



# The Sizewell C Project

## 9.10.10 Statement of Common Ground - Network Rail

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Revision: 3.0  
Applicable Regulation: Regulation 5(2)(q)  
PINS Reference Number: EN010012

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October 2021

Planning Act 2008  
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed  
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009



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## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 This Third Statement of Common Ground (**SoCG**) relates to the application for a Development Consent Order: the Sizewell C (Nuclear Generating Station) Development Consent Order (**Proposed DCO**) and confirms the position of NBB Generation Company (SZC) Limited (**Applicant**) and Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (**Network Rail**) as of 11 October 2021.

1.1.2 Issues relating to rail have been the subject of questions from the Examining Authority, Written Representations from Network Rail and responses from SZC. Co. The relevant issues are familiar to the examination and the parties continue to work closely together to ensure the delivery of rail infrastructure and subsequent operations.

1.1.3 This third SoCG reports the latest position reached through joint working and provides an update on key matters.

### 1.2 Darsham Level Crossing

1.2.1 SZC Co. proposes to provide 50% of the required funding for the level crossing upgrade, estimated to be £2m, however, Network Rail cannot commit to this due to not having confirmed funding secured. NR will be applying for funding for this enhancement as part of its funding submission for CP7 (Mar 2024). However, should funding not be secured then SZC Co. would be willing to discuss providing the balance of funding to ensure the works can be delivered to meet the SZC Co. programme.

### 1.3 Implementation of Level Crossing Upgrades (East Suffolk Line)

1.3.1 SZC Co. and Network Rail are finalising the terms of an Implementation Agreement to deliver the necessary upgrades of level crossings on the East Suffolk line, to ensure the works can be delivered to meet the SZC Co. programme.

### 1.4 East Suffolk Line Track Survey

1.4.1 The final form Basic Services Agreement is now agreed by both parties and ready for signature. The current intention is to complete the services by the end of 2021. Services within the agreement will assess track condition.

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- 1.5 Progress on GRIP3/4 Design for the Sizewell Branch line
- a) GRIP 3
- 1.5.2 The SZC Co. Design Team is currently finalising signalling deliverables, with the anticipated date for issuing a scoping report of 20 October. The formal technical review with Network Rail (Major Signalling Review Panel) took place on 07 October. There is ongoing positive engagement between SZC Co. and Network Rail Engineers as part of Network Rail technical assurance process, with a plan to close out remaining actions prior to consideration of endorsement.
- 1.5.3 Proposed level crossing upgrade designs were presented to the Network Rail Technical Panel and no objections were raised.
- b) GRIP 4
- 1.5.4 Following the engagement with Network Rail at GRIP 3, SZC Co. has now commenced the GRIP 4 design at risk on 02 August in order to further develop its solutions pending the completion of formal technical review with Network Rail required to secure endorsement of the GRIP 3 proposal in principal.
- 1.5.5 The design work is proceeding in accord with the joint programme set out in the second Statement of Common Ground [REP5-095]. Network Rail and SZC Co. are formalising track access to deliver the upgrade works.
- 1.6 Freight Update
- 1.6.1 There are a number of strategic train paths that need to be secured to facilitate the supply of bulk materials to the Project by rail. The procurement of these materials is not yet complete, however, the SCZ Co. project team have sought to identify the necessary paths from a UK based supply chain and have advised Network Rail they are in the process of securing them ahead of introduction of the May 2023 timetable.
- 1.7 Update on Level Crossing Alarms
- 1.7.1 Ongoing discussion is taking place between the parties regarding the need for, and the appropriate noise levels of audible level crossing alarms at each site. Each site will be risk assessed individually to inform the required noise level for each location.

## 1.8 Rail operation and maintenance strategy

1.8.1 SZC Co. has set out an initial high level proposal to Network Rail in which its proposal for responsibility of ownership, operation and maintenance of each section of rail line is outlined. Network Rail has requested an operational and maintenance strategy be developed to enable the technical details of the proposals to explore the feasibility and acceptability.

## 1.9 Framework Agreement

1.9.1 SZC Co. and Network Rail have signed the Framework Agreement and The DCO objection has been withdrawn, subject to SZC's compliance with its terms.

## SIGNATURES

Signed:



Print Name: James Lewis

Job Title: Principal Programme Sponsor

Date: 11-10-21

Duly authorised for and on behalf of Network Rail Infrastructure Limited

Signed:



Print Name: Carly Vince

Job Title: Chief Planning Officer

Date: 11-10-21

Duly authorised for and on behalf of SZC Co.