

AENC-CAM-CNS-REP-0009

Norwich to Tilbury

Volume 9: Change Application

**Document: 9.10 Proposed Change Application 2: Consultation Report
- Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) (CA2)**

Final Issue CA2

March 2026

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020027

nationalgrid

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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 On 29 August 2025, National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (the Applicant) submitted an application to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to authorise the construction and operation (and maintenance) of the proposed upgrade to the electricity transmission system in East Anglia between Norwich and Tilbury (the Project).
- 1.1.2 The Application for the Project was accepted for Examination by the Planning Inspectorate on 26 September 2025 and has been allocated the reference number EN020027. The Examination of the Project commenced on 10 February 2026 and is expected to close on 10 August 2026.

1.2 The Project

- 1.2.1 The Project comprises reinforcement of the transmission network between the existing Norwich Main Substation in Norfolk and Tilbury Substation in Essex, via Bramford Substation, the new East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) Substation and the new Tilbury North Substation.
- 1.2.2 The reinforcement is needed because the existing transmission network, even with current upgrading, will not have sufficient capacity for the new renewable energy (a substantial proportion of which would be generated by offshore wind) that is expected to connect to the network over the next 10 years and beyond. Completion of the Project, together with other new reinforcements across the county, will meet this future energy transmission demand both in East Anglia and across the UK.
- 1.2.3 The Project comprises:
- 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 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 (AONB)¹)

¹ National Landscape is the rebranded name of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) from 22 November 2023

- 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.

1.2.4 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).

1.2.5 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.

1.2.6 A detailed description of the Project is included in Environmental Statement (ES) Chapter 4: Description of the Proposed Project [APP-130].

1.3 Proposed Change Application 2

1.3.1 Following submission of its DCO application, the Applicant has continued engagement with stakeholders. As a result of this engagement, the Applicant is proposing to incorporate a design change into the Project (Change Request 2 (Little Bromley)). The change applies to a very discrete geographical area of the Project, and as a consequence, the vast majority of the Project will remain entirely unchanged.

1.3.2 The Applicant issued **9.2 Notification of proposed change to DCO application – Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) [AS-050]** to the Examining Authority (ExA) on 12 December 2025 which set out the Applicant’s intention to make a proposed design change (Changes Request 2 (Little Bromley)) to the DCO application. Details of Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) are provided below. The ExA responded to the notification **[AS-050]** on 19 December 2025 **[PD-008]**. The Applicant replied to the ExA’s response on 24 December 2025 **[AS-051]**.

1.3.3 The Applicant subsequently undertook consultation on the proposed changes and refined them based on feedback and ongoing investigations.

1.3.4 This document has been submitted to support Proposed Change Application 2 for Change Request 2 (Little Bromley). Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) relates to an amendment to the Order Limits in order to support a small modification to the route of the Applicant’s construction access (for use when a third-party access is not

available) and a further small modification to the route for the private permanent Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) access route. The amendments respond to further engagement with landowners and are intended to reduce temporary and permanent impacts on land uses. Further details about Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) are provided below.

- 1.3.5 On 27 March 2026 the Applicant formally submitted Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) seeking the ExA's consent to incorporate the proposed change into the DCO application currently under examination. This Consultation Report forms part of that submission.
- 1.3.6 In parallel to the submission of Proposed Change Application 2, the Applicant has also submitted a separate application (Proposed Change Application 1) for a separate design change (Change Request 1 (Bulphan)). Details relating to Proposed Change Application 1 are included in separate application documents submitted by the Applicant to the ExA on 27 March 2026.

1.4 Description of Change Request 2 (Little Bromley)

- 1.4.1 The Applicant is proposing a change to the alignment of the construction access and permanent access routes for the East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) substation that seeks to address comments from landowners. This design change is referred to as 'Change Request 2 (Little Bromley)'. The change proposed applies to a very discrete geographical area of the Project and, as a consequence, the vast majority of the Project will remain entirely unchanged.
- 1.4.2 The Project's proposed access arrangement to the proposed East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) substation ("Proposed Route") will use a route passing to the south of Little Bromley, Essex.
- 1.4.3 The strategy for access to the EACN is detailed in Section 5.7.10 of the **7.3 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) [APP-309]**.
- 1.4.4 The Proposed Route would potentially serve as access during both the construction and operational phase of the Project.
- 1.4.5 Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) would involve two modifications to the Proposed Route:
- First, a section of the Proposed Route nearest to Bentley Road is realigned to the south, for the permanent access relating to AILs during the operational phase of the Project. The need for a permanent AIL route is to ensure supply standards for the connection are met in the future (by allowing replacement of any component at short notice).
 - Second, to the north-west of the first modification, the Proposed Route for both construction and operational vehicles is changed to generally follow the alignment of the Proposed Route presented at statutory consultation between 10 April and 26 July 2024.
- 1.4.6 In both cases, the modifications respond to feedback from, and ongoing detailed discussions with, affected landowners in order to secure an operational access arrangement that meets the Project need whilst also facilitating ongoing land management.

- 1.4.7 The first modification (concerning the AIL arrangement) is intended to minimise the effects of the Project on future arable cropping. The second modification ensures that the Proposed Route more closely follows field boundaries.
- 1.4.8 Additionally, precautionary amendments to existing wood pole supported infrastructure that cross the proposed access route modification is accommodated as part of this change (i.e uplifting UKPN assets).
- 1.4.9 The proposed change is shown on the plans within **Proposed Change Application 2: Book of Plans – Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) [document reference 9.14]**.
- 1.4.10 The Applicant has undertaken a review of the proposed change against all topics forming part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to determine whether the proposed change would result in any new or different likely significant environmental effects to those reported in the Environmental Statement. The review consulted that the proposed change (either individually or in combination with Change Request 1 (Bulphan)) is not likely to affect the overall assessment and conclusions with respect to the likely significant effects presented within the ES **[APP-123 to APP-287, AS-026 and AS-068]**. Further information on the likely effects of the proposed change is included within **Proposed Change Application 2: Addendum to Environmental Statement - Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) [document reference 9.12]**.
- 1.4.11 The proposed change is not considered to affect compliance of the Project with planning policies detailed in the Planning Statement **[APP-085]** and Policy Compliance Document **[APP-086]**.

1.5 Purpose of this report

- 1.5.1 This Consultation Report has been prepared by the Applicant to support Proposed Change Application 2 for Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) to the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the Norwich to Tilbury Project (the Project).
- 1.5.2 The report outlines the consultation activities undertaken by the Applicant before submitting Proposed Change Application 2, summarises the feedback received, and explains how this input has been considered.
- 1.5.3 This report has been prepared having regard to the Planning Inspectorate’s (2024) advice: Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Changes to an application after it has been accepted for examination (PINS Guidance 2024). It also reflects the advice provided by the Examining Authority (ExA) in its correspondence dated 19 December 2025 **[PD-008]**. Details of how the Applicant had regard to the ExA’s comments on its consultation approach is set out in Table 5.1 in Proposed Change Application 2: **Overview Report - Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) (document reference 9.6)**.

1.6 Overview of the consultation

- 1.6.1 Prior to submitting Change Request 2 (Little Bromley), the Applicant has carried out proportionate consultation on the proposed changes in accordance with PINS Guidance 2024.

- 1.6.2 In line with the PINS Guidance 2024, this Consultation Report:
- Confirms who has been consulted in relation to the proposed change and explains how and why they have been consulted;
 - Includes details of how the Applicant has considered the content of the consultation responses received; and
 - Includes copies of all consultation responses received, including any responses to publicity about the proposed changes.
- 1.6.3 During this targeted consultation for Proposed Change Application 2, the Applicant also ran a parallel but geographically separate consultation on another Proposed Change Application (Proposed Change Application 1 - Bulphan).

1.7 Structure of this report

- 1.7.1 This Consultation Report is structured as follows:
- Section 1 introduces the report and explains its purpose.
 - Section 2 describes the approach taken by the Applicant to consult on the proposed changes and outlines how this consultation aligns with relevant guidance.
 - Section 3 summarises the feedback received during the consultation and details how the Applicant has considered this input.
 - Section 4 presents the conclusions drawn from the consultation process.

1.8 Data protection

- 1.8.1 The Applicant is aware that this Consultation Report will be published on the Planning Inspectorate's website. To ensure that it complies with the Data Protection Act 2018, it has avoided the inclusion of personal data relating to individuals, such as names and addresses.

2. Approach to consultation

2.1 Approach

2.1.1 The Applicant aims to ensure effective, inclusive, and meaningful engagement with the local community, statutory and other consultees, and interested parties as reflected in its Stakeholder, Community and Amenity Policy² which incorporates The Applicant's Schedule 9 Electricity Act 1989 Statement relating to the preservation of amenity. It makes the following commitments to consultation when undertaking electricity works:

'We will promote genuine and meaningful stakeholder and community engagement. We will meet and, where appropriate, exceed the statutory requirements for consultation or engagement. We will adopt the following principles to help us meet this commitment:

- *we will seek to identify and understand the views and opinions of all the stakeholders and communities who may be affected by our works;*
- *we will provide opportunities for engagement from the early stages of the process, where options and alternatives are being considered and there is the greatest scope to influence the design of the works;*
- *we will endeavour to enable constructive debate to take place, creating open and two-way communication processes;*
- *we will ensure that benefits, constraints and adverse impacts of proposed works are communicated openly for meaningful stakeholder and community comment and discussion. We will be clear about any aspects of the works that cannot be altered;*
- *we will utilise appropriate methods and effort in engaging stakeholders and communities, proportionate to the scale and impact of the works; and*
- *we will provide feedback on how views expressed have been considered and the outcomes of any engagement process or activity'.*

2.1.2 Building on the consultation and engagement approach established during the pre-application stage, the Applicant has applied these principles, together with the Planning Inspectorate's guidance, to shape its consultation on the proposed changes.

2.1.3 A consultation strategy was prepared and shared with the Local Planning Authorities Tendring District Council and Essex County Council on 18 December 2026. Table 2.1 outlines the feedback shared on the strategy, and how The Applicant has responded to this.

² nationalgrid.com/electricitytransmission/document/81026/download

Table 2.1 Feedback provided by Essex County Council and Tendring District Council on the consultation strategy and the Applicant's response

LPA	Comment	The Applicant's Response	Action taken
Essex County Council	Of concern, however, is the absence of any in person event. This is a serious omission. While the use of digital channels for communication is to be encouraged, it cannot be assumed that all sections of the community have the same level of access to the relevant technology. It is therefore requested that in the interests of accessibility and fairness, at least one in person event is scheduled for each targeted consultation. This meeting would also need to be at a time when residents will be able to attend i.e. evening / weekend. It is noted that the proposed Consultation Strategy is offering in person to Cllr / MP's who are likely to be a more digitally able audience.	<p>We will hold a public information event for each change to give residents another option to view the proposals and speak to members of the Project team about the proposed changes. These will be held in venues close to the proposed changes.</p> <p>The locations, dates and times are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulphan Village Hall, RM14 3RU - Wednesday 28 January 2026, 11am-4pm • Great Bromley Village Hall, CO7 7JA - Thursday 29 January, 12 noon-5pm <p>The dates, locations and times were selected as a result of venue size, accessibility, suitability and availability.</p>	Amended in the strategy.
Essex County Council	The Change Request Application Consultation Strategy is dated January 2025. I think this should read January 2026	The strategy is now dated January 2026.	Amended in the strategy.
Essex County Council	The web address / link in Section 1 (3rd paragraph) directs you to the N2T Document Library. It is considered the address should take you directly to the document. For those unfamiliar with the PINS website, it could be difficult to navigate and find the correct document which could prove a significant barrier to engagement;	We have changed the address to direct to the main Consultation Report. We have also added a link to the PDF for the online version.	Amended in the strategy.
Essex County Council	Confirmation is required on whether there will be links provided in the document for those receiving digital communication to connect to the	We have added links to websites in the PDF version for those who receive digital communication.	Amended in the strategy.

LPA	Comment	The Applicant's Response	Action taken
	appropriate documents and information;		
Essex County Council	In Section 1 (7 th paragraph) it might be helpful to reference the source of the extracted text to confirm that it has been taken from the Guidance referred to	The guidance is from a government website rather than a published document, so we cannot add paragraph references. However, we have provided a website and link to the guidance as a footnote to allow easy navigation.	Amended in the strategy.
Essex County Council	In Section 1 (11 th Paragraph), in the interests of clarity, is it worth stating that PINS have confirmed consultation on the Change Request can proceed but without prejudice to any final decision on the acceptability of the change requests	We have amended the strategy to include a statement that the Planning Inspectorate has confirmed that consultation may proceed, without prejudice to its final decision on the change requests.	Amended in the strategy.
Essex County Council	There is no reference to how this strategy links to the principles for consultation contained in the Statement of Common Ground	We understand this may relate to the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). We have amended the strategy to refer to the principles and methods set out in the SoCC alongside the requirements of the Planning Act.	Amended in the strategy.
Essex County Council	In Section 3, the Strategy refers to stakeholders being written to about the proposed change. For consistency, reference should be made to residents and stakeholders as the term 'residents' has been used elsewhere in the document	We have amended Section 3 of the strategy to include explicit reference to residents.	Amended in the strategy.
Essex County Council	It is noted that the strategy refers to briefings being offered to MP's / Cllrs: are you able to confirm that National Grid will be proactive by writing to all MPs/ Councils in constituencies affected as they did previously in line with commitments in the SoCC	Yes, we can confirm that we will write to MPs and ward councillors where changes fall into their constituency or ward at the beginning of consultation, in line with previous commitments in the SoCC.	No change needed.

LPA	Comment	The Applicant's Response	Action taken
Essex County Council	In Section 6, it is assumed the feedback will be in the form of an Addendum to the consultation report submitted as part of the DCO application	The two Consultation Reports produced as a result of these consultations will be separate documents submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of our two Change Applications, rather than as an addendum to the Consultation Report submitted in 2025.	No change needed.
Essex County Council	The draft strategy is silent on the approach to hard-to-reach groups other than a reaffirmation of a digital first approach and a comment to consider any requests for the consultation materials to be provided in a different format. A restatement of the principle outlined in the SoCC should be considered. Furthermore, in respect of part 5. Accessibility, it is hoped that lessons learnt and prior experience of the needs to communities will be reflected in the accessibility arrangements to maximise engagement opportunities for all communities	This point is currently covered on page four - column two, bullet one	Covered by the strategy - no change needed.
	In respect of the Consultation Report referred to in part 6, it is questioned whether this will be submitted as an addendum or by an amended version of the current Consultation Report. Any amendments made to the Consultation Report must be clear and tracked	As above, the two Consultation Reports produced as a result of these consultations will be separate documents submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of our two Change Applications, rather than as an addendum to the Consultation Report submitted in 2025.	No change needed.
	In respect of the Zone Map of consultation, it is requested that the property at 3 Church Road is included – please see the attached which identifies the property in question. It is possible this is a site for a new development under construction	We have amended the consultation zone to include the property listing at that site on Church Road. We believe it is a previous building which has been demolished, rather than a new development under construction.	Amended in the strategy.

LPA	Comment	The Applicant's Response	Action taken
	request that we receive early notice of the date for the community newsletter or any other publicity where you intend to announce the targeted consultation. This would be appreciated so that we can ensure Councillors are briefed before the targeted consultation become public	As separately notified, an advert and notice will be appearing in local and national papers on 15 January. The newsletter will land separately early in the targeted consultation period.	No change needed.
Tendring District Council	Tendring District Councils' overarching view is that the strategy appears to closely follow PINS' advice on post-acceptance changes ("Changes to an application after it has been accepted for examination"), which requires targeted consultation of those affected, including a 28-day response window. It is important for National Grid to ensure that this 28-day period will be clearly explained in all communications to recipients	The dates of consultation are clear in all the consultation materials – including the leaflets, letters, feedback form (online and paper copy), and website. The consultation will run for 32 days.	No change needed.
Tendring District Council	Section 42 consultation is a statutory duty. While the approach of focusing on affected properties is reasonable, it must be accompanied by explicit justification, for example clarify why certain prescribed consultees (e.g., local authorities, statutory bodies) are included or excluded, and identify any newly prescribed bodies affected by the change (e.g., new landowners), and explain why they were or were not approached	Point noted. The letters/materials are clear about what is being consulted on.	No change needed.
Tendring District Council	TDC welcome the commitment to inclusive materials including freepost questionnaires, leaflets, media and parish outreach and we encourage the addition of non-digital channels (e.g., community drop-ins) to catch	We will be holding public events and will have materials available at 'deposit locations' - local libraries - as well as posting them out to local residents. People can request information via our hotline and email address too.	Amended in the strategy.

LPA	Comment	The Applicant's Response	Action taken
	those not online or easily reachable		
Tendring District Council	You will be aware that PINS strongly encourages clear explanation of how feedback is handled and how it will (or will not) influence design; an effective feedback loop is therefore essential (and unfortunately an element that has been lacking at times).	Point noted. The Consultation Reports for both changes will set out feedback has been considered and responded to. Previous Consultation Reports – including the report submitted as part of our DCO application set out how we have considered and responded to feedback.	No change needed.
Tendring District Council	You may be considering this already (not entirely clear in your strategy) however TDC encourages National Grid to consider including (in the strategy): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How responses will be categorised and evaluated, • How that analysis will be transparently reported, • And how feedback may drive further refinements. 	As per the above, both Consultation Reports will set out how feedback has been assessed and responded to. This approach is described in Section 6 of the strategy.	No change needed.
Tendring District Council	Please also ensure that consultation documents clearly present both the originally consented scheme and the proposed change, including maps, environmental implications, and rationale, for example side-by-side comparisons will aid consultees' understanding and meaningful response	The leaflets and EICs include maps of the submitted proposals and the change we are consulting on, environmental implications are compared.	No change needed.
Tendring District Council	Whilst the 30-day period is compliant, it will be helpful for Grid to confirm (in the final consultation strategy): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The publication date of all consultation materials, • The date letters will be issued, 	Publication date of materials and the official deadline are contained within all the consultation materials. Consultation will run from noon on Monday 19 January until 11:59pm on Monday 23 February.	No change needed.

LPA	Comment	The Applicant's Response	Action taken
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> And the official deadline—so consultees can respond confidently. 	We have not added the dates to the strategy as it is not designed to advertise the consultation. Other documents/materials are designed to do this.	
Tendring District Council	<p>The strategy cites precedent for making minor post-acceptance changes—this will be useful and helpful (for context) especially for our affected communities and concerned residents.</p> <p>It would be useful to briefly reference an earlier Norwich to Tilbury change (or similar NSIP) as a precedent in terms of scale and consultation approach.</p>	We recommend looking at the approach and materials developed for National Grid’s Sea Link project here as an example.	No change needed.

2.2 Who the Applicant consulted

- 2.2.1 As the proposed change relates to a discrete geographical area of the Project and does not fundamentally alter the Project as a whole, the Applicant carried out a targeted consultation.
- 2.2.2 The targeted consultation was open to anyone with an interest in the Project.
- 2.2.3 A bespoke consultation zone was developed to assist engagement with the community local to the proposed change.
- 2.2.4 This bespoke consultation zone was produced to include nearby properties which were likely to be affected. The zone was created following the principle that the consultation zone should be appropriate and proportionate in relation to the type and potential impact of the change. A map of this distribution area can be found in Appendix E.
- 2.2.5 During the targeted consultation, in addition to the properties within the bespoke consultation zone receiving the relevant consultation information in the post, the following groups and stakeholders were consulted with:
- The parish council where any proposed changes fall within their boundary;
 - The local MP where the location of proposed changes falls into all or part of their constituency;
 - Elected representatives in the LPA where the location of the proposed change falls into all or part of their ward;
 - Persons with interest in lands (PILs) within the proposed Order Limits of the relevant consultation zones;
 - ‘Seldom heard groups’ within the relevant consultation zone, representing people who are unlikely to respond to traditional consultation techniques and may need additional support to access materials; and

- Local interest groups, such as residents' associations, community groups, and groups with particular specialisms, such as local heritage or wildlife.
- 2.2.6 Table A1 in Appendix A of this report contains the full list of prescribed consultees that were notified in relation to Section 42(a) and (aa) of the Planning Act 2008.
- 2.2.7 Table A2 in Appendix A of this report contains the full list of prescribed consultees that were notified in relation to Section 42(b) of the Planning Act 2008.
- 2.2.8 Table A3 in Appendix A of this report contains the full list of non-prescribed consultees that were identified.
- 2.2.9 The following elected representatives were also notified of the consultation:
- Sir Bernard Jenkin – Member of Parliament for Harwich and North Essex
 - Cllr Zoe Fairley – Ardleigh & Little Bromley Ward Councillor
 - Cllr Carlo Guglielmi – Lawford, Manningtree & Mistley Ward Councillor
- 2.2.10 Additionally, the Applicant engaged with landowners and other persons with an interest in land affected by the change. Appendix B contains a list of affected parties that were identified.
- 2.2.11 Landowners were categorised using the following definitions:
- Category 1 includes owners, lessees, tenants (whatever the tenancy period) or occupiers of the land within Order Limits
 - Category 2 includes parties that have an interest in the land or who have the power to sell, convey or release the land within Order Limits
 - Category 3 includes parties that the Applicant thinks that, if the order sought by the application were made and fully implemented, the person would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim for compensation under section 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 and/or Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973 and/or section 152(3) of the Act

2.3 How the Applicant consulted

- 2.3.1 The targeted consultation on the proposed change at Little Bromley was open from 12:00 noon on 19 January 2026 until 11:59 pm on 23 February 2026.
- 2.3.2 All notification letters, emails, and website materials clearly stated a consultation response deadline of 11:59 pm on 23 February 2026. The consultation therefore ran for a period exceeding the minimum 28-day period recommended in Planning Inspectorate guidance.
- 2.3.3 During this targeted consultation for Proposed Change Application 2, the Applicant also ran a parallel consultation on another Proposed Change Application (Proposed Change Application 1 – Bulphan).
- 2.3.4 Given the limited nature of the proposed change and the fact that it would not fundamentally alter the Project as a whole, consultation was proportionate and focused.
- 2.3.5 Measures were implemented to ensure that those without internet access or who had protected characteristics were included in the consultation, including provision of

printed materials, freepost response options, a public information event, and direct engagement with prescribed consultees, affected landowners, local authorities, parish councils, and hard-to-reach groups, in addition to online access to materials and online webinars.

- 2.3.6 The Applicant received no feedback regarding the inclusivity of our consultation or an inability to take part.
- 2.3.7 All responses relevant to Proposed Change Application 2 have been considered and more information on the feedback received can be found in Section 3.

Pre-consultation engagement

- 2.3.8 Letters were sent to elected representatives (as listed in section 2.2.9), Little Bromley Parish Council and planning officers from Essex County Council and Tendring District Council on 11 December 2025 to notify them of the proposed change and targeted consultation. Copies of these letters are available in Appendix F, Figures F1-F4.
- 2.3.9 On 9 December 2025, the Applicant wrote to 8 landowners and land users who may be affected by the proposed change, inviting them to attend officer meetings ahead of the consultation launch. Copies of the letters are provided in Appendix C. Two landowners requested a meeting.
- 2.3.10 On 16 December 2025, the Applicant briefed planning officers from Essex County Council and Tendring District Council on the proposed change at Little Bromley.

Consultation advertisement

- 2.3.11 On 16 January 2026 the Applicant sent a consultation pack to all properties within the identified consultation zone shown in Appendix E. The consultation pack included the following materials:
- A letter notifying the resident of the change (Appendix F, Figure F8)
 - A consultation leaflet (Appendix F, Figure F11)
 - A copy of the Environmental Implications of Change (EIC) document (Appendix F, Figure F12)
 - A feedback form (Appendix F, Figure F13)
 - A Freepost envelope (Appendix F, Figure F14)
- 2.3.12 All consultation materials directed recipients to the Norwich to Tilbury project website and contained details of how to request paper copies of the documents from the Applicant.
- 2.3.13 Landowners and land-users who may be affected by the proposed change, as identified in Appendix B, were also sent the same consultation pack on 16 January 2026. Copies of these materials are available to view in Appendix F.
- 2.3.14 Prescribed and non-prescribed consultees, as listed in Appendix A, were contacted by email on 19 January 2026 to inform them of the launch of the targeted consultation. Copies of correspondence are included in Appendix F, Figures F8 and F9.

- 2.3.15 Elected representatives as listed in section 2.2.9 of this document were also contacted by email on 19 January 2026. Copies of correspondence are included in Appendix F, Figures F5 and F6.
- 2.3.16 Information and documents relating to the Change Request 2(Little Bromley) were launched on the project website on 19 January 2026. A copy of the project website is available to view in Appendix F, Figure F17.
- 2.3.17 The main project webpage was updated on the same date to signpost the targeted consultation. A copy of this update is available in Appendix F, Figure F18.
- 2.3.18 The webpage received 1,944 page views during the consultation period.
- 2.3.19 The Applicant notified individuals and organisations on its project contact database of the launch of the targeted consultation via its regular project update email. A copy of this is available in Appendix F, Figure F20.
- 2.3.20 The project update was sent to 2,663 recipients. Of these, 1,773 recipients opened the email (representing an open rate of around 67 per cent). 96 of these recipients followed the link to the project webpage embedded in the email, contributing 160 webpage views to the total mentioned above.
- 2.3.21 To advertise the consultation, adverts were published in the following local publications on 15 January 2026:
- Thurrock Gazette
 - East Anglian Daily Times
 - Eastern Daily Press
- 2.3.22 Copies are available in Appendix F, Figures F15–17. These publications were selected as their coverage areas include the location of Change Request 2 (Little Bromley).
- 2.3.23 Notices were also placed in the titles listed in 2.3.21 as well as the Essex Chronicle. The advert was not included in the Essex Chronicle, even though a notice was submitted, as the change was small and did not affect areas of the route within the Essex Chronicle’s coverage. Further information about notices can be found in Section 2.4.
- 2.3.24 The relevant parish council was notified of the proposed change within their administrative boundaries and invited to provide feedback. Parish clerks were also offered digital briefings.
- 2.3.25 The targeted consultation was also highlighted in the project’s community newsletter, issued on 19 January, which was distributed to approximately 82,000 properties along the route of the scheme. A copy of the newsletter is available in Appendix F, Figure 21.

Consultation Materials

- 2.3.26 The Applicant produced materials to explain the proposed change and its implications, including
- A consultation leaflet which provided details on Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) and included figures showing the location of the proposed change (Appendix F, Figure F11)

- An Environmental Implications of Change (EIC) document which provided information on the likely environmental effects associated with Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) compared against the submitted Environmental Statement (ES) (Appendix F, Figure F12)
- A feedback form (Appendix F, Figure F13)

2.3.27 Consultation materials were available through the below channels:

- Through the Document Library on the project website (www.nationalgrid.com/norwich-to-tilbury)
- A pack of consultation materials was posted to properties within the identified consultation zone (as described in 2.3.11).
- Copies were available at local inspection points listed below
 - Greenstead Library, Hawthorn Avenue, Colchester, CO4 3QE
 - Manningtree Library, High Street, Manningtree, CO11 1AD
- Public information event at Great Bromley Village Hall
- On request from the Applicant.

2.3.28 All consultation materials directed recipients to the Norwich to Tilbury project website and contained contact details for how to request paper copies of the documents from the Applicant.

Consultation Event

2.3.29 The Applicant held a public information event specific to Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) at Great Bromley Village Hall on Thursday 29 January 2026, between 12 noon and 5:00 pm.

2.3.30 For the in-person public information event, the Applicant produced a set of display panels presenting the background to the Proposed Project, the needs case, and detailed information on the proposed change at Little Bromley. The panels also included maps of the proposed change, an overview of potential environmental implications, and clear information on how attendees could provide feedback. Copies of the event panels are provided in Appendix F, Figure F20.

Consultation Webinar

2.3.31 The Applicant held a public webinar on Change Request 2 (Little Bromley), hosted via Microsoft Teams, on Wednesday 4 February 2026, between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

2.3.32 The webinar included a presentation and a question-and-answer session, and a recording of the presentation was made available for playback on the project website (www.nationalgrid.com/norwich-to-tilbury).

2.4 Notices

2.4.1 The Applicant undertook a range of measures to raise awareness of the targeted consultation, including the publication of consultation notices in newspapers.

- 2.4.2 In this approach, the Applicant had regard to the ExA's advice [PD-008] and published notices for the targeted consultation beyond local publications. However, Regulation 8 of the CA Regulations is not engaged for the purposes of pre-application consultation regarding a change request. The Applicant will comply with Regulation 8 of the CA Regulations in the event that Proposed Change Application 2 is accepted. **Proposed Change Application 2: Overview Report – Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) (document reference 9.6)** demonstrates how the CA Regulations could be complied with in the context of the remainder of the examination.
- 2.4.3 Consultation notices were published on 15 January and 22 January 2026 in the following local newspapers. These publications cover the proposed route for Norwich to Tilbury, including the location of Change Request 2 (Little Bromley):
- Thurrock Gazette
 - Essex Chronicle
 - East Anglian Daily Times
 - Eastern Daily Press
- 2.4.4 On the 15 January, notices were also placed in the follow national papers to ensure wider awareness and coverage of Change Request 2 (Little Bromley).
- The Guardian
 - The London Gazette
- 2.4.5 The notices provided information about the proposed change and the targeted consultation, including how members of the public could access further information, view consultation materials on the Norwich to Tilbury project website, and submit feedback within the consultation period.
- 2.4.6 Copies of the notices are provided in Appendix G, Figures G1-G10.
- 2.4.7 Un-registered land notices were also placed at two locations where there was unknown Persons with an Interest in Land (PILs).
- 2.4.8 A plan showing the location of the notices is provided in Appendix G, Figure G11.
- 2.4.9 Photos of the notices are provided in Appendix G, Figure G12.

2.5 Landowner engagement

- 2.5.1 To ensure targeted and relative communication with PILs, the Applicant identified three groups who received tailored communications:
- Category 1 includes owners, lessees, tenants (whatever the tenancy period) or occupiers of the land within Order Limits
 - Category 2 includes parties that have an interest in the land or who have the power to sell, convey or release the land within Order Limits
 - Category 3 includes parties that that the Applicant thinks that, if the order sought by the application were made and fully implemented, the person would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim for compensation under section 10 of the

Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 and/or Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973 and/or section 152(3) of the Act

2.5.2 Table 2.2 details the letters that were sent to landowners notifying them of the change and the enclosures sent with them.

Table 2.2 Landowner engagement

Letter summary	Enclosures
<p>On 9 December 2025, the Applicant wrote to existing PILs who already held an interest within the Order Limits. These letters notified recipients of the intention to apply for a change to the Order Limits at Little Bromley and sought consent for their land to be subject to compulsory acquisition powers. The letter also included an offer of a meeting to discuss the proposal with the Applicant’s Land Agent, Fisher German.</p> <p>A copy of the letter is available in Appendix C, Figure C1.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan showing the current and proposed project boundary in the change area (Figure C4) • Compulsory Acquisition Consent Form (Figure C6) • Freepost envelope (Figure F13)
<p>On 14 January 2026, the Applicant wrote to Category 1 and 2 PILs, following up the introductory correspondence issued in December. These letters provided details on the targeted consultation, including how to submit feedback, access materials, and attend webinars or public events.</p> <p>A copy of this letter is available in Appendix C, Figure C2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan showing the likely extent of the proposed change on the recipient’s land interest (Figure C5) • Compulsory Acquisition Consent Form (Figure C6) • Freepost envelope (Figure F13)
<p>The Applicant also wrote to Category 3 PILs on 14 January 2026. As these recipients had not received the December introductory letter, the January correspondence included a more detailed introduction to the proposed change.</p> <p>A copy of this letter is available in Appendix C, Figure C3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Interest Questionnaire pack (Figure C7-C13) • Freepost envelope (Figure F13)

3. Summary of Responses Received to Consultation

3.1 Overview

3.1.1 Responses to the targeted consultation on the proposed changes could be submitted in the following ways:

- By email to contact@n-t.nationalgrid.com
- By writing to FREEPOST N TO T
- By completing an online feedback questionnaire at nationalgrid.com/n-t

3.1.2 During this targeted consultation for Proposed Change Application 2, the Applicant also ran a parallel consultation on another Proposed Change Application (Proposed Change Application 1 – Bulphan).

3.1.3 During this period, the Applicant received 21 pieces of feedback containing general comments on the Project as a whole and which were not specifically related to either Proposed Change Application 1 or Proposed Change Application 2. As was made clear in the consultation materials, only feedback specifically relating to Proposed Change Application 2 has been responded to by the Applicant within this report. However, all general feedback received can be found in Appendix D. The Applicant's position on these wider themes and comments can be found in **8.4.1 Applicant's Comments on Relevant Representations [REP1-132]** and **8.8.1 Applicant's Comments on Written Representations [REP2-029]**.

3.1.4 The Applicant received 27 pieces of feedback specific to Proposed Change Application 2.

3.1.5 Of the feedback specific to Proposed Change Application 2, seven were submitted via email, seven were submitted via hard copy, and 13 were submitted using the online feedback form.

3.1.6 Copies of all feedback received, including feedback relevant to Proposed Change Application 1 and feedback containing general comments not specifically related to either proposed change application, can be found in Appendix D.

3.1.7 The following prescribed consultees as listed in Appendix A responded to confirm they have no further comments regarding the proposed change application, and request that their previous comments are considered.

- Civil Aviation Authority
- Forestry Commission
- Historic England
- National Highways
- Norfolk County Council
- Norfolk County Council

- Office of Rail and Road
 - The Mining Remediation Authority
 - UK Health Security Agency.
- 3.1.8 The Applicant has addressed all feedback received during previous consultations in **5.1 Consultation Report [APP-066]**, submitted as part of the application for development consent. Recent comments made through the examination have been addressed in **8.4.1 Applicant's Comments on Relevant Representations [REP1-132]** and **8.8.1 Applicant's Comments on Written Representations [REP2-029]**. The Applicant's responses to these points are not repeated within this report.
- 3.1.9 The following prescribed consultees provided feedback specific to Proposed Change Application 2. This feedback can be found in Appendix D.
- Little Bromley Parish Council
 - Essex County Council
- 3.1.10 Table 3.1 sets out the Applicant's responses to the all feedback relevant to Proposed Change Application 2. As stated in 3.1.3, Table 3.1 does not include responses to general comments on the Project that were not directly relevant to the proposed change.

Table 3.1 The Applicant's response to targeted consultation feedback

Feedback summary	The Applicant's Response
Concerns that the proposed change would not reduce disruption to food production.	<p>6.6 Environmental Statement Chapter 6 - Agriculture and Soils [APP-138] assumed that farming operations would not continue within construction areas. However, disruption to surrounding farming operations would be mitigated by implementing good practice measures. These include maintaining or providing alternative access to affected land parcels in communication with landowners and occupiers to allow for the continuation of surrounding farming operations, maintaining or providing alternative water supplies for livestock, and reinstating any land drains affected by the Project within the Order Limits. These measures form commitments AS03, AS04, and AS05 within 7.4 Outline Code of Construction Practice [REP2-014]. In addition, effects on farming operations during the construction phase would be managed through compensation agreements to allow landowners to claim for loss of income as a result of the Project (which lie outside of the EIA process).</p> <p>All land required temporarily would be reinstated to its pre-construction condition, including land grade with all works undertaken in accordance with good practice as set out in 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice Appendix C - Outline</p>

Feedback summary	The Applicant's Response
	<p>Soil Resource Plan [APP-303]. As such, once land has been returned, pre-construction land use would be able to continue, including local food production.</p> <p>The Applicant recognises concerns that electricity infrastructure and associated rights may result in long-term restrictions on land use and agricultural productivity. In developing the Project, the Applicant has sought to minimise such effects by limiting permanent land acquisition and instead relying, wherever practicable, on the acquisition of defined rights rather than full ownership of land. The rights sought are confined to those necessary for the safe construction, operation and maintenance of the assets and are designed to enable the continued agricultural use of land beneath and around the infrastructure.</p> <p>The proposed design change has been developed through ongoing detailed discussions with affected landowners in order to secure an operational access arrangement that meets the Project need while also facilitating ongoing land management. The proposed design change is proposed to reduce the effects of the Project on future arable cropping.</p> <p>The Applicant has submitted an Addendum to the ES which considers whether there would be new or different significant effects to those reported in the ES as a consequence of Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) (see Proposed Change Application 2: Addendum to Environmental Statement - Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) [document reference 9.12]). The proposed design change would not alter the disruption to food production compared to the current alignment. The ES Addendum concludes that there would be no new or different significant effects on agriculture and soil as a result of the proposed design change.</p>
<p>Support for the change request, stating that the revised access routes between Bentley Road and Ardleigh Road would reduce impacts on agricultural activity.</p>	<p>The Applicant notes the respondent's feedback.</p>
<p>Concern about the permanent access route utilising a permeable concrete surface due to the potential for weeds to spread onto agricultural land. Request for a solid concrete surface.</p>	<p>The final surface of the road has not yet been selected, a grasscrete option has been considered to reduce the visual impact of the road, however a surface such as concrete or macadam hasn't been ruled out. These concerns raised will be taken into account by the Main Works Contractor(s) and</p>

Feedback summary	The Applicant's Response
	discussed further with the landowner when developing the detailed design of the road.
Concern that the affected field contains an underground irrigation main and that damage or loss of access for emergency repairs could significantly affect irrigation and have commercial impacts.	The Applicant notes the concerns raised. The Main Works Contractor(s) will develop the design of the access road if development consent is granted. The detailed design will take into consideration all utilities interactions and identify any mitigation measures necessary to protect them.
Concern that the proposed route does not best accommodate the landowners. Further adjustments to avoid running the route through the centre of a field would be welcomed.	The arrangements proposed for Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) have been subject to discussions, including consideration of alternative arrangements, with the affected landowners. In both cases, the changes respond to feedback from, and ongoing discussions with, affected landowners in order to secure an operational access arrangement that meets the Project need whilst also facilitating ongoing land management. The first change (concerning AIL movement) is intended to reduce the effects of the Project on future arable cropping, whilst the second change ensures that the Proposed Route more closely follows field boundaries while adhering to relevant Project commitments to avoid impacts to hedgerows and trees, including avoiding impacts to a 10 m construction exclusion zone (see commitment B07 of 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice [REP2-014]). The Applicant has considered alternative arrangements however further adjustments north towards the field boundary would result in the works not adhering to the commitments in 7.2 Outline CoCP [REP2-014] regarding avoiding impacts to hedgerows and trees. The Applicant has issued Heads of Terms to the affected party and will be seeking to meet with them and their appointed agent to discuss their concerns.
Where the road borders retained land used for livestock, landowners advised that a double-fencing arrangement would be required: one fence to ensure road users remain within the correct boundary, and a second stock-proof fence to keep animals away from the road.	The Applicant acknowledges the request for double fencing where the road borders retained land used for livestock. Where appropriate and subject to detailed design, fencing arrangements will be developed in consultation with the affected landowner to ensure the safe segregation of road users and livestock.
Preference for aligning the permanent and construction access along the northern boundary of the fields.	The preference would position the route close to the end of gardens associated with residential properties. Whilst potentially a reasonable option

Feedback summary	The Applicant's Response
	<p>for very occasional Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) movements, the potential for this access to be used for construction Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) movements until the substation access road becomes available raises the level of environmental effect for residential occupants meaning this is considered less preferred.</p>
<p>Preference for aligning the permanent access road with existing field boundaries where possible, or more closely following the route presented during statutory consultation to avoid creating isolated strips of land. Request for compensation for isolated land.</p>	<p>In response to the request to maintain the most workable fields, the Proposed Change Application 2 design follows an alignment based on the routing presented at the 2024 Statutory Consultation. The Proposed Change Application 2 design includes a 10 m standoff from the Order Limits to adjacent trees / hedgerows and other vegetation along the field boundary to manage potential impacts on these receptors (see commitment B07 of 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice [REP2-014]).</p>
<p>Suggestion that where existing farm tracks run parallel to the proposed access, they should be incorporated or replaced to reduce land sterilisation.</p>	<p>Where access tracks are also a Public Right of Way (PRoW), such as Little Bromley FP14, which connects to Ardleigh Road, it is not considered appropriate to resurface as an access road, or mix with construction traffic, as this would require a further PRoW diversion along its length. In certain circumstance permissions may be granted to the affected landowners to use the newly constructed access. This will be dependent on the planned use of the track and requirements of both parties.</p>
<p>Suggestion to use an existing spur from the A120 / Harwich Road roundabout as a safer access point for both the service road and the main access road.</p>	<p>An alternative access road from the spur off the current A120/Harwich Road roundabout was considered during the early design stages. Ultimately this option was ruled out as it will introduce an estimated 4.5 – 5.0 km construction/permanent access road across private land, land which would need to be compulsorily purchased, as well as an additional 5no highway crossover bellmouths. This would impact more landowners and more arable farmland. In addition, there would need to be additional permanent hedgerow and vegetation clearance where the road crossed field boundaries and at the crossover bellmouths.</p> <p>Currently we are only proposing a 1.5 km access road which impacts only two landowners running through agricultural land, and does not require crossover bellmouths.</p> <p>There is an opportunity to collaborate with North Falls and Five Estuaries during the construction</p>

Feedback summary	The Applicant's Response
	<p>phases which we continue to explore, which would enable us to use their construction haul road south of Little Bromley to access the EACN. This would reduce the number of construction trips entering the village. However, during operation HGVs and AILs (Abnormal Indivisible Loads) accessing the substation would need to use the permanent access route included within the DCO. This number of movements during operation would be limited due to the nature of the substation.</p>
<p>Concerns that alternative routing has not been fully considered.</p>	<p>Alternative access arrangements were discussed with Essex Highways and National Highways with decisions balancing effects on the Highway Network, environmental effects and effects on landowners. The alternatives and reasons for preference are set out in Table 3.19 of ES Chapter 3 [APP-127].</p>
<p>Criticism of personnel at consultation events (including inability to answer questions, limited local knowledge and that concerns were not written down to be taken away)</p>	<p>The Applicant notes the respondent's feedback. Members of the project team were available at the public information events to provide more information about the proposed change at Little Bromley.</p> <p>Questions could also be asked of the project team via the community relations email, phone, or Freepost.</p> <p>Attendees were encouraged to provide feedback by email, online feedback form, or by Freepost. Feedback questionnaires and Freepost envelopes were available at the event if attendees wished to provide feedback.</p>
<p>Concerns that no communication has been made with the residents regarding anticipated 24-hour disturbance near the property when large machinery is expected to move at night.</p>	<p>The framework for avoiding, minimising and managing damage and disruption arising from the construction and use of access roads, haul roads and temporary access routes is contained within 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice [REP2-014]. The 7.3 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-309] provides information on traffic management.</p> <p>The working hours for the Project are secured through Requirement 7 of Schedule 3 of 3.1 draft DCO [APP-056]. The proposed construction core working areas, activities which can take place outside of the core working hours, and the provision for start-up and close-down activities are listed in full Schedule 3 of 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-056]. This explains that delivery of abnormal indivisible loads is often governed by requirements of highway authorities,</p>

Feedback summary	The Applicant's Response
	<p>asset owners or the police, and are therefore routinely scheduled at nights or weekends to maintain safety and reduce disruption.</p> <p>When a transformer delivery or other abnormal indivisible load (AIL) delivery was required, there would be clear communication with residents in advance. Any AIL movements would be coordinated with the Essex Highways Authority and Essex Constabulary. If the Project received development consent, the programme for AIL movements would be developed in more detail with the Main Works Contractor.</p>
<p>Respondent struggled to locate the online questionnaire referenced in the consultation form, concern that only a printable PDF version was available.</p>	<p>The online feedback form was available on the project website throughout the consultation period. In addition to the online form and the downloadable PDF version, the Applicant also accepted feedback received via email or Freepost envelopes. Feedback questionnaires and Freepost envelopes were posted to properties within the bespoke consultation zone, and were additionally available at the inspection points, the public information event at Great Bromley Village Hall, and upon request.</p>
<p>Criticism that the timing of the consultation meeting in Great Bromley made attendance difficult, and that some directly affected residents did not receive the consultation form by post.</p>	<p>The public information event at Great Bromley Village Hall was open from 12 noon until 5pm. This timing was dependent on the availability of the venue, with the need to schedule around regular community bookings.</p> <p>For those who were unable to attend, the Applicant also held a webinar on the evening of 4 February at 6pm. Questions could also be asked of the project team via the community relations email, phone, or Freepost.</p> <p>A pack of consultation materials was sent to properties within a bespoke consultation zone. This was created on the principle that the zone should be appropriate and proportionate in relation to the change. The consultation materials, including a feedback questionnaire, were also available at the inspection points, the public information event at Great Bromley Village Hall, and upon request via the community relations email or helpline.</p>
<p>Concerns that the map provided with the paper consultation materials does not include Ardleigh Road, despite the proposed route moving closer to properties on that road. Criticism that</p>	<p>The Applicant notes the respondent's feedback. The map provided in the consultation materials was designed to clearly show the location and detail of the proposed change. This included a</p>

Feedback summary	The Applicant's Response
<p>those affected have not been directly informed or consulted. Request that the Applicant issues a revised map including Ardleigh Road and, following this, ensure that all residents in the village are properly informed and consulted before the project progresses further.</p>	<p>section of Ardleigh Road adjacent to the proposed change.</p> <p>A pack of consultation materials was sent to properties within a bespoke consultation zone. This included properties which were likely to be affected by the proposed change. This was created on the principle that the zone should be appropriate and proportionate in relation to the change. The zone was developed in consultation with Essex County Council and Tendring District Council.</p> <p>To publicise the consultation beyond that consultation zone, the Applicant placed adverts and notices in local newspaper titles, contacted local elected representatives, and sent e-updates to those who were registered to receive updates about the Project.</p> <p>The consultation materials, including a feedback questionnaire, were also available at the inspection points, the public information event at Great Bromley Village Hall, and upon request via the community relations email or helpline.</p>
<p>Concerns that the proposed changes would not reduce environmental impacts on the proposed site.</p>	<p>The modifications proposed as part of Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) respond to feedback from, and ongoing detailed discussions with, affected landowners in order to secure an operational access arrangement that meets the Project need whilst also facilitating ongoing land management. The first modification (concerning the AIL arrangement) is intended to reduce the effects of the Project on future arable cropping, whilst the second modification ensures that the proposed route more closely follows field boundaries.</p> <p>The Applicant has undertaken a review of whether Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) (either individually or in combination with Change Request 1 (Bulphan)) is likely to result in new or different likely significant environmental effects, compared to those reported within the Environmental Statement (ES) [APP-123 to APP-287, AS-026 and AS-068] (there is no requirement for the change application to seek to reduce any likely significant environmental impacts). The review has also considered whether the conclusions set out in other environmental assessments and reports submitted with the DCO application in August 2025 would change as result of Change Request 2 (Little Bromley). The results</p>

Feedback summary

The Applicant's Response

of this review are reported in the **Proposed Change Application 2: Addendum to Environmental Statement - Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) [document reference 9.12]**.

Taking account of the nature of the additional works proposed and the implementation of mitigation measures already set out in the ES [APP-123 to APP-287, AS-026 and AS-068], the **Proposed Change Application 2: Addendum to Environmental Statement - Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) [document reference 9.12]** concludes that there would be no new or different significant effects to those reported in the ES as a consequence of Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) (either individually or in combination with Change Request 1 (Bulphan)). The conclusions of the ES [APP-123 to APP-287, AS-026 and AS-068] submitted in support of the DCO application for the Project remain valid.

Concerns that rerouting the access road will negatively affect neighbouring land that has undergone re-wilding over the past five years and supports diverse wildlife.

The proposed design change would not significantly alter the amount or type of habitat impacted by the access road. The previous design and the proposed design change both affect arable land of negligible value to ecology and biodiversity and modified grassland of low value and local importance to ecology and biodiversity with no additional impacts to hedgerows or trees. There would be no additional impacts to irreplaceable habitats or Habitats of Principal Importance, as presented on **Figure CR2.4 - Ecology and Biodiversity - UK Habitat Survey Results Revision** and **Figure CR2.5 - Ecology and Biodiversity - Linear Habitat Survey Results Revision** in **Annex A of Proposed Change Application 2: Addendum to Environmental Statement - Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) [document reference 9.12]** submitted with the change application. The proposed design change would not cause significant impacts during construction or operation (and maintenance) to any designated sites or protected species. Following the implementation of mitigation measures set out in **6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 - Ecology and Biodiversity [AS-026]**, the **7.4 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) [REP2-018]** and **7.2 Outline CoCP [REP2-014]**, there would be no change to the type or significance of effects during construction or operation (and maintenance) as a result of the

Feedback summary	The Applicant's Response
<p>Concern that moving the access road closer to homes on Shop Road could increase traffic noise and impact more residents.</p>	<p>proposed design change, when compared to the 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 - Ecology and Biodiversity [AS-026].</p> <p>The proposed design change would not result in any changes to the outcome of the noise and vibration assessment. The proposed design change would bring some construction activities closer to nearby noise sensitive receptors on Shop Road, but the distance would be sufficient that significant adverse effects would not be expected with standard mitigation measures.</p> <p>Therefore, following the implementation of mitigation measures set out in 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 - Noise and Vibration [APP-256] and 7.2 Outline CoCP Appendix F - Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan [APP-306], there would be no change to the type or significance of effects during construction as a result of the proposed design change, when compared to 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 - Noise and Vibration [APP-256]. Further details are set out in the Proposed Change Application 2: Addendum to Environmental Statement - Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) [document reference 9.12].</p>
<p>Suggestion that the proposed access road be used only in emergencies and should use quieter reversing alarms.</p>	<p>There is an opportunity to collaborate with North Falls and Five Estuaries during the construction phases which we continue to explore, which would enable us to use their construction haul road south of Little Bromley to access the EACN. This would reduce the number of construction trips entering the village. However, during operation HGVs and AILs (Abnormal Indivisible Loads) accessing the substation would need to use the permanent access route included within the DCO. This number of movements during operation is limited due to the nature of the substation.</p> <p>Construction vehicles (not including construction worker private vehicles) will conform to relevant applicable standards for the vehicle type which will be defined in the final Code of Construction Practice (CoCP).</p>
<p>Concerns raised that bringing the access road closer to Shop Road could worsen air quality and increase dust impact for nearby homes</p>	<p>The proposed design change would not result in changes to the outcome of the air quality assessment. The proposed design change would locate the access road approximately 195 m closer to a sensitive residential receptor on Shop Road</p>

Feedback summary	The Applicant's Response
	<p>identified in 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 - Air Quality [APP-147].</p> <p>However, following the implementation of mitigation measures set out in 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 - Air Quality [APP-147] and 7.2 Outline CoCP Appendix D - Outline Dust Management Plan [APP-304], there would be no change to the type or significance of effects during construction as a result of the proposed design change, when compared to 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 - Air Quality [APP-147].</p> <p>This is detailed in Proposed Change Application 2: Addendum to Environmental Statement - Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) [document reference 9.12].</p>
<p>Concerns that surveys have not been undertaken when the area in question is flooded.</p>	<p>Targeted surveys of the Project route have been undertaken to inform development of the Watercourse crossing schedule 6.4.A2 Environmental Statement Appendix 4.2 - Watercourse Crossing Details [APP-132]. The detailed design of the Project will be informed by further surveys of the whole route with a focus on micro-siting elements of Project infrastructure and informing the sequential layout of construction compounds and laydown areas.</p>
<p>Concern that there would be a need to protect two water pipes serving residential properties to the south, along with a drainage pipe beneath the proposed road that serves a wider catchment area, was flagged. Request for a drainage strategy to prevent flooding of nearby land or the road itself.</p>	<p>Management of access road crossings and flood risk effects is addressed in Section 6 of 7.2 Outline Code of Construction [REP2-014] and commitments W10–W15, which set out requirements for appropriate drainage, flood resilient design and removal of temporary crossings where no longer needed.</p> <p>A number of other commitments within 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice [REP2-014] (including W13, GG22 and GG32) secure that construction work site runoff and operational drainage would be controlled in terms of both runoff quantity and runoff quality, in order to prevent detriment to water quality. Further details regarding proposals for surface water management (including specified discharge rates/limits and clarifications with regards to drainage design standards) has been submitted into the examination at Deadline 1 (8.2 Drainage Strategy [REP1-072]).</p> <p>Where the Project interacts with existing land drainage systems there are commitments (AS05,</p>

Feedback summary

The Applicant's Response

Concern about risks to pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers from HGVs driving past key community locations such as The Haywain pub, due to a lack of pavements.

W14) in **7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice [REP2-014]** to maintaining the efficiency of the existing systems, with specialised drainage contractor(s) appointed to review land drainage designs and provide advice to the Applicant and the Main Works Contractor(s) during all relevant construction and reinstatement activities.

The Applicant requests the respondent provides details of their below ground water pipelines to the Applicant's land agents. The Applicant will ensure ongoing protection of all private water pipelines during delivery.

The Applicant notes the respondent's feedback. An access strategy has been developed to manage the impact of construction vehicles on the public highway and sensitive receptors, using suitable Local Road Network connections from the Strategic Road Network called Primary Access Routes. In addition, temporary haul roads for construction vehicles are proposed along the Project alignment, further reducing the impact of construction traffic on the local road network. Further details of the strategy can be found within **7.3 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) [APP-309]**.

We have considered the impact of the traffic on non-motorised users and as a result within the DCO application we are proposing a separate dedicated Non-Motorised User (NMU) route. This separate route will move those users off the road to a separate path which will run from the Bentley Road/A120 junction all the way to the end of the proposed PAR, serving the village and the main village provision (The Haywain Pub).

Suggestions that construction vehicles should use the haul road proposed by the North Falls and Five Estuaries projects to keep traffic away from the village.

The Applicant has engaged with North Falls and Five Estuaries to develop co-ordinated arrangements for access for construction. That includes the use by the Applicant of the substation access road location alongside the windfarm export cable corridor. It will only be used by the Applicant after it has been constructed by the windfarm companies and is expected to be decommissioned when no longer required by the windfarm companies who are expected to retain responsibility for the road construction, repair and decommissioning though with exact arrangements subject to commercial agreement. When the substation access road is not available, the Applicant's construction traffic will use the widened

Feedback summary	The Applicant's Response
	<p>Bentley and Ardleigh roads and a private permanent Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) access road. This is explained within the 7.3 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) [APP-309].</p> <p>However, during the operational phase of the substation vehicles would need to use the permanent the route which is proposed within the DCO, but this would only be used by a limited number of vehicles as it is an unmanned substation. We are continuing to engage with North Falls and Five Estuaries on this matter.</p>
<p>Suggestion that vehicles using the access road should be electric battery-powered.</p>	<p>Construction vehicles (not including construction worker private vehicles) will conform to relevant applicable standards for the vehicle type which will be defined in the final Code of Construction Practice (CoCP). Appropriate standards may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Euro 4 (nitrogen oxides (NOx)) for petrol cars, vans and minibuses • Euro 6 (NOx and particulate matter (PM)) for diesel cars, vans and minibuses • Euro VI (NOx and PM) for lorries, buses, coaches and Heavy Goods Vehicles (excluding specialist abnormal indivisible loads) • Stage V (NOx, PM, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide (CO) and sulphur dioxide (SO2)) for non-road engines (static plant and non-road mobile machinery). <p>Vehicles will be correctly maintained and operated in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations and in a responsible manner. Vehicles will be required to switch off their engines when not in use and when it is safe to do so. Further details are set out in Commitment GG19 of the 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice [REP2-014].</p>
<p>Concern that moving the access road closer to homes on Shop Road and Ardleigh Road would alter views and could reduce property values and make properties less appealing to buyers.</p>	<p>The proposed design change would not substantively change the anticipated construction activity within Landscape Character Area (LCA) 7A Bromley Heaths. This would not result in any new or different significant effects on landscape character to those reported within 6.13.A2 Environmental Statement Appendix 13.2 - Landscape Baseline and Assessment [APP-228].</p> <p>The proposed design change would not substantively change the visual effects of</p>

construction and the access road within Visual Receptor Area (VRA) C13 Little Bromley. The proposed design change to the access road would not result in any new or different significant effects on visual amenity to those reported within **6.13.A3 Environmental Statement Appendix 13.3 - Visual Baseline and Assessment – Part 1 [APP-229]**.

The proposed design change to the access road would not change views experienced from Viewpoint 3.13: PRow, Little Bromley (Little Bromley 16) to the south, nor from Viewpoint 3.21: Barn Lane, Little Bromley. This would result in no change to the effects on visual amenity to those reported within **6.13.A3 Environmental Statement Appendix 13.13 - Visual Baseline and Assessment – Part 2 [APP-230]**.

During operation (and maintenance) there would be no change to the type or significance of effects as a result of the proposed change, when compared to **6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 - Landscape and Visual [APP-226]**.

Further details are set out in the **Proposed Change Application 2: Addendum to Environmental Statement - Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) [document reference 9.12]**.

Potential impact on property prices is not a material planning consideration for the purposes of a DCO application. Separate to this point, the Secretary of State asked that the DCO application included an assessment of the likely significant environmental effects in the form of potential impacts on property prices. The ES contains an assessment on this. It concluded that there is no evidence of any significant environmental effects on house prices as a result of the Project. Although not part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process it is relevant to observe that any impact of the Project on residential properties is potentially capable of being dealt with through statutory nuisance or compulsory purchase compensation regimes (subject to the requisite criteria being met).

All affected landowners would be compensated for any temporary/permanent losses, and this would be dealt with on a case-by-case basis in line with the Compensation Code.

Concern whether the intention to raise the UKPN wood poles will address safety

To accommodate the tallest AILs, we may (subject to detailed design of the proposed road) need to

Feedback summary	The Applicant's Response
<p>concerns about the interaction of the wood pole lines with the proposed access road and compound.</p>	<p>raise the height of the existing UKPN overhead wood pole lines. The change to the Order Limits would enable the Project to do this.</p>
<p>Request for UKPN to contact the landowners directly regarding the requirement to raise pole heights on the eastern section of the land to allow vehicles to pass safely beneath overhead cables.</p>	<p>The request has been acknowledged, and the Applicant has forwarded this on to UKPN to respond directly.</p>

4. Regard had to Responses Received and Conclusion

4.1 Summary

- 4.1.1 This Consultation Report has been submitted in accordance with Planning Inspectorate Guidance and the ExA's advice in its response letter **[PD-008]**.
- 4.1.2 The Applicant considers that it has carried out adequate and meaningful engagement in line with the Planning Inspectorate Guidance and the ExA's advice, and that this engagement was proportionate to the nature and extent of the proposed changes included within the Change Request 2 (Little Bromley).
- 4.1.3 The Applicant will continue to engage with interested parties in respect of the proposed changes throughout the Examination process.

4.2 Response to issues raised

- 4.2.1 Table 3.1 sets out the Applicant's response to the issues raised by respondents to the targeted consultation completed between 19 January 2026 and 23 February 2026. Table 3.1 does not include responses to any issues related to topics that were not directly relevant to the targeted consultation, including matters addressed following previous rounds of consultation. The Applicant has already provided responses to these topics in the Application Document **5.1 Consultation Report [APP-066]** and its appendices **[APP-067 to APP-080]**.
- 4.2.2 Having had regard to the feedback received, the Applicant has concluded that no elements of Proposed Change Application 2 require amendment or adjustment. Therefore, the form of Proposed Change Application 2 remains unchanged from that which was consulted upon and as presented in **9.2 Notification of proposed change to DCO application – Change Request 2 (Little Bromley) [AS-050]**.

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