in facilitating the updated draft SoCG with Anglian Water at Deadline 4, with final signed/dated SoCGs expected by Deadline 7.

INTERACTIONS WITH ANGLIAN WATER ASSETS

There are a substantial number of interfaces between the Project and our existing assets - both above ground and underground. This includes the access, maintenance, operation and expansion of our water recycling centres (WRC), which may be compromised by the construction and operation of the Project, and may present risks to operational safety.

Whilst the Project has not currently identified any diversions of Anglian Water assets, this remains a point for discussion as part of the clash detection assessment that is being undertaken. Other measures may be required, including utilities protection works when further assessment has been undertaken - including cathodic protection of our assets as a result of AC Interference./

Further discussion between Anglian Water and the Applicant may require specific mitigation measures to be identified and addressed through the DCO. For example, the interface with Anglian Water's Fornsett End water recycling centre (WRC) as identified on Figure 4.1 - Project Description - Proposed Project Design Section A Page 5 of 63 [APP-133] both has a bearing on the safe operation of our site, as the limits of deviation for the overhead line extend over part of the site infrastructure, and presents challenges for delivering environmental upgrades planned for the site by 31 March 2030. This matter is addressed in the draft SoCG and discussions will continue on whether a mutually agreeable outcome can be achieved.

PROGRAMMED INVESTMENT SCHEMES

Interfaces between the Project and our programmed investment schemes for delivery in Asset Management Period 8 (AMP8 2025-2030) include strategic water mains and schemes to meet environmental obligations at our water recycling centres - these are intended to support growth in our region and protect the environment. Our investments and obligations are subject to delivery by defined dates by our regulators and therefore may result in fines if not delivered on time. The designs for these AMP8 projects are being progressed, which requires detailed evaluation of risks, opportunity and value through a programmed decision making process.

Anglian Water is committed to constructive engagement with the Applicant to facilitate collaboration on the delivery of our projects that have a high probability of entering into the delivery phase through the construction period for the Norwich to Tilbury Project. We have shared details with the Applicant to indicate routes and potential design options. These interfaces cannot be avoided and we will seek to collaborate and manage delivery in a coordinated way, wherever possible.

We welcome the requirement for a report on the interrelationships with other projects, to be submitted by the applicant by Deadline 1 outlined in Appendix F2 of the Rule 6 Letter and confirmed in the Rule 8 Letter. Whilst this primarily addresses nationally significant infrastructure projects and major planning applications, the Applicant has also been made aware of infrastructure projects Anglian Water is bringing forward as identified investments in our Business Plan for Asset Management Period 2025-2030 (AMP8), which will interface with the Norwich to Tilbury Project. These projects may be delivered under permitted development rights and our own statutory powers, however, we will need to submit a request for an EIA screening opinion for more substantial schemes that may require planning consent.

WATER RESOURCES

There are implications for the demand for water resources (particularly non-domestic water) through the construction phase of the project - the availability of which has not been agreed. It is currently assumed that the water supply needs of the project will be sourced from mains supply or tankered in [ES Chapter 4 Project Design APP-130] and [ES Chapter 12 Hydrology Land Drainage and Flood Risk APP-221].

Anglian Water has adopted a 'Non-Domestic Water Requests Policy' which states that requests for non-domestic water will be declined. However, for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects that are of non-domestic water (e.g. for construction processes) for a scheme, a Water Resources Assessment (WRA) will be completed. This is so we can better understand water demands, water efficiency and water supply requirements so that they do not compromise our ability to supply domestic water to households and businesses. This will help enable us to support projects that help achieve national net zero carbon and unlocking sustainable growth. It is noted in Document 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) that a water connections agreement for the supply of mains water will be required from the relevant water company (Table 5.1). Anglian Water has advised the Applicant of the need to submit a WRA to determine whether sufficient non-domestic water will be available in principle to supply temporary construction compounds and construction works that will require more than 20m³/day. The WRA template is with the Applicant to complete following further discussion on this matter. Once completed, our internal process can review the needs and determine whether sufficient non-domestic water supply can be made available.

If non-domestic water supply is not agreed within the examination period, Anglian Water would request the draft DCO includes a requirement for a water resources assessment to be submitted to the LPA in consultation with the Environment Agency and relevant water company before construction progresses.

SURFACE WATER AND FOUL DRAINAGE

Document 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) [APP-300] states that no intentional discharge of site run-off to watercourses, drains, including highways drainage systems, or sewers without appropriate treatment and agreement of the appropriate authority (GG22 and GG32). The Outline CoCP also indicates that a SWMP has not been prepared because the detailed design is not known [APP-300 para. 6.1.16].

Anglian Water would seek to ensure we are consulted as a drainage authority on a Surface Water Management Plan to discharge a related requirement in the draft DCO. This is because the supplemental powers [Part 4 paragraph 20 - APP056] include the discharge of water to any public sewer. There is no secured commitment for provision of a detailed Surface Water Management Plan to be prepared by the appointed contractor, listed under Schedule 3 Requirements of the draft DCO. Anglian Water recommends that this is included to ensure we are appropriately consulted and there are no unintended consequences in relation to the operation of our assets.

BOOK OF REFERENCE

Anglian Water seeks confirmation that the Book of Reference [APP-064] will include reference to all our land interests within the Project order limits. Our relevant representation identified that a right of way to one of our pumping stations and a deed granting Anglian Water the right to lay and maintain a sewer were not referenced.