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To the Applicant
(By email only)

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN020002

Date: 23 May 2023

Dear Mr Fletcher,

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – Section 51

Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement

Advice following issue of decision to accept the application for examination

On 23 May 2023 the Secretary of State decided that the application for the above project satisfies the acceptance tests under section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). The Planning Inspectorate's acceptance checklist and the application documents have been published and made available on the project page of our website.

In undertaking checks at the acceptance stage, the Inspectorate has made some initial observations in relation to the application. This letter comprises advice to the Applicant provided under section 51 of the PA2008 in respect of these initial observations. The Applicant should pay attention to its content and consider how appropriate action might be taken in response.

Consultees identified on a precautionary basis

Given the individual circumstances of this case, the Planning Inspectorate advises taking a precautionary approach to consultation under s42(1)(a) of PA2008 to ensure that all persons potentially affected by, or potentially likely to have an interest in the application are given the opportunity to participate fully in the Examination of the application. On this basis, the Applicant may wish to serve notice on the bodies listed in Box 6 of the section 55 checklist when it serves notice of the accepted application under s56(2)(a) of the PA2008; unless there is a specific justification why this is not necessary.

Minor errors and omissions

There are minor errors and omissions, as reflected in Box 30 of the acceptance checklist.

Flood Risk Assessment (Doc 5.5)

The Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) describes that the Proposed Development is primarily located in Flood Zone 1, with areas in Flood Zone 2 and Flood Zone 3. The FRA does not specify whether these components located within Flood Zone 3 are Flood Zone 3a or Flood Zone 3b or a combination. Flood Zone 3a and Flood Zone 3b are not differentiated on the figures in the FRA.

Water Bodies in the River Basin Management Plan (Doc 2.8.4)

River Brett and River Box are identified as WFD water bodies. They are listed in the key of **Doc 2.8.4**, which comprises plans showing the location of WFD water bodies that could be affected by the Proposed Development but are not shown on Sheets 10 and 14 of the plans respectively. The locations of the River Brett and River Box are shown on Figure 1 of the WFD Assessment (**Doc 5.6**).

Plans

It would be helpful if the Applicant could review all plans and resubmit in response to the s51 advice issued following Acceptance. For example, the Water Bodies in the River Basin Management Plan (**Doc 2.8.4**) does not identify areas of water drainage or surface water management. The Access Rights of Way and Public Rights of Navigation Plans (**Doc 2.7**) do not contain any information relating to car parking. The Access Rights of Way and Public Rights of Navigation Plans (**Doc 2.7**) when compared with Schedule 7 of the Draft Development Consent Order (**Doc 3.1**) also has a numbering convention discrepancy. The start and end points each have the same references as evidenced below:

- Suffolk County Council W-174/012/0 Between points P-AB-3 and P-AB-3 as shown on Sheet 1
- Suffolk County Council W-318/014/0 Between points P-AB-6 and P-AB-6 as shown on Sheet 2

Document omitted from submission

On 28 April 2023, the Applicant informed the Inspectorate that one of the application documents submitted was missing a figure, which should have been enclosed with the document. This is the Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (OWSI) (**Doc 7.10**). The Applicant should now submit this document.

Please pay close attention to the advice set out in this letter and act on it accordingly. It is requested that you action these points before the commencement of the Preliminary Meeting. This will contribute towards a more efficient examination and give any future Examining Authority comfort that the documentation is complete and accurate.

We trust you find this advice helpful, however if you have any queries on these matters please do not hesitate to contact our office using the contact details at the head of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Jake Stephens

Jake Stephens
Case Manager

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