The Great Grid Upgrade

North Humber to High Marnham

NHHM-NG-CNS-REP-0020

North Humber to High Marnham

Volume 5: Reports and Statements

Document 5.8.4 Statement of Common Ground - National Highways

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nationalgrid

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1. Purpose of the Statement of Common Ground

1.1.1 This draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared by National Grid Electricity Transmission (National Grid / 'the Applicant') and National Highways regarding the proposed North Humber to High Marnham Development Consent Order (DCO) application ('the Application').

1.1.2 Section 4 sets out the matters 'agreed' between the Parties, for which no further issues have been raised. It also identifies matters that remain 'under discussion', where agreement has not yet been reached and further negotiations are required to establish an agreed approach.

1.1.3 This SoCG is structured as follows:

- Section 1: An introduction to this SoCG and a description of its purpose
- Section 2: Gives a description of the project.
- Section 3: Summarises engagement between Parties to date
- Section 4: Summarises the key matters and captures the status of each issue / matter.
- Section 5: Sets out matters not agreed between the Parties.
- Section 6: Sets out the approvals and the signing off sheet between the Parties.

1.1.4 The aim of the SoCG is to clarify the shared understanding of any issues and facilitate an efficient resolution process. Any reference to 'the Parties' means National Grid and National Highways.

1.1.5 This draft SoCG has been prepared at an early phase of the DCO process, ahead of submission. It is intended to be a live and working document which will be updated as the project progresses and shared with National Highways at key points for discussion. A final SoCG will be prepared ahead of the close of the DCO Examination. Unlike a final SoCG, this draft SoCG has not been officially signed by either party.

2. Project Description

2.1.1 The North Humber to High Marnham Project (the Project) is a new 400 kilovolt (kV) electricity transmission connection of approximately 90 kilometres (km) in overall length between two proposed new substations: the 400 kV Birkhill Wood Substation and 400 kV High Marnham Substation.

2.1.2 The proposed new substations are subject to separate planning applications. For more information, see **Application Document 5.4 Consents and Licences Required Under Other Legislation**.

2.1.3 The Project comprises:

- Approximately 90 km of new overhead line (Route Code 4AF) between the proposed new 400 kV Birkhill Wood Substation and 400 kV High Marnham Substation;
- Replacement and re-alignment of a section of the existing 400 kV overhead line (Route Code 4ZQ) between Brantingham and east of Broomfleet;
- Replacement and re-alignment of a section of the existing 400 kV overhead line (Route Code ZDA) between Ealand and west of Keadby;
- Line entry connections to a proposed new 400 kV Birkhill Wood Substation;
- Line entry connections to a proposed new 400 kV High Marnham Substation; and
- The Project would include other required works, for example, temporary diversions for works on existing overhead line routes, temporary access roads, highway works, temporary works compounds, work sites and ancillary works. The Project would also include utility diversions and drainage works. There would also be land required for environmental mitigation, offsetting, compensation and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).

2.1.4 A full description of the Project is provided in **Application Document 6.4 Environmental Statement Chapter 4 Description of the Project**.

3. Record of Engagement

3.1 Role of the Consultee in the process

3.1.1 National Highways is a strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the Strategic Road Network (SRN). As such, they own and manage the SRN in accordance with the legal requirements of their operational licence and in general conformity with the requirements of the Highways Act 1980 and Infrastructure Act 2015, and to satisfy the reasonable requirements of road safety. For the purposes of the Planning Act 2008 they are a statutory consultee for all proposed applications likely to affect the road or transport operation and/or planning on roads for which the strategic highways company is the highway authority.

3.1.2 National Highway's interest relates to the Oversailing of the proposed development over the SRN, which, in the vicinity of this proposal, including the oversailing of the A63 dual carriageway and the M180 motorway. At this time, National Highways has not seen the draft land plans, works plans, streets and other related drawings or the draft wording of the DCO and accordingly reserves its position on whether any other relevant interest in the proposed application (e.g. beyond oversailing works) is triggered.

3.1.3 A period of non-statutory consultation was held for eight weeks, between 1 June 2023 and 27 July 2023. National Highways did not submit a response to this Consultation. National Highways did not submit a response to the Planning Inspectorate following the applicant's request for a scoping opinion in August 2023.

3.1.4 A localised non-statutory consultation was held for four weeks, between 9 July 2024 and 6 August 2024. That consultation introduced a potential alternative corridor for routeing and sought the views of the public and relevant stakeholders. National Highways did not submit a response to this consultation.

3.1.5 Statutory consultation was held for a period of eight weeks from 18 February 2025 to 15 April 2025. That consultation provided an opportunity to see how the proposals had developed, how previous feedback had been considered and sought the views of the public and stakeholders on the updated proposals. National Highways submitted a response to this consultation on the 14th April 2025.

3.2 Summary of pre-application discussions

3.2.1 Table 3.1 provides an overview of the engagement that has taken place between National Grid and National Highways.

Table 3.1 – Summary of Engagement between National Grid and National Highways (NH)

Date	Format	Topic	Description
01/05/2023	Letter	**Non-statutory consultation**	Notification about the commencement of non-statutory consultation and inviting NH to submit feedback.
09/07/2024	Letter	**Localised Non-Statutory Consultation**	Notification about the commencement of the localised non-statutory consultation and inviting NH to submit feedback.
13/02/2025	MS Teams	**Project Proposal Meeting**	Presentation to NH prior to statutory consultation to talk NH through the route and discuss the interactions of the project with NH assets.
13/02/2025	email	**Overhead Line (OHL)**	Clearances to OHL's specification.
13/02/2025	email	**Scaffolds**	Link sent for guidance of clearances of scaffolds to NH assets.
15/04/2025	email	**Statutory Consultation Response**	Letter from NH consultant Harry Robinson (Systra).
27/08/2025	Email	**Shape Files**	NH requested a copy of the NHHM shape files.
09/02/2026	MS Teams	**Development of the Project**	Presentation with NH to talk around any changes following statutory consultation. Further discussions held with regards to the protection of NH assets during wiring works and methodologies for undertaking the constructions works. In addition, discussions were held with regards to the additional crossing point to be introduced oversailing the A63 and a new oversailing crossing point over the M180. Temporary road closures were discussed for netting / de-netting scaffolds and the use of drones / helicopters for installing pilot bonds.
09/02/2026	Email	**Profiles**	Profiles submitted to NH for the two crossing points.
10/02/2026	Email	**NH Data Sets**	NH submitted data set boundaries for the two crossing points.
21/05/2026	MS Teams	**Detail of Construction Works**	Presentation to discuss the extent of road closures, timings of them and the associated diversion routes. Also discussed TTRO's, traffic flows and asset protection agreements.

Date	Format	Topic	Description
07/06/2026	Email	**NH Protective Provisions**	National Highways submitted Protective Provisions.
12/06/2026	Email	**Traffic Data**	Traffic Flow Diagrams and GIS Primary Access Route Mapping sent to National Highways

4. Matters Agreed or Under Discussion

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 This section details the matters relevant to National Highways which have been agreed or are under discussion between the parties.

4.1.2 The red, amber, green status shows, at a glance, the level of agreement with National Highways, as seen in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 – Agreement Status

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

Table 4.2 – Matters Agreed or Under Discussion in Relation to the Project

ID	**Matter**	**Agreed Position** (working towards)	**National Highways Position** (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	**Date** (last discussed / date agreed)	**Status**
NH-01	Road Closures on the Strategic Road Network and diversions onto the Local Road Network	The Applicant presented to National Highways potential closures (and related diversions) of the M180 and A63 during the MS Teams call of 21/05/26. The Applicant has also supplied an excel spreadsheet, containing information relating to the proposed closure of the M180 and A63. This included information on the closure extents, duration, related construction activities, and the proposed diversions. This was sent via email on 12/06/26. The need for adequate notice to be given to National Highways of closures has been discussed. National Highways have provided the Applicant with a copy of their preferred Protective Provisions, which will be included in the draft DCO for submission, and includes requirement to give 3 months-notice of specified works starting.	National Highways to provide their position on this matter, upon receipt of the **Application Document 2.6 Access, Rights of Way and Rights of Navigation Plans, Application Document 7.4 Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan** and any other relevant applications document relating to road closures and diversions, following acceptance of the application.	21/05/2026	Under discussion
NH-02	Road Closures on the Local Road Network and Diversions on to the Strategic Road Network	The Applicant presented to National Highways potential closures of the A164 and A18 (and proposed diversions using the M180 and A63) during the MS Teams call of 21/05/26.	National Highways to provide their position on this matter, upon receipt of the **Application Document 2.6 Access, Rights of Way and Rights of Navigation Plans, Application Document 7.4 Outline Construction**	21/05/2026	Under discussion

ID	Matter	**Agreed Position** (working towards)	**National Highways Position** (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	**Date** (last discussed / date agreed)	**Status**
		The Applicant has supplied an excel spreadsheet, containing information relating to the proposed closure of the A164 and A18. This included information on the closure extents, duration, related construction activities, and the proposed diversions. This was sent via email on 12/06/26.	**Traffic Management Plan** and any other relevant applications document relating to road closures and diversions, following acceptance of the application.		
NH-03	Traffic Flows	The Traffic Flow Diagrams for the NHHM Project were sent to National Highways on 12/06/26.	National Highways to provide their position on this matter, upon receipt of the **Application Document 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 Traffic and Transport** and all relevant appendices.	21/05/2026	Under discussion
NH-04	Asset Protection Agreement	The need for an Asset Protection Agreement was discussed at the meetings with National Highways on 09/02/26 and 21/05/26. The need for such an agreement is still under discussion.	The need for an asset protection agreement will only become known once the extent of powers and the land/rights requirements of National Grid become known on submission of their DCO application.	21/05/2026	Under discussion
NH-05	Abnormal Loads	Abnormal Load routes was discussed at the meeting with National Highways on 21/05/26. The Applicant is in the process of finalising the Abnormal and Indivisible Load (AIL) Strategy for the Project.	National Highways to provide their position on this matter, upon receipt of the AIL route mapping data.	21/05/2026	Under discussion

ID	Matter	Agreed Position (working towards)	National Highways Position (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	Date (last discussed / date agreed)	Status
		The Applicant will supply a copy of the AIL routes, to be used for construction of the Project, to National Highways once produced.			
NH-06	Protective Provisions	National Grid and National Highways will continue discussions regarding the need for and content of Protective Provisions to address asset protection, approvals, notifications, liabilities, access requirements and construction controls (not exhaustive).	National Highways has provided a draft of its protective provisions to National Grid for review. The exact form of the protective provisions to be agreed between the parties will depend on the extent of powers and the land/rights requirements of National Grid as submitted in the DCO application. At a meeting between National Highways and National Grid on 21 July 2026, National Highways set out the circumstances in which the protective provisions could be reduced as far as possible to ensure they reflected the limited interaction between the Project and the SRN. The extent to which National Highways' protective provisions can be reduced (e.g. the need for security and certification provisions) will depend on the extent of powers sought by National Grid. If wider powers than just oversailing are included over the SRN in Schedule 1 of the draft DCO, National Highways will be unable to approach the application as though it were an oversailing	07/06/2026	Under discussion

ID	Matter	Agreed Position (working towards)	National Highways Position (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	Date (last discussed / date agreed)	Status
			scheme and will need to seek appropriate protections (e.g. bonds). National Highways remains keen to keep an open and positive dialogue with National Grid to achieve a mutually agreeable position.		

5. Matters Not Agreed

5.1 Overview

5.1.1 This section details the matters relevant to National Highways which have not been agreed between the parties.

[TABLE TO BE INSERTED AT EXAMINATION TO INCLUDE MATTERS NOT AGREED. THERE ARE NO MATTERS NOT AGREED AT THIS STAGE]

6. Confirmation of Agreement

The above SoCG is agreed between National Grid and National Highways on the date specified below.

Signed for and on behalf of National Grid:

……

Date:

……

Signed for and on behalf of National Highways:

……

Date:

……

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