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All Interested Parties, Statutory  
Parties and Other Persons

Your ref:

Our ref: EN020002

Date: 19 September 2023

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Dear Sir/ Madam,

**Planning Act 2008 (as amended) Section 89, and The Infrastructure Planning  
(Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 - Rules 8 and 9**

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

This letter provides you with the revised Examination Timetable and other important information about the Examination.

All documentation associated with this project, including a note and digital recordings of the Preliminary Meeting, can be found on the project web page of the National Infrastructure Planning website using this link:

[Bramford to Twinstead | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)

**The Examination Timetable**

We have made a Procedural Decision about the schedule for the examination of application. The final Examination Timetable is attached at Annex A. This replaces the draft Examination Timetable that was included in our [Rule 6 letter](#). In finalising the Examination Timetable, we have had regard to written requests and suggestions and those made orally at the Preliminary Meeting. We have sought to accommodate them within the constraints of the statutory Examination period. A list of the changes we have made to the draft Examination Timetable is set out at Annex B to this letter.

If we consider it necessary to vary the Examination Timetable during the Examination, notification will be sent to Interested Parties and Statutory Parties that were invited to the Preliminary Meeting. Any such changes will be published on the [project webpage](#).

Please note that the Examination Timetable includes a number of deadlines for receipt of information by the Planning Inspectorate. All deadlines are at 23.59 on the date specified, unless otherwise advised. Please ensure that your submissions arrive by the deadline. For fairness, if you do not make your submissions by the dates specified in the Timetable, we may disregard them.

We request all Interested Parties to make their submissions at each relevant deadline using the 'Make a submission' tab on the [project webpage](#). Annex C to this letter provides further information about this.

## **Written Representations**

All Interested Parties are now invited to make Written Representations, and these should be submitted by Deadline 2 (Wednesday 11 October 2023) using the 'Make a submission' tab.

Written Representations can cover any relevant matter and are not restricted to the issues set out the Initial Assessment of Principal Issues in our earlier Rule 6 letter.

Any person who submits a Written Representation (other than the Applicant) must identify those parts of the application with which they agree and those parts with which they do not agree, explaining the reasons why. To avoid delays in the Examination, Interested Parties should also provide with their Written Representations any data, evidence, methodology and assumptions used to support their submissions (see paragraph 74 of [Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent](#)).

We have requested further types of written submissions at various points in the Examination (see Annex A).

Any Written Representations that exceed 1500 words should be accompanied by a summary which should not exceed 10% of the original text. A similar approach should be taken to any further written submissions requested and provided during the Examination. The summary should set out the key facts of the written submission and must be representative of the submission.

Representations should not rely on hyperlinks to documents or evidence hosted on third party websites. Please see the [Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 8.4](#): The Examination for further information about Written Representations.

## **The Examining Authority's First Written Questions (ExQ1)**

The Examination Timetable confirms that the Examining Authority intends to issue its First Written Questions on Friday 13 October 2023. The Deadline for receipt of responses has been extended to Tuesday 31 October 2023.

## **Award of costs**

We would remind all parties that they are normally expected to meet their own costs. Costs can be awarded against a party who has acted unreasonably and has caused the party applying for the award of costs to incur unnecessary or wasted expense during the Examination. You should be aware of the relevant guidance, [Awards of costs: examinations of applications for development consent orders](#).

## **Management of information**

The Planning Inspectorate has a commitment to transparency, and all submissions accepted by the Examining Authority and a record of any advice provided by the Planning Inspectorate are published on the [project webpage](#) of the Planning Inspectorate's website.

Please note that in the interest of facilitating an effective and fair Examination, we may consider it necessary to publish some personal information. To find out how we handle your personal information, please view our [Privacy Notice](#).

Yours faithfully,

*Andrew Mahon*

**Lead Member of the Examining Authority**

## **Annexes**

- A Examination Timetable
- B Changes made to the Examination Timetable
- C Information about the 'Make a Submission' tab

## ANNEX A

### Examination Timetable

The Examining Authority (ExA) is under a duty to complete the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

The Examination of the application primarily takes the form of the consideration of written submissions. The ExA will also consider any oral representations made at hearings.

Item	Matters	Date
1.	<p><b>Procedural Deadline A</b></p> <p><b>For receipt by the Examining Authority (ExA) of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Written submissions on the Examination procedure, including any submissions about the draft Examination Timetable and the use of virtual methods.</i></li> <li>• <i>Requests to be heard orally at the Preliminary Meeting, including which agenda items you wish to speak on and the matters you will address.</i></li> <li>• <i>Requests to participate in Open Floor Hearing 1 on Tuesday 12 September 2023 (see Annex E of this letter).</i></li> <li>• <i>Requests to participate in Open Floor Hearing 2 on Wednesday 13 September 2023 (see Annex E of this letter).</i></li> <li>• <i>Requests to participate in Issue Specific Hearing 1 on Thursday 14 September 2023 (see Annex E of this letter).</i></li> <li>• <i>Suggested locations for ExA site inspections, including the reason for nomination, issues to be observed there and whether the locations require access to private land. (Please read PD3 in Annex F of the Rule 6 letter first.)</i></li> </ul>	22 August 2023
2.	<b>Preliminary Meeting</b>	12 September 2023 10.00am
3.	<b>Open Floor Hearing 1 (OFH1)</b>	Cancelled
4.	<b>Open Floor Hearing 2 (OFH2)</b>	13 September 2023 6.30pm
5.	<b>Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) on the scope and details of the Proposed Development, including construction activities, and the principles of the Applicant's draft Development Consent Order (dDCO).</b>	14 September 2023 10.00am
6.	<p><b>Issue by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Examination Timetable.</li> </ul>	19 September 2023

	<p><b>Deadline 1</b></p> <p><b>For receipt by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written summaries of oral submissions to the Hearings.</li> <li>• Any post-Hearing submissions or other documents requested by the ExA at the Hearings.</li> <li>• Any specific responses to points raised in oral submissions to the Hearings.</li> <li>• Comments on Relevant Representations (see PD4 in Annex F of the Rule 6 letter).</li> <li>• Local Impact Reports (LIRs) from local authorities (see PD2 in Annex F of the Rule 6 letter).</li> <li>• Comments on Additional Submissions accepted at the discretion of the ExA (see PD5 in Annex F of the Rule 6 letter).</li> <li>• Notification by Statutory Parties of their wish to be considered as an Interested Party by the ExA.</li> <li>• Fully reasoned requests by any Interested Parties unable to attend OFH1 or OFH2 to participate in a further Open Floor Hearing.</li> </ul> <p>7.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requests by Affected Persons to participate in a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH).</li> <li>• Requests by Interested Parties to attend an Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) (if held).</li> <li>• Applicant’s suggested draft itinerary for an ASI (see PD3 in Annex F of the Rule 6 letter).</li> <li>• Additional and any updated Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) (see PD1 in Annex F of the Rule 6 letter).</li> <li>• Applicant’s Status of Statements of Common Ground (see PD1 in Annex F of the Rule 6 letter).</li> <li>• Applicant’s updated Navigation Document (if required) in clean and tracked versions (see PD6 in Annex F of the Rule 6 letter).</li> <li>• Applicant’s updated Book of Reference (BoR) and Schedule of Changes to the BoR (if required) in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Initial draft s106 Agreement(s) (if a requirement emerges).</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.</li> </ul>	<p>25 September 2023</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>Deadline 2</b></p> <p><b>For receipt by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written Representations.</li> <li>• A short summary of any Written Representation that exceeds 1500 words.</li> <li>• Comments on the Applicant’s draft itinerary for an ASI.</li> </ul>	<p>11 October 2023</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to comments on Relevant Representations.</li> <li>• Comments on any other submissions received at Deadline 1.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated Navigation Document in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• An updated dDCO from the Applicant in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's Schedule of Changes to the dDCO.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated CA Schedule in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated BoR and Schedule of Changes to the BoR (if required) in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.</li> </ul>	
9.	<p><b>Publication of:</b> The ExA's First Written Questions (ExQ1).</p>	13 October 2023
10.	<p><b>Deadline 3</b> <b>For receipt by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on Written Representations.</li> <li>• Comments on LIRs.</li> <li>• Comments on any other submissions received at Deadline 2.</li> <li>• Responses to ExQ1.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated Navigation Document in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated draft DCO in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's consolidated schedule of changes to the draft DCO.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated Explanatory Memorandum in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated BoR and Schedule of Changes to the BoR and tracked versions (if required).</li> <li>• Applicant's updated CA Schedule in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Progressed SoCGs.</li> <li>• Applicant's progressed Status of Statements of Common Ground.</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.</li> </ul>	31 October 2023
11.	<p><b>ASI and Hearings</b> <b>Dates reserved for ASIs and hearings</b> (hearings to be blended or virtual, to be confirmed):</p>	w/c 6 November 2023

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further ISHs (if required).</li> <li>• CAH (if required).</li> <li>• Further OFHs (if required).</li> <li>• ASIs (if required).</li> </ul>	
12.	<p><b>Deadline 4</b></p> <p><b>For receipt by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written summaries of oral submissions to the Hearings.</li> <li>• Any post-Hearing submissions or other documents requested by the ExA at the Hearings.</li> <li>• Any specific responses to points raised in oral submissions to the Hearings.</li> <li>• Responses to comments on LIRs.</li> <li>• Comments on responses to ExQ1.</li> <li>• Comments on submissions received at Deadline 3.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated Navigation Document in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated draft DCO in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's consolidated schedule of changes to the draft DCO.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated Explanatory Memorandum in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated BoR and Schedule of Changes to the BoR and tracked versions (if required).</li> <li>• Applicant's updated CA Schedule in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Progressed SoCGs.</li> <li>• Applicant's progressed Status of Statements of Common Ground.</li> <li>• Progressed s106 agreement(s) (if a requirement emerges).</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.</li> </ul>	16 November 2023
13.	<p><b>Deadline 5</b></p> <p><b>For receipt by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on other submissions received at Deadline 4.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated, standalone assessment of compliance with the relevant NPSs (based on Appendices A and B of the Planning Statement), if required.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated Navigation Document in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated draft DCO in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's consolidated schedule of changes to the draft DCO.</li> </ul>	1 December 2023

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant's updated Explanatory Memorandum in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated BoR and Schedule of Changes to the BoR and tracked versions (if required).</li> <li>• Applicant's updated CA Schedule in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's final agreed Protective Provisions with all relevant statutory undertakers.</li> <li>• Progressed SoCGs.</li> <li>• Applicant's Status of Statements of Common Ground.</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.</li> </ul>	
14.	<p><b>Dates reserved for any further Hearings or ASIs that may be required</b> (hearings to be blended or virtual, to be confirmed):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISHs (if required).</li> <li>• CAHs (if required).</li> <li>• OFHs (if required).</li> <li>• ASIs (if required).</li> </ul>	w/c 11 December 2023
15.	<p><b>Deadline 6</b></p> <p><b>For receipt by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written summaries of oral submissions to the Hearings (if held).</li> <li>• Any post-Hearing submissions or other documents requested by the ExA at the Hearings (if held).</li> <li>• Any specific responses to points raised in oral submissions to the Hearings (if held).</li> <li>• Comments on the Applicant's updated draft DCO.</li> <li>• Comments on other submissions received at Deadline 5.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated Navigation Document in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated dDCO in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated Schedule of Changes to the dDCO.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated CA Schedule in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant's updated BoR and Schedule of Changes to the BoR and tracked versions (if required).</li> <li>• Applicant's updated NPS tracker in clean and tracked versions (if required).</li> <li>• Progressed SoCGs.</li> <li>• Applicant's progressed Status of Statements of Common Ground.</li> </ul>	20 December 2023



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.</li> </ul>	
16.	<p><b>Publication of:</b></p> <p>ExA's Further Written Questions (ExQ2) (if required).</p>	22 December 2023
17.	<p><b>Deadline 7</b></p> <p><b>For receipt by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responses to ExQ2 (if required).</li> <li>Comments on submissions received at Deadline 6.</li> <li>Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.</li> </ul>	17 January 2024
18.	<p><b>Publication by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) and any associated questions.</li> <li>The ExA's commentary on, or proposed schedule of changes to, the draft DCO (if required).</li> </ul>	19 January 2024
19.	<p><b>Deadline 8</b></p> <p><b>For receipt by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comments on the RIES and responses to any associated questions (if issued).</li> <li>Responses to the ExA's commentary on, or proposed schedule of changes to, the draft DCO (if issued).</li> <li>Comments on responses to ExQ2 (if required).</li> <li>Comments on any other submissions received at Deadline 7.</li> <li>Applicant's updated, standalone assessment of compliance with the relevant NPSs (based on Appendices A and B of the Planning Statement).</li> <li>Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.</li> </ul>	9 February 2024
20.	<p><b>Deadline 9</b></p> <p><b>For receipt by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comments on submissions received at Deadline 8.</li> <li>Applicant's final Navigation Document, in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>Applicant's final draft DCO in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>Applicant's final draft DCO in the SI template with a SI template validation report.</li> <li>Applicant's final consolidated schedule of changes to the draft DCO.</li> </ul>	23 February 2024

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant’s final amended Explanatory Memorandum.</li> <li>• Applicant’s final CA Schedule in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant’s final BoR and Schedule of Changes to the BoR in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Final, updated Statement of Reasons in clean and tracked versions.</li> <li>• Applicant’s final, standalone assessment of compliance with the relevant NPSs (based on Appendices A and B of the Planning Statement).</li> <li>• Applicant’s final list of planning obligations and commercial side agreements (if a requirement for any emerges).</li> <li>• Final, signed SoCGs, to include any matters not agreed.</li> <li>• Applicant’s final Status of Statements of Common Ground, with a section on any matters not agreed.</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.</li> </ul>	
21.	<p><b>Deadline 10</b></p> <p><b>For receipt by the ExA of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.</li> </ul>	11 March 2024
22.	<p><b>Close of Examination</b></p> <p>The ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months. Once the Examination closes, no further submissions can be accepted.</p> <p>Please note that the ExA may close the Examination before the end of the six-month period if it is satisfied that all relevant matters have been addressed and discussed.</p>	12 March 2024

### Submission times for deadlines

The time for submission of documents at any deadline in the timetable is 11.59pm on the relevant deadline date, unless instructed otherwise by the ExA.

### Publication dates

All information received will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable after the deadlines for submissions.

### **Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES)**

As the applicant has provided a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report with the application, the ExA may decide to issue a RIES during the Examination. The RIES is a factual account of the information and evidence provided to the ExA on HRA matters during the Examination up to the date of the publication of the RIES, for the purposes of enabling the Secretary of State, as competent authority, to undertake an HRA. It is not the ExA's opinion on HRA matters.

Comments on the RIES will be invited by the ExA and any received will be taken into account as part of the ExA's recommendation to the Secretary of State. The ExA may also raise questions in the RIES to confirm or clarify matters that remain outstanding.

The Secretary of State may rely on the consultation on the RIES to meet the obligations under Regulation 63(3) of The Habitats Regulations 2017.

## **ANNEX B**

### **Summary of changes made to the draft Examination Timetable**

- Deadline 3 changed from 27 October 2023 to 31 October 2023.
- Deadline 7 changed from 15 January 2024 to 17 January 2024.
- Comments on Local Impact Reports moved from Deadline 2 to Deadline 3.
- Responses to comments on Local Impact Reports moved from Deadline 3 to Deadline 4.

## ANNEX C

### Information about the 'Make a Submission' tab

The '[Make a Submission](#)' tab is available on the [project webpage](#).

You will need to enter your unique reference number ('Your ref' found at the top your postcard or email from the Planning Inspectorate) beginning 'BTTC-200', 'BTTC-0', 'BTTC-AFP', 'BTTC-S57' 'BTTC-APP', 'BTTC-SP' or 'BTTC-OP'. If you are making a submission on behalf of another person or organisation, and do not have your own unique reference number, then you should enter the unique reference number of the person or organisation you are representing. If you are not a registered Interested Party, the acceptance of your submission is at the discretion of the Examining Authority.

Submissions will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable following the relevant Deadline. For further information about the publication of submissions, please see the Planning Inspectorate's [Privacy Notice](#).

You will be able to submit a document (upload file), make a text representation or both. It is possible to upload multiple files for each individual submission item. Electronic attachments should be clearly labelled with the subject title and must not exceed 50MB.

Submissions **must not include hyperlinks** to documents or evidence hosted on a third-party website (e.g., technical reports, media articles etc). All submissions must be made in a format that can be viewed in full on the National Infrastructure Planning website. Any submissions that exceed 1500 words should also be accompanied by a summary that does not exceed 10% of the original text. See the Planning Inspectorate's [Advice Note 8.4: The Examination](#) for further information about making written submissions.

You should select the relevant deadline for your submission and then, on the next webpage, select the appropriate submission item as described in the Examination Timetable at **Annex D** to this letter. Please ensure you make a separate submission for each submission item and **do not duplicate your submission**. If you consider that your submission does not fit the description of any of the submission items, please select 'Other' from the list of Submission items and ensure that it is titled appropriately.

If you experience any issues when using the '[Make a Submission](#)' tab, please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter.