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Water - Clean Version

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nationalgrid

Revision History

Version	Date	Submitted at
A	29 August 2025	DCO Application
B	12 May 2026	Deadline 4

Anglian Water

Draft Statement of Common Ground

1. Purpose of the Statement of Common Ground

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

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

2. Parties to the SoCG

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

3. Summary of matters under discussion

As requested by the Examining Authority, the below table provides an 'at a glance' summary of matters which are under discussion, together with a deadline by which such matters are expected to be resolved.

SoCG ID	Summary of matter under discussion	Deadline for resolution
7.1	Ongoing Clash Assessment for permanent access route impacts at substations and Cable Sealing End Compounds	Deadline 7
7.2	Proximity of Cable Sealing End Compounds to Anglian Water Assets	Deadline 7
7.3	Diversions and protection of Anglian Water assets subject to ongoing detailed design	Deadline 7
7.4	Alternating Current Interference on Anglian Water pipelines	Deadline 7
7.5	Identification and impact of underground cable isotherms on Anglian Water assets	Deadline 7
7.6	Connections volume required for water supply and wastewater discharge during delivery and operation	Deadline 7

SoCG ID	Summary of matter under discussion	Deadline for resolution
7.7	Non-domestic water resource requirements requested from Anglian Water during the delivery phase	Deadline 7
7.8	Surface water run-off management and drainage strategy through construction and operation	Deadline 7
7.9	Management of interfaces between Anglian Waters proposed AMP8 investment schemes and the Norwich to Tilbury project as proposed	Deadline 7
7.10	Negotiation and inclusion of bespoke Protective Provisions for the benefit of Anglian Water within the DCO	Deadline 7
7.11	Mutual land interests in Forncett End Water Recycling Centre	Deadline 7
7.12	Potential impacts to Shenfield and Hutton Water Recycling Centre	Deadline 7
7.13	Potential impacts to Anglian Water operational requirements at Ardleigh Reservoir	Deadline 7
7.14	Ongoing status of protective provisions negotiations	Deadline 7
7.15	Ongoing works to determine potential impacts to Anglian Water land ownership	Deadline 7

4. Background

4.1 Description of the Project/Development

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5. Stakeholder Interests

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

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

National Grid is seeking to ensure that the interests of both parties and how they may be affected by the interaction are understood. From this position the aim is for the parties to agree

actions to avoid or reduce the implications and for any remedial measures to be agreed. On this basis we seek the input from Anglian Water to demonstrate how their interests may be affected, how Anglian Water or National Grid and its contractors can collectively reduce those effects and input to agree the implementation of such measures.

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

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

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

- 2026
 - Further Discussion encompassing all project interactions & Introduction to National Grid Detailed Design Partners
 - Further engagement to substantially agree Protective Provision discussions

6. Matters Agreed

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

7. Matters Currently Under Discussion

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid response (including date)	Relevant documentation
7.1	New permanent access routes at CSECs and substations	30/04/26 - This remains under review through the ongoing clash assessment.	24/02/26 – Engagement is ongoing. Further information is requested to define the preferred outcome sought.	
7.2	Cable Sealing End Compounds (CSEC) interface	30/04/26 - Proximity to Anglian Water strategic water main assets and potential need for diversions to be discussed. Including landscaping/planting/BNG areas identified for environmental	124/06/26 – Engagement is ongoing with the relevant National Grid & Anglian Water teams to agree requirements and mitigations for the proximity of CSEC's to Anglian Water assets. This issue is encompassed within the below	

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid response (including date)	Relevant documentation
		enhancement close to CSECs. This remains under review through the ongoing clash assessment.	“ <i>Diversions of Anglian Water assets</i> ” item under discussion.	
7.3	Diversions and protection of Anglian Water assets (see matter on PPs for Anglian Water below)	<p>30/04/26 - Anglian Water’s most recent clash assessment considers there is a large number of assets with a medium-high risk of requiring diversion to reduce the risk to ongoing maintenance, investments, and emergency operations introduced by the Project’s OHL and underground cabling easements, and safe working areas. These diversions may lead to additional costs, particularly where Anglian Water needs to divert assets outside the powers conferred by the DCO and use its own statutory powers to undertake the works. This will cause delays as negotiations with Third Parties will need to be undertaken.</p> <p>Ongoing discussion required to explore whether the medium-high risk assessed asset diversions can be reduced through appropriate mitigation measures to minimise risks to AW and NGET assets.</p>	<p>24/04/26 - National Grid notes the significant engagement and review undertaken by Anglian Water to determine the extent of diversions to Anglian Water assets as necessitated by Norwich to Tilbury as proposed. National Grid has since provided a construction methodology to facilitate Anglian Waters review.</p> <p>National Grid are currently reviewing the criteria and assumptions used in this review and are compiling a response to Anglian Waters Request for Information to further progress the close of this workstream.</p> <p>If/when any diversionary needs are confirmed then National Grid would seek to agree these with Anglian Water in terms of commercials and timeframes.</p>	

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid response (including date)	Relevant documentation
		<p>In addition, appropriate measures will be required to protect Anglian Water pipes (e.g. at haul road crossings, bellmouths etc) or agreeing certain standoff clearances (e.g. from compounds etc).</p>		
7.4	<p>Alternating Current (AC) Interference</p>	<p>30/04/26 - Anglian Water has engaged to date on AC Interference studies. The Project will need to undertake measures to identify the location, depth and material of our assets, as we do not have cathodic protection records for assets within the Project area.</p> <p>Ongoing engagement and specialist advice is required to ensure the appropriate mitigation measures are identified and documented in respect of AC interference</p>	<p>124/04/26- AC Interference studies detailing both AC Corrosion and Impressed Voltages impacts have been conducted and a modelling report provided to Anglian Water for review and comment. Methodology of the modelling has been agreed with Anglian Water in advance of undertaking the studies. National Grid have prepared and provided a proposed outline mitigation document for AC Interference works. However further internal works to model assumptions and parameters are being undertaken to confirm works done to date. An update will be provided to the AC Interference Study if required at close of internal works as well as the outline mitigation report.</p> <p>Engagement on the AC Interference impacts and subsequent mitigation requirements is ongoing.</p>	

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid response (including date)	Relevant documentation
7.5	Cable isotherms/heating from underground cables.	30/04/26 - Separate to AC Interference, Anglian Water has also raised the potential impacts on interfaces with underground assets (water mains and sewers) due to heat dispersion from the underground cables.	07/05/26 – National Grid will provide further details of anticipated cable isotherms for Anglian Water to consider the impact on their assets.	
7.6	Connections required for water supply and wastewater discharge (temporary / permanent)	30/04.2026 - Anglian Water encourages early pre-planning engagement on any temporary or permanent water/wastewater connections to ensure these can be planned for effectively and efficiently through our Inflow platform.	09/07/25 – Requirement for timely engagement in both permanent and temporary water/wastewater connections is noted. National Grid’s delivery partner are in direct contact with Anglian Water to prepare and submit such connection requests.	
7.7	Non-domestic water requests	30/04/26 - Non-domestic water requirements that exceed 20m3/day at construction compounds with concrete batching plants within Anglian Water’s supply area, are to be assessed through the submission of a Water Resources Assessment to Anglian Water, assessed within the ES, and included as a requirement in the DCO. Draft wording for such a requirement was supplied to the Examining Authority (ExA) at	24/04/26 - National Grids detailed design partners have made substantial progress liaising with Anglian Water on identifying where Water Resources Assessments are required and towards submitting site specific requests.	

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid response (including date)	Relevant documentation
		<p>Deadline 3 in response to the ExA's questions (ExQ1).</p> <p>Anglian Water has received and reviewed the non-domestic water data supplied by the Applicant and will continue discussion on appropriate mitigation measures to secure the required supply through the construction phase.</p>		
7.8	Surface water run-off management and drainage strategy through construction and operation	<p>30/04/26 - Anglian Water would seek to be consulted on the discharge of the DCO requirement for a surface water and drainage strategy to ensure there are no impacts on the operation of our assets, either from connections to our network or the design and location of any attenuation features. Anglian Water would welcome further discussion to ensure that appropriate measures are undertaken should any surface water be discharged either temporarily or permanently to a surface water sewer.</p>	<p>24/04/26– Requested requirement for Anglian Water consultation on the discharge of the DCO requirement for a surface water and drainage strategy is noted. National Grids detailed design partners are considering such impacts and will revert back to Anglian Water.</p>	
7.9	Management of interfaces with Anglian Water	<p>30/04/26 - further meetings have been held on managing interfaces through</p>	<p>24/04/26 - National Grid continues to have further engagement on Anglian Waters AMP8 schemes and welcomes the further design</p>	

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid response (including date)	Relevant documentation
	<p>AMP8 investment schemes including strategic interconnector pipelines and Forncett End WRC works</p>	<p>potential overlapping delivery timescales for strategic interconnector pipelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colchester to Ardleigh • Ardleigh to Great Horkesley • Kenninghall to Harleston (South Norfolk) • East Suffolk WRZ IPZ (interconnector to Bramford Tye) <p>Forncett End WRC schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phosphorus removal technology • Nitrogen removal technology • Additional obligations for monitoring flows and investigations to reduce storm overflows <p>Shenfield and Hutton schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phosphorus removal technology • Additional obligations for monitoring flows and investigations to reduce storm overflows <p>Further updates will be provided to the Applicant as these schemes progress to facilitate cooperation across these interfaces as they progress to delivery.</p>	<p>development information supplied by Anglian Water to progress these conversations. National Grid reiterates its intent to continue to work in a cooperative manner with Anglian Water as further detail is developed across the interacting AMP8 schemes.</p>	

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid response (including date)	Relevant documentation
7.10	Agreeing bespoke Protective Provisions for Anglian Water for inclusion in the draft DCO	04/07/25 - There are outstanding matters that appear to be unresolved which were referred to in an email dated 15.11.2024 from Anglian Water to the Project's legal team. Anglian Water has not received any update or response to these matters.	24/04/26 - National Grid and Anglian Water have made substantial progress on agreeing a set of bespoke Protective Provisions for Anglian Water which are now substantially agreed and undergoing internal review. National Grid reiterate the intention to include an agreed set within the draft DCO at the earliest opportunity to do so.	

7.1 Site Specific Interactions

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid Position (including date)	Relevant documentation
7.11	Forncett End WRC	30/04/26 Proximity of OHL to existing and future operational works, enhancement, and maintenance on site. The impacts on fire risks due to fire-fighting restrictions in close proximity to overhead lines also need to be considered. The environmental obligations at the Forncett End WRC (water recycling centre) required to be delivered in AMP8 (2025-2030) are to install infrastructure to remove Phosphorus and Nitrogen to technically achievable limits. This	24/04/26 - utilised but intended to be utilised during AMP8 plans. National Grid have received further information on the intended usage of this parcel of land south of the treatment plant in order to understand if both parties may mutually co-exist If deemed unable to co-exist then to compensate for the reduced operational abilities of the treatment plant due to being unable to use the southern section of land for its intended purpose, National Grid have proposed to Anglian Water to provide an	

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid Position (including date)	Relevant documentation
		<p>infrastructure is required to meet environmental obligations to address water quality in The Broads Special Conservation Area (SAC) and the nutrient pollution standards proscribed by the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act's (2023) amendments to the Water Industry Act 1991 at a number of Anglian Water WRCs. At this stage in the AMP, the design and delivery options have been progressed to install the necessary infrastructure on site and address the logistical and engineering challenges this would present due to the existing process streams and the alignment of the final effluent culvert/outfall to the south of our site. This is an iterative process which has been escalated for Forncett End WRC to help address the ongoing discussions with the Applicant.</p> <p>Anglian Water is seeking to confirm whether the existing operational land to the south of the Forncett End WRC can be utilised for the AMP8 investments in nutrient removal infrastructure where the 400kV OHL over the southern area of our operational land would present increased</p>	<p>alternate area of land in lieu of that of the land made inoperable within which Anglian Water could undertake the AMP8 proposed development. This area of land would be within the field immediately to the east of the treatment plant.</p> <p>Initial Anglian Water response to the proposed land swap details engineering challenges to this by way of an existing culvert/outfall they would seek to utilise within the existing parcel of operational land.</p> <p>Following a detailed technical discussion Anglian Water are reviewing the interaction with a view to reverting back with their preferred way forward.</p>	

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid Position (including date)	Relevant documentation
		<p>risks and operational challenges in delivering AMP8 environmental obligations on site (for delivery by 31st March 2030) and ongoing maintenance of these assets, and/or if the compensatory land proposal would help provide suitable mitigation. The final effluent culvert/outfall will remain under the OHL swathe/easement as currently proposed, and therefore any maintenance or repairs to this asset would be impacted by the health and safety risks presented by high voltage power lines and the attendant costs and time this confers.</p> <p>Anglian Water continues to progress these investment schemes through the delivery milestones, which should provide further clarity on our position in due course. The only certainty to avoid introducing significant constraints to our site, would be achieved by re-aligning the OHL so it does not cross our operational land. In any event there is likely to be an interface between the delivery of both the Norwich to Tilbury project and the installation of the nutrient removal infrastructure on site which will require further cooperation and collaboration between both parties on</p>		

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid Position (including date)	Relevant documentation
		<p>matters such as access to our site and cumulative impacts on traffic and transport.</p>		
7.12	Shenfield and Hutton WRC	<p>30/04/26 - Proximity of OHL to WRC and risks to existing and future operational works, enhancement, and maintenance on site. The impacts on fire risks due to fire-fighting restrictions in close proximity to overhead lines also need to be considered through appropriate mitigation.</p> <p>Use of the Shenfield & Hutton access track as a haul road for the Project will need to be considered as part of a site meeting to address both construction and ongoing operational matters for the Project – including whether any upgrades or strengthening works are required for the access.</p> <p>Anglian Water has investment schemes planned for AMP8 (2025-2030) at the WRC including an environmental obligation for phosphorus removal. A further meeting with the Applicant would be required to assess progress with the</p>	<p>24/04/26 – Further engagement with Anglian Water will be undertaken to fully understand the site-specific concerns of Norwich to Tilbury on the Shenfield and Hutton WRC.</p> <p>National Grid note the importance of continued site access to the Shenfield and Hutton WRC and will work to agree an acceptable outcome with Anglian Water. National Grid propose a meeting between the N-T project team and the Shenfield and Hutton WRC operational staff.</p>	

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid Position (including date)	Relevant documentation
		design of the scheme and any identified operational concerns for the site.		
7.13	Ardleigh/Wick Lane Reservoir	<p>30/04/26 - Construction and operation of the OHL across the reservoir to include appropriate measures to safeguard the operation, water quality and recreational uses of the reservoir and take account of the Reservoir Incident Alerting Procedure through the construction stage, which could lead to the closure of Wick Lane in an emergency.</p> <p>A risk assessment is being undertaken by Anglian Water's estates representatives to present to the Ardleigh Reservoir Committee for review.</p>	<p>24/04/26 - National Grid have held tri-party discussions with Anglian water and Affinity Water to detail potential impacts to both parties operations. It was determined these impacts are generally considered minimal however further confirmation of any restraints is pending from the joint-operational committee of Ardleigh Reservoir.</p>	
7.14	Protective Provisions	<p>From Relevant Representation 27/11/25 - A copy of Anglian Water's template Protective Provisions was supplied to the Project Team and their legal representatives through the pre-application period. This matter has been raised in subsequent consultation responses and separate meetings with the Applicant, however, the opportunity to progress towards including these provisions in the</p>	<p>24/04/26 - National Grid and Anglian Water have made substantial progress on agreeing a set of bespoke Protective Provisions for Anglian Water which are now substantially agreed and undergoing internal review. National Grid reiterate the intention to include an agreed set within the draft DCO at the earliest opportunity to do so.</p>	

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid Position (including date)	Relevant documentation
		<p>draft Development Consent Order (DCO) has not been taken forward, which is disappointing. Anglian Water has welcomed further progression on this matter with the Applicant since the submission and acceptance of the draft DCO application, 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.</p> <p>Anglian Water is obliged at this stage to object to the inclusion of the 'standard' set of protective provisions for the benefit of statutory electricity, gas, water and sewerage undertakers contained the draft DCO (Schedule 16 Part 1). Anglian Water considers these to fall short of providing the necessary protections to our existing infrastructure within the Project order limits.</p> <p>30/04/26 - Anglian Water has continued to liaise with the Applicant on the Protective</p>		

ID	Issue	Stakeholder position (including date)	National Grid Position (including date)	Relevant documentation
		Provisions and has reached agreement on the outstanding matters of concern.		
7.15	Impact on Anglian Water landownership and easements within the Order Limits.	30/04/2026 - Anglian Water is currently reviewing the terms for all easements proposed and a call is due to be arranged between Anglian Water's estates representatives and the Applicant's Lands Team.	07/05/26 – National Grid await further comments from Anglian Water on any specific concerns should they arise.	

8. Signatures

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

For National Grid

Name: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

For Anglian Water Services Limited

Name: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

National Grid plc
National Grid House,
Warwick Technology Park,
Gallows Hill, Warwick.
CV34 6DA United Kingdom

Registered in England and Wales
No. 4031152
nationalgrid.com