

**Tillbridge Solar Project
EN010142**

Volume 7

Grid Connection Statement
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**Regulation 6(1)(i)
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and
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Executive Summary

- ES1 This Grid Connection Statement (the Statement) has been prepared in respect of an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the Tillbridge Solar Project (the Scheme).
- ES2 The Scheme will comprise the construction, operation (including maintenance), and decommissioning of ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays. The Scheme will also include associated development to support the solar PV arrays.
- ES3 The Scheme is made up of the Principal Site, the Cable Route Corridor and works to the existing National Grid Cottam Substation. The Principal Site comprises the solar PV arrays, electrical substations, grid balancing infrastructure, cabling and areas for landscaping and ecological enhancement.
- ES4 The associated development element of the Scheme includes but is not limited to access provision; a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), to support the operation of the ground mounted solar PV arrays; the development of on-site substations; underground cabling between the different areas of solar PV arrays; and areas of landscaping and biodiversity enhancement.
- ES5 The Scheme also includes a 400kV underground Cable Route Corridor of approximately 18.5km in length connecting the Principal Site to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) at the existing National Grid Cottam Substation. The Scheme will export and import electricity to the NETS.
- ES6 A full description of the Scheme is included in **Chapter 3: Scheme Description of the Environmental Statement [EN010142/APP/6.1]**. An overview of the Scheme and its environmental impacts is provided in the **Environmental Statement Non-Technical Summary [EN010142/APP/6.4]**.
- ES7 The Scheme is defined under the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) (Ref. 1) as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) as it comprises a generating station in England with a capacity exceeding 50 megawatts (MW). It therefore requires a DCO from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the Secretary of State). The Statement has been prepared on behalf of Tillbridge Solar Limited (the Applicant) to support the DCO application and should be read in conjunction with the other documents submitted with the Application.
- ES8 The Statement is submitted pursuant to Regulation 6(1)(a)(i) of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (3), which requires the Applicant for a generating station to state who will be responsible for designing and building the connection to the electricity grid.
- ES9 This Statement provides confirmation to the Secretary of State of the responsibilities for designing and building the connection from the ground mounted solar PV panel arrays, BESS and associated infrastructure to the National Grid Cottam Substation. The Scheme shares its Cable Route

Corridor with three other solar DCO projects, being Gate Burton Energy Park, Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project. Therefore this Statement also outlines the interrelationships between the Scheme and these DCOs in relation to the shared Cable Route Corridor.

- ES10 The Applicant has, or will have, the ability to procure the necessary land and rights in order to connect to the National Grid Cottam Substation; and has sought compulsory acquisition powers to facilitate this if required, as set out in the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]** and the **Statement of Reasons [EN010142/APP/4.1]**. The Scheme for which development consent is being sought includes the necessary infrastructure to connect to the National Grid Cottam Substation.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 This Grid Connection Statement (the Statement) has been prepared by Tillbridge Solar Limited (the Applicant) as part of an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of the Tillbridge Solar Project (the Scheme).
- 1.1.2 The Scheme will comprise the construction, operation (including maintenance), and decommissioning of ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays. The Scheme will also include associated development to support the solar PV arrays.
- 1.1.3 The Scheme is made up of the Principal Site, the Cable Route Corridor and works to the existing National Grid Cottam Substation. The Principal Site comprises the solar PV arrays, electrical substations, grid balancing infrastructure, cabling and areas for landscaping and ecological enhancement.
- 1.1.4 The associated development element of the Scheme includes but is not limited to access provision; a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), to support the operation of the ground mounted solar PV arrays; the development of on-site substations; underground cabling between the different areas of solar PV arrays; and areas of landscaping and biodiversity enhancement.
- 1.1.5 The Scheme also includes a 400kV underground Cable Route Corridor of approximately 18.5km in length connecting the Principal Site to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) at the existing National Grid Cottam Substation. The Scheme will export and import electricity to the NETS.
- 1.1.6 A full description of the Scheme is included in **Chapter 3: Scheme Description of the Environmental Statement [EN010142/APP/6.1]**. An overview of the Scheme and its environmental impacts is provided in the **Environmental Statement Non-Technical Summary [EN010142/APP/6.4]**.
- 1.1.7 The Scheme is defined under the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) (1) as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) as it comprises a generating station in England with a capacity exceeding 50 megawatts (MW). It therefore requires a DCO.
- 1.1.8 The application for the DCO (the Application) is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, with the ultimate decision whether to grant the DCO being made by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (the Secretary of State) pursuant to the PA 2008 (1).
- 1.1.9 The Scheme's Cable Route Corridor overlaps with three other NSIP Solar Schemes other solar DCO projects in the area, being Gate Burton Energy Park, West Burton Solar Project and Cottam Solar Project (together, the 'NSIP Solar Schemes'). This Statement outlines the responsibilities of each project's 'undertaker', which is the body responsible for the works that form each project under their respective DCOs. Further detail on the interrelationship between the Scheme and the other NSIP Solar Schemes that overlap with the Cable

Route Corridor is set out in sections 2 and 3 of this Statement and within the **Joint Report on Interrelationships between Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects [EN010142/APP/7.6]**.

- 1.1.10 This Statement has been prepared on behalf of the Applicant to support the Application and should be read in conjunction with the other documents submitted with the Application.

1.2 Purpose and Structure of this Statement

- 1.2.1 Paragraph 4.11.2 of the National Policy Statement (NPS) for Energy (EN-1) (2) emphasises that it is for the Applicant to ensure that there will be necessary infrastructure and capacity within an existing or planned transmission or distribution network to accommodate the electricity generated.
- 1.2.2 This Statement is part of a suite of documents which must accompany the Application pursuant to Section 55 of the PA 2008 (1) and Regulations 5 and 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations) (3).
- 1.2.3 It has been prepared in accordance with Regulation 6(1)(a)(i) of the APFP Regulations (Ref. 3), which requires an applicant for a DCO in respect of an onshore generating station to provide a statement of who will be responsible for designing and building the connection to the electricity grid.
- 1.2.4 This Statement is structured as follows:
- a. Section 1: Introduction;
 - b. Section 2: Interrelationships with other NSIP Solar Schemes;
 - c. Section 3: Grid Connection Contractual Agreements;
 - d. Section 4: Elements of Grid Connection;
 - e. Section 5: Responsibilities for Designing and Building the Grid Connection;
 - f. Section 6: Acquisition of Land Rights for the Grid Connection;
 - g. Section 7: Consent for the Grid Connection Works; and
 - h. Section 8: Conclusion.

1.3 Works Numbers

- 1.3.1 Works numbers ('Work No.'s) are referred to throughout this Statement. These refer to the Work No.'s set out in Schedule 1 of the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]**. The **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]** should be referred to for the specific terminology and full details of each Work No.
- 1.3.2 The location of each of the Work No.'s is shown on the **Works Plans [EN010142/APP/2.3]**.
- 1.3.3 The Work No.'s which are relevant to the Cable Route Corridor and point of connection are as follows:
- a. **Work No. 3** (including **Work No.'s 3A** and **3B**) – Tillbridge Substations A and B (respectively);

- b. **Work No. 4** (including **Work No.'s 4A, 4B** and **4C**) – works to lay high-voltage electrical cables and compounds for the electrical cables up to the National Grid Cottam Substation, hereafter referred to as the “Cable Route Corridor”; and
 - c. **Work No. 5** – works at the National Grid Cottam Substation to construct, connect and commission the existing spare bay within the National Grid Cottam Substation for use by the Scheme.
- 1.3.4 The above works will form the infrastructure, that allows electricity which is generated from **Work No. 1** or has been stored in **Work No. 2** to be transmitted to the connection point at the National Grid Cottam Substation. The same infrastructure will allow for electricity from the grid to be transmitted from the connection point to be stored in **Work No. 2**.

2. Responsibilities and Interrelationships with other NSIP Solar Schemes

2.1 Overview

- 2.1.1 As noted above, the Scheme's Cable Route Corridor overlaps with the cable route corridors of the Gate Burton Energy Park (Gate Burton), the West Burton Solar Project (West Burton) and Cottam Solar Project (Cottam) DCO's. The Scheme's Cable Route Corridor overlaps with Cottam's cable corridor for the majority of its length, before reaching the Gate Burton and West Burton cable corridors around Marton. It is then overlapped by only Gate Burton and Cottam from the west of the River Trent into the National Grid Cottam Substation.
- 2.1.2 **Figure 1.1** within the **Joint Report on Interrelationships between Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects [EN010142/APP/7.6]** shows the areas of overlap for the shared cable corridor.
- 2.1.3 The Applicant, and the undertakers for the Gate Burton, West Burton, and Cottam projects have worked collaboratively on the design of the shared cable route corridor, including environmental avoidance and mitigation to reduce overall environmental and social effects. This is set out in more detail in the **Design and Access Statement [EN010142/APP/7.3]**.
- 2.1.4 The 'shared cable route corridor', which comprises an area within which the Applicant, the Gate Burton undertaker, and the Cottam undertaker will all locate their connections to the National Grid Cottam Substation; and, in part, the West Burton undertaker will locate its connection to the National Grid West Burton Substation, are shown as the following work areas on the Tillbridge **Works Plans [EN010142/APP/2.3]**:
- a. **Work No. 4C** comprising the shared cable route corridor with the Scheme and Cottam;
 - b. **Work No. 4D** containing the shared cable route corridor with the Scheme, West Burton, Gate Burton and Cottam; and
 - c. **Work No. 4E** comprising the shared cable route corridor with the Scheme Gate Burton and Cottam.
- 2.1.5 The shared cable route corridor is further defined within **Chapter 3: Scheme Description of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.1]**.

2.2 Shared Development Consent Order Provisions

- 2.2.1 Within the areas of overlap between the Scheme and the other NSIP Solar Schemes:
- a. Each undertaker has sought development consent powers over the area of overlap;
 - b. Each undertaker has sought compulsory acquisition and temporary use powers over the area of overlap; and
 - c. No undertaker has identified specifically where in the area of overlap its infrastructure will be placed to allow flexibility for detailed design post-consent.

2.2.2 In respect of the Scheme, the overlap is being managed via protective provisions in the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]** and will be subject to further contractual arrangements between the parties.

2.3 Protective provisions

2.3.1 Protective provisions for the benefit of the Cottam undertaker are included in Part 4 of Schedule 15 of the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]**.

2.3.2 The protective provisions for the benefit of the West Burton undertaker are included in Part 6 of Schedule 15 of the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]**.

2.3.3 The protective provisions for the benefit of the Gate Burton undertaker are included in Part 5 of Schedule 15 of the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]**.

2.3.4 The protective provisions relate to a specified Work No. in another party's DCO – this is the area of overlap. For the Scheme, **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]** this is **Work No. 4C, 4D and 4E**.

2.3.5 The powers within each of the undertaker's draft DCO seek to ensure that, under the powers of each DCO, that the undertaker must not acquire, extinguish, suspend, override or interfere with any rights that each undertaker has in respect of any apparatus or works required to construct their cable route corridor within the shared corridor.

2.3.6 These provisions provide each undertaker sufficient protection from the overlapping DCOs for the other NSIP Solar Schemes and associated compulsory acquisition powers, providing sufficient assurance to each Examining Authority and the Secretary of State that the DCO for the Scheme and the other NSIP Solar Schemes can be granted as sought.

2.3.7 In addition, the undertakers have worked closely together to negotiate a standard set of protective provisions where these relate to third party interests in the cable route corridor area of overlap, to seek to minimise the burden on stakeholders and ensure consistency in protections offered.

2.4 Transfer of benefit provisions

2.4.1 In addition to including reciprocal protective provisions, each undertaker, including the Scheme's undertaker, has included bespoke transfer of benefit provisions within the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]**, to facilitate ease of transfer of relevant rights to the other named undertakers where they relate to the shared cable corridor. For the Scheme, this relates to **Work No. 4C, 4D and 4E**.

3. Grid Connection Contractual Agreements

3.1 National Grid

- 3.1.1 The Applicant has received a grid connection offer from National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited (NGESO) to connect the Scheme to the NETS. NGESO are the system operator for the NETS and are the body of National Grid able to make connection offers. National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) operate as transmission owners and are the body of National Grid responsible for owning and operating the National Grid Cottam Substation.
- 3.1.2 Engagement with the NGESO has continued since 2019 and discussions are continuing at the time of the submission of this Application. The engagement between the parties to date has resulted in the Applicant receiving a grid connection offer in the form of a Bilateral Connection Agreement (BCA). This offer was first accepted by the Applicant in February 2020. This BCA has subsequently been modified as outlined in 3.1.3.
- 3.1.3 The grid connection offer was provided by NGESO to the Applicant in January 2020. This offer was accepted by the Applicant as noted above. The BCA was subsequently modified in December 2021 and again in June 2023. Further discussions with NGET have been held following the June 2023 modifications, resulting in the latest modification offer of 15 December 2023. All modifications have related to the date which the Scheme would connect to the national electricity transmission network. The commissioning date provided by NGESO in the latest modification offer is in August 2028. The Applicant accepted the December 2023 modification offer from NGESO in January 2024.
- 3.1.4 NGET has confirmed that an existing spare bay within the National Grid Cottam Substation is currently available. Works will be required as part of the Scheme to facilitate connection to the National Grid Cottam Substation and will be undertaken by the Applicant and National Grid (see 3.1.5 and 3.1.6). These works would mainly comprise electrical works to provide connection and protection of electrical infrastructure.
- 3.1.5 National Grid will provide a skeleton bay at the National Grid Cottam Substation and will carry out the substation control modification work and bus bar protection required to enable the Applicant to connect.
- 3.1.6 The Applicant will carry out all works required to take the Scheme up to the bay at the National Grid Cottam Substation. This includes work to construct the section of the Cable Route Corridor within the National Grid Cottam Substation site, works to build, equip and commission the bay at the National Grid Cottam Substation, and the installation of a system to monitor the power exported to the transmission system.
- 3.1.7 The works required to facilitate connection undertaken by the Applicant would be under the Applicant's control and works undertaken by National Grid would be under National Grid's control.
- 3.1.8 The Applicant therefore confirms that the output of **Work No. 1**, the Solar Photovoltaic Generating Station, and **Work No. 2**, the BESS, will be exported

to the NETS, via the National Grid Cottam Substation, owned and operated by NGET. The BESS would also be able to import energy from the NETS.

3.2 Cooperation agreement between overlapping projects

- 3.2.1 On 5 July 2023, a formal Cooperation Agreement was signed between the undertakers of the four projects that will overlap, being the Gate Burton undertaker, the Cottam undertaker, the West Burton undertaker and the Tillbridge undertaker. A copy of this agreement is provided in **Appendix C** of the **Joint Report on Interrelationships between Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects [EN010142/APP/7.6]**. This Agreement sets out the fundamental principles of cooperation between each of the undertakers, including in relation to connecting to the National Grid Cottam Substation, and how they will interact with third parties.

4. Elements of the Grid Connection

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 Electricity generated by the Scheme will be exported to the NETS via high voltage 400kV cabling located within the Cable Route Corridor (**Work No. 4 (4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E)**). This cabling will connect Substation A to Substation B (**Work No. 3A and 3B**), which will connect to the National Grid Cottam Substation.
- 4.1.2 The Scheme will connect to the National Grid Cottam Substation via a new, single 400kV circuit comprising of three 400kV underground cables located within the Cable Route Corridor. The 400kV cable circuit will connect the two on-site substations (referred to as Substations A and B) located within the Principal Site to the National Grid Cottam Substation. The 400kV underground cable within the Principal Site connecting the two on-site substations (**Work No. 3**) will be approximately 8.5km long and relates to **Work No. 4A and 4B**. The total length of the cable route from the Principal Site to the National Grid Cottam Substation is approximately 18.5km and relates to **Work No. 4C, 4D and 4E**.
- 4.1.3 The locations of the Works areas are shown on the **Works Plans [EN010142/APP/2.3]** and the location of the National Grid Cottam Substation is shown on sheet 23 of the **Works Plans [EN010142/APP/2.3]**.
- 4.1.4 The following sections summarise the elements required for the grid connection for the Scheme. A description of how these elements will be constructed is provided in **Chapter 3: Scheme Description of the ES [EN010142/APP/6.1]**.

4.2 Tillbridge Substations (Work No. 3)

- 4.2.1 The Scheme includes the creation of two substations on the Principal Site (**Work No. 3**) which will convert the electricity generated and stored by **Work No. 1 and 2** (the solar PV generating station and the BESS), respectively, to 400kV (from 33kV) for onward transmission to the National Grid Cottam Substation via cabling along the Cable Route Corridor (**Work No. 4**). The electricity generated by the Scheme will be split between the two on-site substations.
- 4.2.2 The two on-site substations will be located within a compound which will include:
- Substations, switch gear room, 400kV building and ancillary equipment;
 - Control building;
 - Hardstanding and parking areas (**Work No. 6e**); and
 - Underground electrical cables (**Work No. 4 and Work No. 6a**).
- 4.2.3 Substation A, located in the southern area of the Principal Site (as shown on **Figure 3-1** of the **ES [EN010142/APP/6.3]**), in addition to the above equipment, also comprises a 400kV shunt reactor. Substation B does not include this.

4.3 Cable Route Corridor (Work No. 4)

- 4.3.1 The electricity generated by the Scheme will be exported via underground cables from the on-site substations (**Work No. 3**) to the National Grid Cottam Substation via the Cable Route Corridor (**Work No. 4**). A 400kV cable is also proposed between the two Substations, to facilitate connection to the NETS.
- 4.3.2 The Cable Route Corridor will contain the following main components:
- a. A 400kV underground cable circuit approximately 8.5km long within the Principal Site to connect the two 400kV/33kV on-site substations;
 - b. A single 400kV cable circuit (consisting of three single-core cables) which will be approximately 18.5km in length, connecting the 400kV cables located internally within the Principal Site to the National Grid Cottam Substation;
 - c. Laying down of internal access tracks, ramps, means of access, footpaths, roads, including laying and construction of drainage infrastructure and information boards;
 - d. Joint bays, link boxes, cable ducts, cable protection, joint protection, manholes;
 - e. Marker posts, underground cable marker, tiles and tape, communications chambers, fibre optic cables and lighting and other works associated with cable laying;
 - f. Tunnelling, boring and drilling works; and
 - g. Temporary construction and decommissioning laydown areas.
- 4.3.3 In terms of installation, the three single-core cables will either be laid directly into trenches, or into ducting that will be installed with the cables pulled through the ducting (trenchless crossings). The latter will be used where the Cable Route Corridor crosses other infrastructure and natural features such as rivers or streams. The depth of cable installation is dependent on many factors such as ground conditions and what is encountered along the route. The requirements of the trench design for cable installation are set out in the **Outline Design Principles Statement [EN010142/APP/7.4]** which will inform the detailed design, to be secured by the DCO.
- 4.3.4 A typical working width corridor of 40m is anticipated within the overall Cable Route Corridor. This area will include the open trench for the laying of the cables (if this method is used), sufficient space for a cable circuit breaker between the other Schemes referred to in Section 2, temporary haul road, temporary drainage ditch and a laydown area for the storage of topsoil following excavation of the cable trench.
- 4.3.5 The cables will be installed within the shared cable route corridor (Work No. 4) with Gate Burton, West Burton and Cottam, including both the permanent installation area and temporary working area. A non-uniform 100m wide corridor has been identified to form part of the Order limits to accommodate the cable route and temporary construction corridor. It will vary in width, within 100m to accommodate constraints and optionality required along the route.
- 4.3.6 The construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning (where relevant) of all elements of the Cable Route Corridor have been

assessed and reported in the relevant chapters of the **ES [EN010142/APP/6.1]**.

- 4.3.7 The construction, operation (including maintenance) and (where applicable) decommissioning of all elements of the Cable Route Corridor will be undertaken (respectively) in accordance with a detailed Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) and a Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (DEMP). As per requirements in the DCO, these management plans will need to be prepared in substantial accordance with the **Framework CEMP [EN010142/APP/7.8]**, the **Framework OEMP [EN010142/APP/7.9]**, and the **Framework DEMP [EN010142/APP/7.10]** submitted with this Application.

4.4 Works at the National Grid Cottam Substation (Works No. 5)

- 4.4.1 The Scheme will be connected to the National Grid Cottam Substation. NGET has confirmed that an existing spare bay within the National Grid Cottam Substation is currently available. Works will be required as part of the Scheme to facilitate connection to the NETS. These works will need to be undertaken by the Applicant and National Grid.
- 4.4.2 The works undertaken by the Applicant would comprise the installation, connection and commissioning of the following electrical works:
- a. Busbars and connectors to connect to the existing busbar disconnectors at the National Grid Cottam Substation;
 - b. A 400kV 3phase circuit breaker for control and protection of the outgoing circuit;
 - c. A 3phase set of current transformers for protection of the new outgoing 400kV feeder circuit and the overlap with the NETS;
 - d. A 3phase high accuracy metering current and voltage transformer assembly for commercial metering of the connection;
 - e. A 3phase 400kV line disconnector/earth switch for isolation and earthing of the outgoing 400kV feeder circuit;
 - f. A 3phase set of 400kV high voltage cable sealing ends, and cables connecting the National Grid Cottam Substation with the interconnecting cables (**Work No. 6**); and
 - g. Provision of a stand-alone building to house duplicate feeder protection systems, commercial metering systems, protection and control equipment and user remote control and data acquisition apparatus.
- 4.4.3 Once the above works are undertaken by the Applicant and commissioned, they would then be owned and controlled by National Grid. Article 35 of the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]** provides National Grid may carry out Work No. 5 pursuant to the DCO should this be agreed at a later date.

4.5 Works at the National Grid Cottam Substation undertaken by National Grid

- 4.5.1 National Grid would be required to undertake transmission reinforcement works at the National Grid Cottam Substation to facilitate the connection of the 400kV generation bay substation to NETS. These works would be undertaken by National Grid and would include the following:
- a. The provision of the existing skeleton bay at the 400kV National Grid Cottam Substation to enable connection to that bay;
 - b. Substation control modification and busbar protection at the Cottam 400kV substation;
 - c. Associated civil works; and
 - d. Other miscellaneous and minor works.
- 4.5.2 These works would be under the control of National Grid and are not included within the draft DCO as authorised works forming part of the Scheme.

5. Responsibilities for Designing and Building the Grid Connection

5.1 Responsibilities of Tillbridge Solar Ltd.

- 5.1.1 The Applicant and its appointed contractors will be responsible for designing and building the elements described in Section 4.2 to 4.4 of this Statement. In summary, the Scheme would result in the construction and commissioning of the existing spare bay within the National Grid Cottam Substation (**Work No. 5**) along with its grid connection cable into that bay from the Scheme's Cable Route Corridor (**Work No. 4**).
- 5.1.2 The Applicant will be responsible for the ongoing ownership, management and maintenance of the two on-site substations (**Work No. 3**) and the new 400kV underground cable within the Cable Route Corridor (**Work No. 4**).
- 5.1.3 Full descriptions of the relevant works are provided in Schedule 1 of the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]**.

5.2 Responsibilities of National Grid Electricity Transmission

- 5.2.1 It is currently intended that once built and commissioned by the Applicant, the works described in Section 4.4 will be owned, managed and maintained by NGET.
- 5.2.2 NGET will be responsible for designing and building all non-contestable works (works that will be undertaken by National Grid) as set out in Section 4.5. These works would be under the control of the National Grid and are not included for as part of the authorised development set out in the draft DCO.

6. Acquisition of Land Rights required for the grid connection

- 6.1.1 Negotiations for the purchase of land, rights and interests are ongoing in respect of any new rights required for the Scheme, where voluntary agreement has not yet been reached. It is necessary for the Applicant to seek compulsory acquisition powers to secure such land, rights and interests and to ensure that any third-party interests or encumbrances affecting such land, rights and interests may be acquired, overridden or extinguished pursuant to the draft DCO, thereby ensuring that the Scheme can be constructed, operated and maintained.
- 6.1.2 The Applicant nevertheless remains committed to obtaining necessary land and rights by negotiation where possible and discussions with landowners remains ongoing.
- 6.1.3 An option on the land required for the on-site Substations is being progressed and is nearing completion, and the Applicant continues to negotiate an option for easement with affected landowners for the Cable Route Corridor. The status of negotiations at the time of the Application submission is reported in the **Schedule of Negotiations and Powers Sought [EN010142/APP/4.4]**.

7. Consent for the Grid Connection Works

- 7.1.1 The grid connection, comprising the on-site substations (**Work No. 3**), the Cable Route Corridor (**Work No. 4**) and works to the National Grid Cottam Substation (**Work No. 5**) forms part of the Scheme for which development consent is being sought via the DCO Application.
- 7.1.2 The Applicant has accepted a grid connection offer from NGENO which stipulates the works required to connect to the National Grid Cottam Substation. These works are explained in Section 4 of this Statement.
- 7.1.3 As such, if the same terms as those set out in the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]** are granted, development consent to deliver the grid connection will have been secured.

8. Conclusion

- 8.1.1 The Applicant is required to submit a statement pursuant to Regulation 6(1)(a)(i) of the APFP Regulations (3), stating who will be responsible for designing and building the connection to the electricity grid.
- 8.1.2 It is considered that this Statement provides confirmation to the Secretary of State of the requirement of the above, namely:
- 8.1.3 The Applicant has received a grid connection offer from NGENSO to connect the Scheme to the NETS and the offer has been accepted;
- 8.1.4 A connection to the National Grid Cottam Substation will be provided via a single circuit 400kV underground cable from the two on-site substations as shown on **Work No. 4** on sheets 1 and 7 of the **Works Plans [EN010142/APP/2.3]**;
- 8.1.5 The Applicant will be responsible for designing and building the on-site Substations (**Work No. 3**) and laying the cable within the Cable Route Corridor (**Work No. 4**);
- 8.1.6 The Applicant will be responsible for designing and building the sub-station bay within the existing spare bay at the National Grid Cottam Substation (**Work No. 5**). NGET will be responsible for any other works required within the existing bay at the National Grid Cottam Substation to receive the electricity following completion of **Work No. 5**;
- 8.1.7 The Applicant has, or will have, the ability to procure the necessary land and rights in order to accommodate the Cable Route Corridor; and
- 8.1.8 As set out in the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1]**, the grid connection forms part of the Scheme for which development consent is being sought.

9. References

1. HM Government (2008). Planning Act 2008. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/contents> [Accessed 01 December 2023]
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