

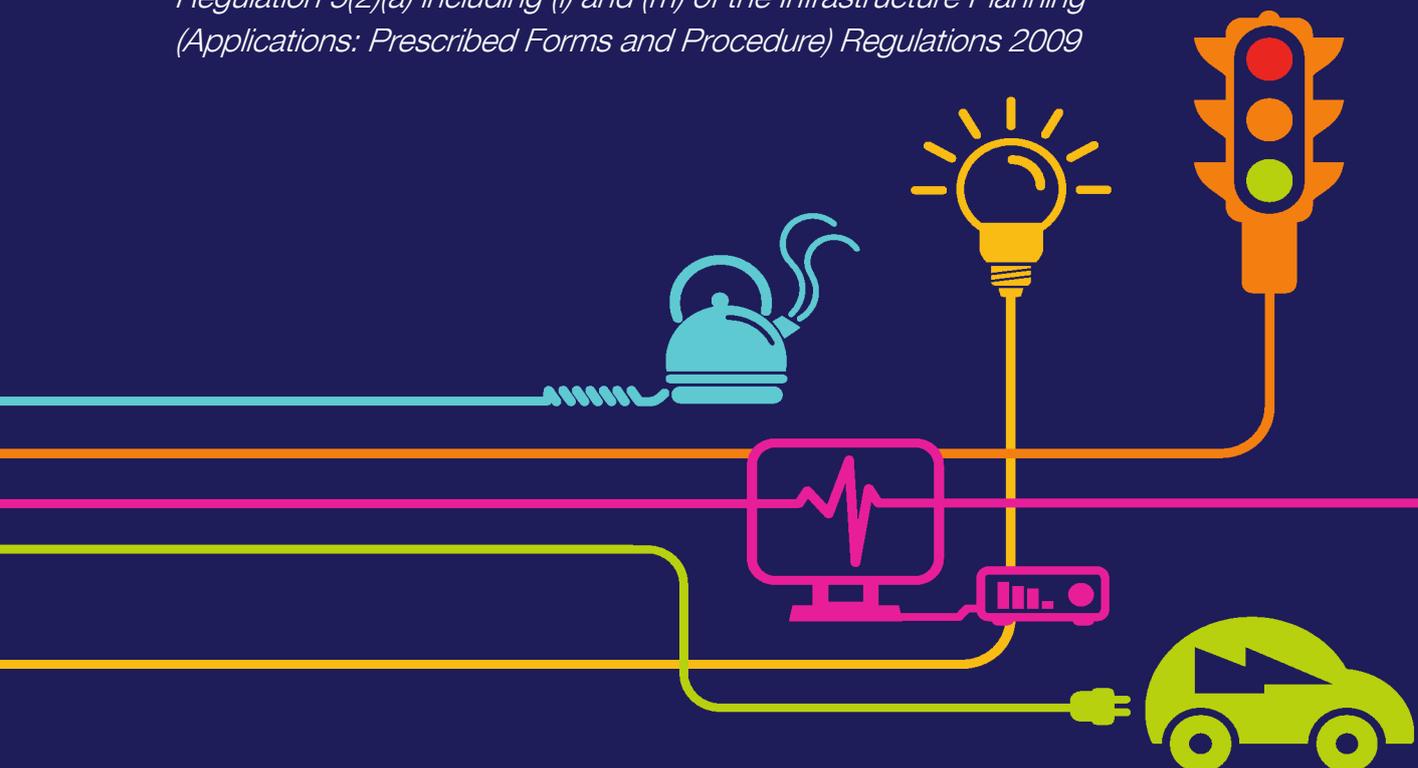
DOCUMENT 5.1.2.1

Notification to Provide an Environmental Statement

Chapter 1 – Appendix 1

National Grid (North Wales Connection Project)

Regulation 5(2)(a) including (l) and (m) of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009



nationalgrid

North Wales Connection Project

Volume 5

Document 5.1.2.1 Appendix 1.1 Notification to provide an Environmental Statement

National Grid
National Grid House
Warwick Technology Park
Gallows Hill
Warwick
CV34 6DA

Final September 2018

Page intentionally blank

For the attention of Hannah Pratt
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

23rd May 2016

Dear Hannah

North Wales Connection Project – Connecting new low carbon energy in North Wales

Notification to provide an Environmental Statement under Regulation 6(1)(b) and Regulation 8, request for a Scoping Opinion, of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) in respect of development for which an application for an order granting Development Consent (DCO) will be made.

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (National Grid) is the applicant for the proposed North Wales Connection Project. The proposed project is considered to be a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project which falls under the - Development Consent Order (DCO) consenting regime under the Planning Act 2008 (as amended).

National Grid therefore, hereby notifies the Secretary of State in writing that it proposes to provide an Environmental Statement in accordance with the above Regulations.

Please find enclosed with this notification, plans identifying the land to which the proposed application is currently expected to relate. At this time a route corridor has been identified within which the connection would be located, including the proposed locations for the overhead line, underground cable, the proposed extensions to electricity substations, sealing end compounds and tunnel head houses, all construction areas and related works. The precise alignment of the scheme within the route corridor would be subject to ongoing environmental and technical assessments, and will be subject to further public consultation.

The Nature and Purpose of the Proposed Development Project

In the absence of sufficient suitable electrical infrastructure in North Wales required to connect the proposed new nuclear power station at Wylfa on the island of Anglesey, National Grid needs to develop new electrical infrastructure. This infrastructure, known as the *North Wales Connection Project (the Project)*, is subject to on-going assessment and consultation and therefore is not yet fixed, but our progress to date suggests it could comprise:

- A new 400 kV connection. The current proposal is a combination of overhead line (approximately 30km) and underground connection cabling/tunnel (approximately 5km) connecting the proposed new 400 kV line from the existing Wylfa substation, Anglesey, to the existing substation at Pentir, Gwynedd. Sealing end compounds to link the overhead line sections to the underground cable section, each approximately 70m x 40m in size
- Tunnel head houses to link the underground cable section to the tunnel each approximately 20m x 20 m in size
- Works at the substations at Wylfa and Pentir.
- All construction areas and related works.

Description of EIA Development

The overhead line element is considered to fall under Schedule 1 (20) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended), i.e. '*Construction of overhead electrical power lines with a voltage of 220 kilovolts or more and a length of more than 15km*' and, as such, is classed as EIA development requiring an Environmental Statement. National Grid intends that the Environmental Statement will cover all elements of the Project as listed above. It is also intended that the Environmental Statement will consider the combined effects of the proposed Project with any wider works which National Grid may need to carry out.

National Grid hereby submits a formal Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate to cover all elements of the Project as listed above and a request for a scoping opinion under Regulation 8 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended).

The following outlines the 'possible effects on the environment' (as required by the Regulations above) arising from the Project that, at this stage, are envisaged would be addressed in the Environmental Statement subject to a formal scoping opinion:

- *Ecology*— Based on the potential sensitivity of the receiving environment, both in terms of habitats and protected species, an assessment will be undertaken to determine the residual effects.
- *Archaeology and Cultural Heritage* — Based on the potential sensitivity of both above and below ground assets in the receiving environment, an assessment will be undertaken to determine the residual effects.
- *Water Quality and Resources* - Based on the potential sensitivity of the receiving environment an assessment of discharges, dewatering of excavations, surface runoff of silts, potential contamination and flood risk will be undertaken to determine residual effects.
- *Geology, Soils and Contaminated Land* — The nature of the Project will require an assessment of the underlying geology and soils and the potential mobilization of any contaminants to determine the residual effects.
- *Agriculture and Land Use* — An assessment of agriculture and land use through which the draft route passes and potential impacts on land drainage; agri-environment schemes will be undertaken to determine the residual effects.
- *Air Quality*— Focus on potential impacts during construction and decommissioning including dust emissions, odour and exhaust emissions from plant, machinery and vehicles.
- *Electric and Magnetic Forces* — EMFs associated with the operation of the 400 kV overhead line, underground cables, associated substation and sealing end compounds would be assessed.
- *Traffic and Transportation* — An assessment of potential impacts will be made, focusing on the construction and decommissioning phases, and including access, delivery of equipment, existing road users.
- *Socio-economics* — Focus on tourism and recreation resources and facilities, and local and national economy.
- *Noise and Vibration* — Potential effects associated with construction, operation and decommissioning will be assessed.
- *Climate Change* — An assessment of potential impacts will be made including flood risk and changes to ground conditions.
- *Welsh Language* — The potential effects on the Welsh language arising from the use of non-Welsh speaking construction workers would be assessed.

These possible effects, and proposed assessment methodologies are identified within the submitted Scoping Report.

National Grid looks forward to receiving written notification, as soon as possible, under Regulation 9(1) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended) of the relevant bodies and persons notified.

Should you have any queries on the above or require additional information please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number.

Yours sincerely

Jacqui Fenn
Consents Officer

Enc Figure 1.1