

# National Grid Ventures (NGV) Written Response to East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two Examinations Deadline 6

24<sup>th</sup> February 2021

NGV IP reference numbers: 20024636 (East Anglia ONE North) and 20024639 (East Anglia TWO)

## NGV Response to ExA Question 2.0.14

	<b>ExA Question</b>	<b>NGV Response</b>
<b>Question 2.0.14</b>	<p><b>Cumulative Effects Assessment</b></p> <p>Throughout the Examination various IPs (e.g. SCC [REP4-068]; SASES [REP4-112]) have criticised the adequacy of the Applicants’ cumulative impact assessment on the grounds that, while it is acknowledged that a number of planned energy generation and transmission projects (particularly, Nautilus, EuroLink, North Falls and Five Estuaries) have been offered, or are potentially to be offered, a connection to the National Grid at a location near Leiston, likely to be, on the current evidence, at Friston, if one or other of the projects under examination goes ahead, these projects have not been the subject of a cumulative effects assessment.</p> <p>While it has been made clear by the Applicants and NGET that the proposed NG substation at Friston will serve only EA1(N)</p>	<p>NGV has two separate connection agreements with the National Grid Electricity System Operator (ESO) for both the proposed Nautilus and EuroLink projects. Each of these connection agreements provide a grid connection offer to a new 400 kilovolts (kV) substation located close to the Sizewell 400kV network, provisionally referred to as ‘Leiston 400kV’ or the ‘proposed Leiston substation.’</p> <p>Should consent for the NGET substation at Friston as proposed by SPR be awarded, consideration will need to be given to the viability of this location offering a connection to the National Transmission System for the Nautilus and EuroLink projects.</p> <p>As per NGV’s draft SoCG with the Applicant (document reference: ExA.SoCG-19.D1.V1) at present, neither Nautilus or</p>

<p>and EA2; there is evidence that other proposals might follow in due course (e.g. [REP3- 112] National Grid Ventures ISHs2 Post Hearing Submission; [REP3- 110] National Grid Electrical Systems Operator Ltd ISHs2 Post Hearing Submission; [REP5- 115] SEAS Further Evidence of Cumulative Impact). The Applicants’ assertion that, other than Sizewell C [APP-395] and [APP-569], these additional projects do not qualify to be considered in a cumulative effects assessment because there is insufficient understanding of their scale, scope and timing is understood (see e.g. [REP3-085]). Nevertheless, there is a significant degree of uncertainty and confusion over the possible implications for the area if these other projects are pursued in this location. Effectively ignoring them is not helpful to the Examination.</p> <p>Therefore, in the light of footnote 10 on page 2 of the PINS Advice Note 17 Cumulative effects assessment relevant to nationally significant infrastructure projects that:</p> <p>“For the purposes of this advice note, ‘other existing development and/or approved development’ is taken to include existing developments and existing plans and projects that are ‘reasonably foreseeable’”</p> <p>And paragraph 3.4.2 that:</p> <p>“The assessment should be undertaken to an appropriate level of detail, commensurate with the information available at the time of assessment. Information on some proposals may be limited and such gaps should be acknowledged within the assessment. The assessment will move from a more qualitative to a more quantitative assessment as the availability and/or</p>	<p>EuroLink are sufficiently defined to allow for the reasonable assessment of cumulative impacts.</p> <p>However, in response to question 2.0.14, NGV are able to assist the applicant, and the ExA to help inform any further cumulative effects assessment considerations.</p> <p>For Nautilus and/or EuroLink to connect to the proposed NGET substation at Friston, it is understood that the proposed substation would require an extension for each additional project. Consenting and technical considerations for the proposed substation are for NGET to advise upon. NGV defer to NGET for specific requirements to accommodate extension bays to the proposed Friston substation.</p> <p>Each of the two Interconnector projects would also need a converter station in proximity to any substation. A typical operational footprint for a converter station covers an area of five hectares (12 acres). The exact size and height will depend upon the specific proposals for mitigation and construction. AC cabling would be required between the converter station and substation for each Interconnector project. NGV’s Nautilus ‘Frequently Asked Questions’ document (May 2020) sets out what is required to connect an Interconnector to the National Transmission System and is available via the following link: <a href="https://www.nationalgrid.com/document/132456/download">https://www.nationalgrid.com/document/132456/download</a></p> <p>NGV cannot provide further detail on the location and routing of these components at this stage, given that both projects are at a pre-consultation and pre-EIA scoping stage.</p>
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	<p>certainty of information increases. Any uncertainty in the assessments should be clearly documented.”</p> <p>The Applicants are asked to reconsider their position and, in light of current data availability, work in consultation with NG, NGESO and NGV to provide a more extensive cumulative effects assessment, focusing particularly on likely environmental, economic and community effects, including projects known to potentially be sited in the area affected by EA1(N) and EA2, to enable the requirements of NPS-EN-1 paras. 4.2.5 and 4.2.6 to be addressed.</p>	
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