The Great Grid Upgrade

North Humber to High Marnham

NHHM-NG-CNS-REP-0025

North Humber to High Marnham

Volume 5: Reports and Statements

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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 Grid Electricity Distribution (NGED) 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 Grid Electricity Distribution.

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 Grid Electricity Distribution 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 Grid Electricity Distribution (NGED) are an authorised distributor under the Electricity Act 1989 and holds an electricity distribution licence granted by the Secretary of State. NGED are the relevant Distribution Network Operator, who will be responsible for undertaking works to the existing distribution network to enable and facilitate the delivery of the Project. Other Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) may also be involved where their assets are affected; however, for the purposes of this SoCG, NGED is identified as the primary interface. Under the Planning Act 2008, NGED are a prescribed consultee.

3.1.2 These works will comprise the implementation of necessary mitigation measures, including both permanent diversions and temporary connections, to ensure the safety, integrity and continuity of the electrical network during construction. This will include the undergrounding where required of existing overhead assets to facilitate the build of the proposed scheme.

3.1.3 In addition, NGED will support the establishment of new electrical connections to temporary and permanent compounds associated with the project. This includes the provision, installation, and commissioning of infrastructure required to service construction compounds and associated facilities.

3.1.4 The intention is for the DNO to undertake all diversion and associated works under their own statutory powers. Despite this, these works are included within the Order Limits and have been assessed as part of the authorised development. This ensures that all required activities fall within both the authorised development boundary and the scope of the environmental assessment, while maintaining the necessary flexibility.

3.1.5 NGED will be providing the following services and connections for the delivery of the Project:

- NGED-01 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF178 – 4AF179
- NGED-02 33kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF182 - 4AF183
- NGED-03 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF185 - 4AF186
- NGED-04 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF191 - 4AF192 & M-3 Compound Supply
- NGED-05 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF193 - 4AF194
- NGED-06 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF197 – 4AF198
- NGED-07 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF202 - 4AF203
- NGED-08 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF211 – 4AF212
- NGED-09A 11kV S-5 Compound Connection (4AF222 – 4AF223)
- NGED-09B 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF228 - 4AF230

- NGED-10 33kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF231 – 4AF232
- NGED-11 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF235 – 4AF236
- NGED-12 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF238 - 4AF239
- NGED-13 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF242 - 4AF243
- NGED-14 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF248 - 4AF250
- NGED-15A 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF253 - 4AF254
- NGED-15B 11kV S-6 Compound Connection & Access
- NGED-16 11kV OHL Undergrounding in span 4AF256 – 4AF257

3.1.6 All such works will be developed in coordination with the Applicant to align with the construction programme and to minimise disruption to existing network operations and customers.

3.1.7 A period of non-statutory consultation was held for eight weeks, between 1 June 2023 and 27 July 2023. NGED did not submit a response to this consultation but provided informal feedback through meetings. NGED did not submit a response to the Planning Inspectorate following the applicant's request for a scoping opinion in August 2023.

3.1.8 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, including NGED. NGED did submit a response to this consultation.

3.1.9 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. NGED did not submit a response to this consultation.

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 NGED.

Table 3.1 – Summary of Engagement between National Grid and National Grid Electricity Distribution

Date	Format	Topic	Description
26/05/2023	Meeting	**Project Launch**	North Humber to High Marnham Project Launch Briefing.
01/06/2023	Letter	**Notice of non-statutory consultation**	Notification about the commencement of non-statutory consultation and inviting NGED to submit feedback.
6/10/2023	Correspondence	**Project Scope**	Issuing of Project Scope.

Date	Format	Topic	Description
02/11/2023	Correspondence	**Undergrounding Proposals**	Issuing of undergrounding proposals for review.
11/06/2024	Meeting	**Scope Review**	Scoping Review.
24/07/2025	Correspondence	**Set out of project requirements**	Coordination of reviewing the NGED interfaces with the Project.
30/07/2025	Face to Face Workshop	**Review of interaction schedule**	A coordination workshop to review the interaction schedule between the Project and NGED assets.
12/11/2025	Correspondence	**Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders Request for Info (RFI)**	Requested clarification from NGED on traffic management approaches at highway crossings.
17/11/2025	Correspondence	**Feasibility Reports**	Receipt the initial submission of feasibility reports from NGED.
20/11/2025	Correspondence	**Compound Connection Quotations**	A request was issued to NGED for the provision of connections to proposed compounds.
26/11/2025	Correspondence	**Review of Feasibility Reports**	A detailed review of NGED's feasibility reports was undertaken and comments returned.
18/12/2025	Correspondence	**Diversion Routes - Additional Justification**	Issue a request to NGED for additional justification and clarification to be incorporated into the feasibility reports.
08/01/2026	Correspondence	**TTRO RFI**	Requested information from NGED to support the development of TTRO assumptions.
05/02/2026	Correspondence	**Feasibility Report Sign off**	Confirmed sign-off of NGED feasibility reports.
05/02/2026	Correspondence	**Licensing & Species Monitoring**	An email was issued to discuss the approach to ecological licensing and species mitigation for NGED works.
12/02/2026	Correspondence	**TTRO Proposals for NGED**	Issued the TTRO pack to NGED for review, covering all DNO works affecting the highway.
10/03/2026	Correspondence	**Interactions of NGED works with PROWs**	An email was issued to NGED seeking clarification on potential interactions between proposed works and Public Rights of Way (PROW).

Date	Format	Topic	Description
16/03/2026	Correspondence	**Landowner Status**	An update was shared with NGED setting out current landowner positions in areas affected by proposed works.
26/03/2026	Correspondence	**Watercourse Stand-off Distance RFI**	Email was issued to NGED seeking clarification on the application of the 9m stand-off distance.
02/04/2026	Correspondence	**Bi-Weekly Catch-Up Minutes**	Issue of minutes capturing actions from the bi-weekly meeting.
16/04/2026	Correspondence	**Issue of data set**	Issue of Final Design Freeze (FDF) 4B Data Set.
03/06/2026	Correspondence	**EPR Study Enquiry**	NGED were requested to review EPR study provided & provide confirmation of LV earthing type at affected third-party sites to inform voltage contour and mitigation assessments.
15/07/2026	Meeting	**Connection Applications**	A detailed run-through of the connection application requirements was undertaken.
31/07/2026	Correspondence	**NGED Clearances**	Confirmation of minimum clearance requirements between NGED underground cables and existing utilities, including gas, water/sewer, and other electricity cables.
11/09/2026	Correspondence	**Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**	Review and agreement of the REAC between NGET and NGED.
07/10/2026	Correspondence	**Protective Provisions**	The Parties discussed the inclusion of a draft set of Protective Provisions to be included in the application for the benefit of NGED.

4. Matters Agreed or Under Discussion

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 This section details the matters relevant to NGED 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 NGED, 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 Grid Electricity Distribution's Position** (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	**Date** (last discussed / date agreed)	**Status**
NGED-01	Feasibility Designs	National Grid and NGED have agreed that NGED will undertake the undergrounding and associated connections at 17 identified locations, comprising a mix of 11kV and 33kV overhead line spans and compound supplies.	Agreed.	05/02/2026	Agreed
NGED-02	Lands Strategy Agreement	Working collaboratively with NGED to develop and implement a coordinated, shared lands strategy approach.	NGED will carry out a review of the Land Strategy Document once made available and confirm their position.	03/06/2026	Agreed
NGED-03	Licensing and Mitigation	National Grid and NGED agree where works are done under the DCO, National Grid manage the licensing and mitigation of species where required. Whereby the works are done outside of the DCO, NGED will manage the licensing and mitigation of species.	Agreed.	03/06/2026	Agreed
NGED-04	Traffic and Transport	Temporary road closures and traffic management for Distribution Network Operators (DNO) diversions have been discussed with NGED. An excel spread sheet, containing all the proposed closures and use of traffic management was shared with NGED on 12/02/2026. This contained information on the proposed use of full closures with diversions, and partial closures (1 lane of the carriageway) and the use of traffic management. NGED are	Agreed. NGED responded by email on 19/2/26 confirming they were satisfied with the proposed temporary road closures and traffic management, and the proposed use of Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs) to enable these to take place.	21/04/2026	Agreed

ID	Matter	**Agreed Position** (working towards)	**National Grid Electricity Distribution's Position** (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	**Date** (last discussed / date agreed)	**Status**
		satisfied with the proposed temporary road closures and traffic management. National Grid and NGED have agreed all Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders required for works to the highway to enable the DNO diversionary works and Compound Connections for the scheme. National Grid and NGED have agreed the use of managed access on affected Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) in the vicinity of DNO diversions and Compound Connections.			

5. Matters Not Agreed

5.1 Overview

5.1.1 This section details the matters relevant to NGED 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 Electricity Transmission and National Grid Electricity Distribution on the date specified below.

Signed for and on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission:

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Date:

……

Signed for and on behalf of National Grid Electricity Distribution:

……

Date:

……

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