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Environmental Protection

Planning Inspectorate

PLANNING ACT 2008

REGULATION 32 OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017

NOTIFICATION OF INFORMATION ABOUT DEVELOPMENT LIKELY TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN AN EEA STATE

PROPOSED EASTERN GREEN LINK 3 AND EASTERN GREEN LINK 4 (EGL 3 AND 4)

National Grid has formally notified the Secretary of State, of its intention to submit an Environmental Statement.

The proposed development consists of two electrical transmission reinforcement links supplying up to 2GW of electricity between Scotland and England, known as Eastern Green Link 3 (EGL 3) and Eastern Green Link 4 (EGL 4). The electrical transmission links consist of High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) cabling transporting electricity to the onshore substation infrastructure then into the National Grid Electricity Transmission System (NGET) substation in England and the Scottish and Southern Electricity Transmission (SSEN) and Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPT) in Scotland. The proposed development will consist of both onshore and offshore components.

The offshore aspects of the EGL 3 and EGL 4 comprise approximately 436km and 422km respectively, of subsea High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) cabling including a fibre optic cable at the Mean High-Water Springs (MHWS) mark at either Theddlethorpe or Anderby Creek, Lincolnshire, England to the marine boundary between English and Scottish waters. The onshore aspects of EGL 3 will comprise a new converter station and approximately 105km of underground HVDC cable. The onshore aspects of EGL 4 will comprise of two new converter stations, one switching station and approximately 111.2km of HVDC cable.

Information about the proposed development and about its likely significant effects is available in the scoping report and the Secretary of State's scoping opinion which are available electronically on the Planning Inspectorate's website: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0210003>

Based on the current information provided by the applicant to the Secretary of State, and applying a precautionary approach, the Secretary of State is of the view that the proposed development is likely to have significant effects on the environment in Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway and Spain. In accordance with regulation 32 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations) the Secretary of State has provided information to the above mentioned EEA States about the proposed development and its likely significant effects, and these States have been asked to indicate by 02 July 2025 whether or not they wish to participate in the procedure for examining and determining the application under the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) and regulation 32 of The EIA Regulations.

The proposed development is currently at the pre-application stage of the process. The applicant has not yet submitted an application to the Secretary of State. If the application is accepted for examination, the application will be examined in public and, subject to the provisions of the PA 2008, the examination must be completed within a period of six months. Further information about how to participate in the examination procedure under the PA 2008 and the way in which the Secretary of State will notify and consult EEA States in accordance with regulation 32 of The EIA Regulations is available on the UK Government's website: 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice pages'.

Following examination of the application and having taken the environmental information into consideration, the decision maker may refuse or grant development consent. If development consent is granted, this may be subject to requirements which, if necessary, will secure measures to avoid, reduce or offset the major adverse effects of the proposed development.

Signed by the Planning Inspectorate for and on behalf of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

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