

Hinkley Point C Connection Project Material Change- EN0210004

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET)

Section 51 Advice Log

Version: 5 August 2025

There is a statutory duty under [section 51 \(s51\) of the Planning Act 2008](#) for the Planning Inspectorate to record the advice that it gives in relation to an application or potential application, and to make this publicly available.

This document comprises a record of the advice that has been provided by the Inspectorate to the applicant (National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET)) and their consultants during the pre-application stage. It will be updated by the Inspectorate after every interaction with the applicant during which s51 has been provided. The applicant will always be given the opportunity to comment on the Inspectorate's draft record of advice before it is published.

The applicant will use this Advice Log as the basis for demonstrating regard to section 51 advice within the application.

Hinkley Point C Connection Project – Material Change s51 Advice Log - Index	
Date of meeting	Meeting overview
<u>16 January 2025</u>	Project Update Meeting
<u>5 August 2025</u>	Project Update Meeting

Project name -s51 Advice Library	
Project Update Meeting	Meeting date: 16 January 2025
Project programme	The Inspectorate advised that an updated Programme Document should be provided outlining any updates to the programme. The Inspectorate further advised that the applicant should publish the Programme Document on the project website and ensure that any updated versions are also published, in due course.
Stakeholder Engagement	<p>The Inspectorate advised the applicant that it should endeavour to provide Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) with as much certainty as possible regarding the timescales for the submission of the Regulation 10 request. The Inspectorate advised that the Programme Document should be as up to date as possible to provide clarity to the department.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised that any planning performance agreements should cover the pre-application, examination and post decision stages to ensure that Local Authorities are resourced effectively to engage.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised that the applicant should seek to finalise as many land agreements as possible with landowners ahead of the submission of the material change application, in order to facilitate a smoother examination. The Inspectorate further advised that if the project involves any Crown Land, the Crown Estate should be consulted as soon as possible.</p>
The Proposed Development – categories of change	The Inspectorate advised that it would be helpful to have an explanation of the inter-relationships between the three proposed categories of change.
Draft structure of the EIA Scoping Report	The applicant was advised of the importance of ensuring that the project submitted for examination is the final one. The applicant was advised that as the Material Change examination period is shorter than the standard development consent order (DCO) examination period, it will be highly unlikely that an Examining Authority will be able to accept a change to the project that engages the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010.
AOB	The Inspectorate advised the applicant that a good design webinar for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) has recently been held. The applicant was advised to ensure that it demonstrates regard to the content, as well

	as the good design advice page, when preparing its application documents.
Project Update Meeting	Meeting date: 5 August 2025
EIA scoping opinion	<p>The applicant sought agreement to their approach regarding a number of matters raised within the Scoping Opinion. The Inspectorate advised the applicant that they were not in a position to agree these approaches post-scoping, and the applicant should instead set out any justification for their approach within the Environment Statement (ES).</p> <p>The Inspectorate provided clarification on wording within the Scoping Opinion and confirmed that project culverts were scoped out of the visual effects chapter of the ES.</p> <p>PINS confirmed that it agrees to scope out matters as set out in paragraphs 2.4.30, 2.4.47 and 2.4.88 of the scoping report. These matters relate to landowner culverts/bridges, vehicular access points and changes to land rights during the construction phase.</p>
Regulation 10 request	The Inspectorate advised that this process is completed by Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and the Inspectorate are not consulted on the request. The applicant was advised that DESNZ will provide the Inspectorate with the required information at the relevant time.
Stakeholder Engagement	The Inspectorate advised the applicant to consider how awareness of the material change application would be raised within local communities as part of the statutory consultation, particularly where there may be clusters of proposed construction works.
AOB	The Inspectorate advised that other material change applications are expected to be submitted in the coming months.