

BT-NG-020621-545-0229

Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement

Volume 8: Examination Submissions

Document 8.10.4.1: Statement of Common Ground East of England
Ambulance Service NHS Trust

Final Issue A
February 2024

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020002

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010
Regulation 8(1)(k)

Contents

1.	Introduction	1
1.2	Description of the Project	1
1.3	This Statement of Common Ground	2
2.	Record of Engagement	3
2.1	Role of the Consultee in the Process	3
2.2	Summary of Pre-Application Discussions	3
2.3	Summary of Post-Submission Discussions	3
3.	Matters Agreed	4
4.	Matters Not Agreed	7
5.	Matters Under Discussion	8
6.	Approvals	9
	Reference List	10

Table 2.1 – Pre-application discussions	3
Table 2.2 – Post-submission discussions	3
Table 3.1 – Matters agreed	4
Table 4.1 – Matters not agreed	7
Table 5.1 – Matters under discussion	8

1. Introduction

- 1.1.1 This document supports National Grid Electricity Transmission plc's (here on referred to as National Grid) application for an order granting development consent to reinforce the transmission network between the existing Bramford Substation in Suffolk, and Twinstead Tee in Essex.
- 1.1.2 A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is a written statement produced as part of the application for development consent and is prepared jointly between the Applicant and another party. It sets out matters of agreement between both parties, as well as matters where there is not an agreement. It also details matters that are under discussion.
- 1.1.3 The aim of a SoCG is to help the Examining Authority manage the examination phase of the application. Understanding the status of the matters at hand will allow the Examining Authority to focus their questioning and provide greater predictability for all participants in examination. A SoCG may be submitted prior to the start of or during examination, and then updated as necessary or as requested during the examination phase.
- 1.1.4 This SoCG is between National Grid (the Applicant) and East of England Ambulance Services NHS Trust (EEAST) relating to the application for development consent for the Bramford to Twinstead reinforcement (the project). This SoCG has been prepared in accordance with the guidance for the examination of applications for development consent for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP) (Planning Act 2008) published by the Department of Communities and Local Government (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2015).
- 1.1.5 This SoCG has been prepared to identify matters between National Grid and EEAST in respect to the Bramford to Twinstead reinforcement only. The SoCG will evolve as the application progresses through examination.

1.2 Description of the Project

- 1.2.0 This document supports National Grid's application for an order granting development consent to reinforce the transmission network between the existing Bramford Substation in Suffolk, and Twinstead Tee in Essex. This would be achieved by the construction and operation of a new electricity transmission line over a distance of approximately 29km. The project meets the threshold as a NSIP, as defined under Part 3 of the Planning Act 2008, hence National Grid requires a development consent order (DCO).
- 1.2.1 The reinforcement would comprise approximately 18km of overhead line (consisting of approximately 50 new pylons, and conductors) and 11km of underground cable system (with associated joint bays and above ground link pillars).
- 1.2.2 Four cable sealing end (CSE) compounds would be required to facilitate the transition between the overhead and underground cable technology. The CSE would be within a fenced compound, and contain electrical equipment, support structures, control building and a permanent access track.
- 1.2.3 Approximately 27km of existing overhead line and associated pylons would be removed as part of the proposals (25km of existing 132kV overhead line between Burstall Bridge and Twinstead Tee, and 2km of the existing 400kV overhead line to the south of Twinstead Tee). To facilitate the overhead line removal, a new grid supply point (GSP) substation is required at Butler's Wood, east of Wickham St Paul, in Essex. The GSP

substation would include associated works, including replacement pylons, a single circuit sealing end compound and underground cables to tie the substation into the existing 400kV and 132kV networks.

- 1.2.4 Some aspects of the project, such as the underground cable sections and the GSP substation, constitute 'associated development' under the Planning Act 2008.
- 1.2.5 Other ancillary activities would be required to facilitate construction and operation of the project, including (but not limited to):
- Modifications to, and realignment of sections of existing overhead lines, including pylons;
 - Temporary land to facilitate construction activities including temporary amendments to the public highway, public rights of way, working areas for construction equipment and machinery, site offices, welfare, storage and access;
 - Temporary infrastructure to facilitate construction activities such as amendments to the highway, pylons and overhead line diversions, scaffolding to safeguard existing crossings and watercourse crossings;
 - Diversion of third-party assets and land drainage from the construction and operational footprint; and
 - Land required for mitigation, compensation and enhancement of the environment as a result of the environmental assessment process, and National Grid's commitments to Biodiversity Net Gain.

1.3 This Statement of Common Ground

- 1.3.1 For the purpose of this SoCG, National Grid and EEAST will jointly be referred to as the 'Parties'. When referencing EEAST alone, they will be referred to as 'the Consultee'.
- 1.3.2 Throughout the SoCG:
- Where a section begins 'Matters Agreed', this sets out matters that have been agreed between the Parties and where there is no dispute.
 - Where a section begins 'Matters Not Agreed', this sets out matters that are not agreed between the Parties and where a difference of opinion remains.
 - Where a section begins 'Matters Under Discussion', this sets out matters that are subject to further negotiation between the Parties.
- 1.3.3 This SoCG is structured as follows:
- Section 1 provides an introduction to this SoCG and a description of its purpose.
 - Section 2 states the role of the Consultee in the DCO application process and details engagement undertaken between the Parties.
 - Section 3 sets out matters agreed between the Parties.
 - Section 4 sets out matters not agreed between the Parties.
 - Section 5 sets out matters are under discussion.
 - Section 6 includes the signing off sheet.

2. Record of Engagement

2.1 Role of the Consultee in the Process

2.1.1 East of England Ambulance Services NHS Trust is a Statutory Consultee under the 2008 Planning Act paragraph 42 1) a) as the relevant emergency services for the counties of Essex and Suffolk. EEAST works in close association with the Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board (ICB), along with blue light partner organisations, such as Suffolk Constabulary, Essex Police and Suffolk and Essex Fire and Rescue Services.

2.2 Summary of Pre-Application Discussions

2.2.1 Table 2.1 summarises the consultation and engagement that has taken place between the Parties prior to submission of the application.

Table 2.1 – Pre-Application Discussions

Date	Topic	Discussion points
21 March 2022	Statutory Consultation	Response to the Statutory Consultation outlining the impacts arising on EEAST's operation and proposed mitigation.

2.3 Summary of Post-Submission Discussions

2.3.1 Table 2.2 summarises the consultation and engagement that has taken place between the Parties post submission of the application.

Table 2.2 – Post-submission discussions

Date	Topic	Discussion Points
14 July 2023	Relevant Representation [RR-030]	Relevant Representation submitted to PINS outlining impacts arising on EEAST operation and proposed mitigation
25 September 2023	NG comments on to RR	National Grid responded to RR-030.
11 January 2024	East of England Ambulance Service Position Statement	Submitted to the Examining Authority at Deadline 7
24 January 2024	Meeting to discuss Statement of Common Ground	Meeting to discuss the points in Deadline 7 Submission.
02 February 2024	Email from EEAST on the Draft SoCG	Comments on changes made after the meeting reflecting the Deadline 8 submission.
09 February 2024	Email between parties	National Grid updated the SoCG and correspondence was received to confirm that all matters are agreed.

3. Matters Agreed

Table 3.1 – Matters agreed

SoCG ID	Matter	Agreed Position	Date Agreed
3.1.1	Construction Stage Workforce	<p>The anticipated construction workforce profile is provided in Illustration 4.1 (Estimated Worker Numbers) in Document 5.9: Socio Economics and Tourism Report (page 19) [APP-066]</p> <p>The construction worker numbers anticipated on the project are relatively low and short-term. It is anticipated that a peak monthly construction workforce of 350 people will be required (the peak falls in quarter three of 2025 and will last for approximately only 2-3 months) and an average construction workforce of around 180 workers. From experience of other National Grid projects, it is likely that approximately 10% of the construction workforce (35 people at peak) would be sourced locally to the project (and therefore already within the EEAST service provision). Assuming an average of around 180 workers on site at any one time, this would equate to an average of 18 local workers and 162 non-local workers (although it is unknown at this stage how many would be from within the EEAST operating area). This is not a large number in workforce terms (in comparison with Sizewell C, for example, which is expected to employ an estimated 7,900 construction workers at peak construction).</p> <p>The Applicant will provide information on the likely percentage and number of the workforce that does not live locally (outside of the EEAST operating area) and that may be temporarily staying in the local area. This information can be supplied once a main works contractor is appointed, and the detailed design is underway.</p> <p>National Grid has good health and safety policies and practices and invest heavily in safety and training.</p> <p>Due to the low construction worker numbers predicted and the low number of incidents anticipated, the Applicant and EEAST agree that the project is not likely to increase demand on EEAST's services to the extent that a financial contribution is required from the Applicant.</p> <p>Should higher than expected incidents occur during the construction period, lessons learned will be undertaken.</p>	02/02/2024
3.1.2	Emergency Planning	<p>Section 3.5 of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) (document 7.5 (D)) provides information on emergency procedures. Section 3.5 states that National Grid has the following processes in relation to an emergency incident during construction. The primary objectives in responding to any incident are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preserve and protect life; • Prevent or mitigate damage to the environment; and • Prevent or mitigate losses to property. <p>The Applicant has added a commitment to its CEMP (document 7.5 (D)) to work with emergency services during construction planning.</p> <p>Good practice measure GG22 in Appendix A Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) (document 7.5.1 (C)) of the CEMP states '<i>An Emergency Action Plan will be developed for the construction</i></p>	09/02/2024

SoCG ID	Matter	Agreed Position	Date Agreed
3.1.3	Communication	<p><i>phase which will outline procedures to be implemented in case of unplanned events, including but not limited to site flooding and pollution incidents.</i></p> <p>In accordance with good practice measure GG22, the contractor will develop an Emergency Action Plan that will set out the specific incident response procedures. This will detail the roles and responsibilities aligned with the delivery strategy for construction.</p> <p>The Applicant, with its appointed contractor will engage with EEAST to discuss arrangements for incident response such as emergency access to site (including temporary access routes utilised to access any injured parties) and procedures for the handover of any construction worker that requires treatment or transport by EEAST. Discussions will include procedures for incidents that occur at height or underground, as this requires specialist HART team response. Procedures will be documented within the Emergency Action Plan.</p> <p>As part of these discussions the contractor will provide information about the level of training and equipment available to on-site medical teams/first aid trained site personnel.</p> <p>Relevant organisations will be contacted as part of the incident response including the relevant emergency services.</p>	24/01/2024
3.1.4	Road closures	<p>EEAST have raised concerns regarding road closures and proposed road diversions during construction and the effect of this on the service it provides. EEAST request communication around those closures so that they can plan their emergency operations accordingly.</p> <p>The CTMP (document 7.6(D)) in Section 5.8 sets out the traffic management proposed by the Applicant. Paragraph 5.8.1 states that '<i>Traffic management will be used where required to maintain public or workforce safety. This will include during construction and removal of access points, when erecting or dismantling scaffolding and where the underground cables cross the LRN. The anticipated</i></p>	02/02/2024

SoCG ID	Matter	Agreed Position	Date Agreed
		<p><i>roads that will require traffic management measures are shown on the Traffic Regulation Order Plans (application document 2.6) and the Access, Rights of Way and Public Rights of Navigation Plans (document 2.7).</i> The traffic management will be proportionate to the size of the road and duration and volume of traffic.</p> <p>Paragraph 5.8.3 states that <i>'roads will only be closed where this is required for safe working. Road proposed for closing are shown on the Access, Rights of Way and Public Rights of Navigation Plans (document 2.7) along with the proposed diversion routes.</i></p> <p>The Parties agree that the Applicant will notify EEAST in advance of planned road closures and diversions by sharing information submitted with the Permit Applications with EEAST when they are submitted to the Local Highways Authority for approval. This will minimise any impact on response times.</p> <p>Information will also be submitted into a single shared online system https://uk.one.network/communicate/onenetwork-map where notifications can be monitored by EEAST.</p> <p>With regard to AIL movements, further information on timing of deliveries and routing will be provided through the Special Types General Orders (STGO) process at the appropriate time once information is available. Given that the highway network condition, maintenance works, and resource availability of escorts can change between now and deliveries, the STGO process should be undertaken closer in time to the deliveries rather than during the Examination. Road closures and diversions associated with AILs will be communicated to EEAST.</p> <p>EEAST will provide a contact email address and phone number for advance notification.</p> <p>The name and contact details of a key National Grid point of contact will be made available to EEAST for the construction phase of the project.</p> <p>Good practice measure AS03 in Appendix A CoCP (document 7.5.1 (C)) states that <i>'Access to and from residential, commercial, community and agricultural land uses will be maintained throughout the construction period or as agreed through the landowner discussions. The latter may require signed diversions or temporary restrictions to access. The means of access to affected properties, facilities and land parcels will be communicated to affected parties in advance of any change being implemented'</i>.</p>	

4. Matters Not Agreed

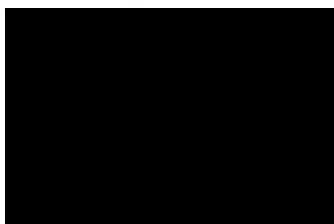
4.1.1 There are no matters that are not agreed between the Parties.

5. Matters Under Discussion

5.1.1 There are no matters that are outstanding or still under discussion between the Parties.

6. Approvals

Signed



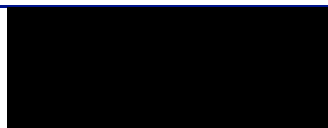
On Behalf of National Grid

Name Sally Rotherham

Position Lead Consent Officer

Date 09 February 2024

Signed



On Behalf of East of England Ambulance Services NHS Trust

Name Zoë May

Position Head of Business Relationships

Date 09 February 2024

Reference List

Department for Communities and Local Government (2015) *Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent*. March 2015 (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2015)

Page intentionally blank

National Grid plc
National Grid House,
Warwick Technology Park,
Gallows Hill, Warwick.
CV34 6DA United Kingdom

Registered in England and Wales
No. 4031152
nationalgrid.com