The Great Grid Upgrade

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Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement

Volume 7: Other Documents

Document 7.3 (I): Status of Stamements of Common Ground

Final Issue I February 2024

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020002

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 Regulation 5(2)

nationalgrid



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Version History			
Date	Issue	Status	Description / Changes
April 2023	А	Final	For DCO submission.
September 2023	В	Final	Updates principally comprise the addition of the Deadline 1 Update Column at Table 2.1 to reflect on-going discussions with the Consultees, as well as the inclusion of a Summary of Key Topics Covered column, which broadly details the topics covered in the SoCG, for submission at Examination Deadline 1.
October 2023	С	Final	Updates principally comprise the addition of the Deadline 3 Update Column at Table 2.1 to reflect on-going discussions with the Consultees, for submission at Examination Deadline 3. A total of three updated SoCG have been submitted.
November 2023	D	Final	Updates principally comprise the addition of the Deadline 4 Update Column at Table 2.1 to reflect on-going discussions with the Consultees, for submission at Examination Deadline 4. One updated SoCG has been submitted.
December 2023	Е	Final	Updates principally comprise the addition of the Deadline 5 Update Column at Table 2.1 to reflect on-going discussions with the Consultees, for submission at Examination Deadline 5. Four updated SoCG has been submitted.
December 2023 (2)	F	Final	Updates principally comprise the addition of the Deadline 6 Update Column at Table 2.1 to reflect on-going discussions with the Consultees, for submission at Examination Deadline 6. Six updated SoCG has been submitted.
January 2024	G	Final	Updates principally comprise the addition of the Deadline 7 Update Column at Table 2.1 to reflect on-going discussions with the Consultees, for submission at Examination Deadline 6. Three updated SoCG has been submitted.
February 2024	Н	Final	Updates principally comprise the addition of the Deadline 8 Update Column at Table 2.1 to reflect on-going discussions with the Consultees, for submission at Examination Deadline 8. Four updated SoCG have been submitted.
February 2024 (2)	I	Final	Updates principally comprise the addition of the Deadline 9 Update Column at Table 2.1 to reflect on-going discussions with the Consultees, for submission at Examination Deadline 9. Six updated SoCG have been submitted.

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Introduction 1.

- This Status of Statements of Common Ground document sets out the status of each Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) that the Applicant (National Grid) has submitted to date, or which are currently 1.1.1 being prepared for submission. It will be updated throughout the examination phase.
- A 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 1.1.2 both parties, as well as matters where there is not an agreement. It also details matters that are under discussion.
- 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 1.1.3 guestioning, 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.
- The Applicant developed SoCG with a number of statutory consultees, statutory undertakers and other interested parties during the preparation of the application for development consent. Further SoCG 1.1.4 have been developed in light of ongoing engagement since the submission of the application for development consent in April 2023.
- The SoCG seek to identify matters on which parties agree and to track progress towards the resolution of any matters where agreement has not yet been reached. 1.1.5
- All SoCG have been prepared in accordance with The Planning Act 2008: examination of applications for development consent (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2015). 1.1.6

Status of SoCG 2.

- The Applicant has undertaken preparation of SoCG with the bodies identified in Table 2.1 during the pre-application and post-application period. 2.1.1
- Table 2.1 provides a list of those SoCG currently being prepared and a summary of the key topics covered in each SoCG. Table 2.1 also provides details of the progress made since the submission of 2.1.2 the application for development consent in April 2023. This list is subject to change and is correct as of Deadline 9 (23 February 2024) (D9).
- The application for development consent was accompanied by a number of SoCG. The SoCG are detailed at Table 2.1, along with their current status and have been assigned a National Grid application 2.1.3 document number. Once documents are submitted and processed by the Planning Inspectorate, they are also assigned a unique reference number by the Examining Authority as listed in the Examination Library.
- Where a row in Table 2.1 has been greyed out, this indicates that there are no remaining matters under discussion with the Consultee and no further updated SoCGs are anticipated to be submitted 2.1.4 during the course of the Examination. All SoCG in Table 2.1 have now been finalised and signed (i.e. no further matters under discussion), except for the Draft SoCG Local Authorities, Draft SoCG TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited and Draft SoCG East Anglia Three Limited which it is anticipated will be submitted at Deadline 10.

Table 2.1 – Status of Statements of Common Ground

No.	SoCG Document Name	Latest Document Number	Summary of Key Topics Covered	Progress Update at Deadline 1	Progress Update at Deadline 3	Progress Update at Deadline 4	Progress Update at Deadline 5	Progress Update at Deadline 6	Progress Update at Deadline 7	Progress Update at Deadline 8	Progress Update at Deadline 9
Prese	ribed Consultees	5									
	Draft SoCG Local Authorities: Babergh District Council; Mid Suffolk District Council; Essex County Council and Suffolk County Council.		0 1 1	submitted with application (A). Updated SoCG submitted at D1 (B). Incorporates comments from Relevant Representations. Content agreed in principle before submission but minor wording amendments were made which Local Authorities have not had the opportunity to formally confirm yet.	submitted at D3. An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D3 whilst discussions with the Local Authorities are continuing. There are currently no material updates to the D1 SoCG. There are likely to be material updates once the Local Authorities have reviewed the Applicant's D3	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	an updated Draft SoCG was shared with the Local Authorities on 29 November 2023, it was agreed to delay the submission of the updated Draft SoCG until Deadline 6, to allow the Local Authorities reasonable time to	submitted at D6 (C). The Applicant has submitted an updated SoCG at Deadline 6, which reflects the on- going discussions with the Host Local Authorities. Suffolk County Council provided comments on Landscape and Visual Impacts and Heritage (relating to Archaeology only, not built heritage).	Whilst discussions are progressing with the Local Authorities, it is anticipated that the next iteration of the SoCG will be provided at D8.	submitted at D8. Whilst discussions are progressing with the Local Authorities, it is anticipated that a final iteration of the SoCG	A comprehensive update to the SoCG has been undertaken which, in the Applicant's opinion is

No.	SoCG Document Name	Latest Document Number	Summary of Key Topics Covered	Progress Update at Deadline 1	Progress Update at Deadline 3	Progress Update at Deadline 4	Progress Update at Deadline 5	Progress Update at Deadline 6	Progress Up Deadline
								comments in this respect, alongside any other specialist comments from the other Local Authorities, will be reflected in the subsequent updated draft SoCG. Overall, the Applicant believes the Draft D6 SoCG represents an accurate representation of the status of discussions; however, at present, this has not been formally confirmed with Essex County Council and Braintree District Council.	
2	SoCG: Natural	7.3.2 (F)	survey methodology and Hintlesham Woods (including ongoing discussions on the timing and nature of the works in	submitted with application (A). No updated SoCG submitted at D1. Natural England wishes to review the Applicant's response to its Relevant Representation to	submitted at D3 (B). The Parties have moved a number of matters to agreed. The Applicant has provided two technical notes at D3 to provide further information around the effects on ancient woodland and peak sound at Hintlesham Woods:	There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	submitted at D5 (C). The Applicant has submitted an updated SoCG at Deadline 5, which reflects the on- going discussions	submitted at D6 (D). The Applicant has submitted an updated SoCG at Deadline 6, which reflects the on-	There are curre material upda report from D anticipated th next iteration

ed SoCG Updated SoCG A Final SoCG t D7. submitted at D8 (E) submitted at D9.

urrently no An updated SoCG (E) A signed SoCG has dates to has been submitted at been provided and D6. It is D8 which reflects there are no further that the recent engagement matters outstanding on of the with Natural England. with Natural England. e provided

No.	SoCG Document Name	Latest Document Number	Summary of Key Topics Covered	Progress Update at Deadline 1	Progress Update at Deadline 3	Progress Update at Deadline 4	Progress Update at Deadline 5	Progress Update at Deadline 6	Progress Update at Deadline 7	Progress Update at Deadline 8	Progress Update at Deadline 9
					outstanding matters in the SoCG.		-				
3	SoCG Historic England	[REP7-018]	potential impacts on Hintlesham Hall and other listed buildings.	application or at D1. The Applicant is currently awaiting comments from Historic England.	submitted at D3. Comments on the	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	A new SoCG submitted at D5 (A). The Applicant has submitted a signed SoCG at Deadline 5. This SoCG confirms that all matters are agreed with Historic England, apart from the Hintlesham Hall commitment wording which is still under discussion.	submitted at D6. There are currently no material updates to report from D5.	submitted at D7. A signed SoCG has		N/A
4	SoCG Environment Agency	[REP6-019]	assessments and the approach taken on the Flood Risk Assessment.	submitted with application (A). No updated SoCG submitted at D1. The Environment Agency wishes to review the Applicant's response to its Relevant Representation as it believes this may resolve a number of outstanding matters in	submitted at D3 (B). All matters have been moved to matters agreed, except for one matter relating to the wording of good practice measure B13 in relation to fish friendly passes; and the need to add reference to navigation consent to the Construction	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	An updated SoCG submitted at D5 (C). The Applicant has submitted an updated SoCG at Deadline 5, which reflects the on- going discussions with the Environment Agency and there are currently no matters not agreed and only one matter outstanding in respect to river navigation.	been submitted at D6. There are no further matters under discussion with the		N/A	N/A

No.	SoCG Document Name	Latest Document Number	Summary of Key Topics Covered	Progress Update at Deadline 1	Progress Update at Deadline 3	Progress Update at Deadline 4	Progress Update at Deadline 5	Progress Update at Deadline 6	Progress Update at Deadline 7	Progress Update at Deadline 8	Progress Update at Deadline 9
				the submission SoCG.	future deadline. The Applicant is reviewing these with the intention of closing these matters out in the next version of the SoCG.						
5	SoCG National Highways		agreement that National Highways have been involved in the evolution of the project and have been consulted on the draft Construction Traffic Management Plan; agreement that National Highways do not object to the principle of the project and the	submitted with application (A). No updated SoCG submitted at D1. An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D1 as whilst discussions with National Highways are continuing; there are currently no material undates to	Highways who have confirmed that there is no need for a strategic road network traffic assessment.		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6	SoCG East Suffolk Water Management Board	[REP4-002]	project and the works are not likely to affect any riparian watercourse.	submitted with application (A). Updated SoCG submitted at D1 (B).	An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D3, whilst discussions with East Suffolk Water Management Board are continuing. There are currently no material updates to the D1 SoCG.	provided at D4. A signed SoCG has been provided and there are no further matters outstanding with the East Suffolk Water Management Board	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

N	o. SoCG Document Name	Latest Document Number	Summary of Key Topics Covered	Progress Update at Deadline 1	Progress Update at Deadline 3	Progress Update at Deadline 4	Progress Update at Deadline 5	Progress Update at Deadline 6	Progress Update at Deadline 7	Progress Update at Deadline 8	Progress Update at Deadline 9
10	SoCG UK Power Networks (UKPN)	7.3.6 (C)	of UKPNs existing 132kV distribution network forms a critical component of the project. The Applicant and UKPN have, therefore, agreed terms on which this removal	with application (A). No updated SoCG submitted at D1. An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D1, whilst discussions with UKPN are continuing; there are currently no material	submitted at D3. An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D3, whilst discussions with UKPN are continuing. There are currently no material updates to the submission SoCG.	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	submitted at D5. There are currently no material updates to	material updates to	submitted at D7. There are currently no	submitted at D8. There are currently no	submitted at D9. A signed SoCG has
7		N/A	interface between the project and Network Rail's existing assets, and the status of protective provisions	Not submitted with application or at D1. A draft SoCG which the Applicant intends to submit is currently awaiting review and comment from Network Rail.	submitted at D3. A SoCG has not been submitted at D3.	No SoCG submitted at D4.	No SoCG submitted at D5.	No SoCG submitted at D6. Whilst the Applicant has not submitted a SoCG with Network Rail, the Applicant remains engaged with Network Rail in respect to progressing a commercial agreement and reviewing the Protective Provisions.	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	SoCG Anglian Water	7.3.8 (C)	project and Anglian Water's water pipeline scheme, and the status of	submitted with the application (A). Updated SoCG submitted at D1 (B). This updated SoCG reflects ongoing discussions with	submitted at D3. An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D3, whilst discussions	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	submitted at D5. There are currently no material updates to	There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	submitted at D7. All that remains	submitted at D8. There are currently no material updates to report from D7.	submitted at D9. A signed SoCG has

No.	SoCG Document Name	Latest Document Number	Summary of Key Topics Covered	Progress Update at Deadline 1	Progress Update at Deadline 3	Progress Update at Deadline 4	Progress Update at Deadline 5	Progress Update at Deadline 6	Progress Update at Deadline 7	Progress Update at Deadline 8	Progress Update at Deadline 9
				Anglian Water have not had the opportunity to formally confirm yet.		·				·	
9	SoCG Cadent Gas Limited	8.3.6.2 (B)	interface between the		No updated SoCG submitted at D3.	No updated SoCG submitted at D4.	No updated SoCG submitted at D5.	No updated SoCG submitted at D6.	-	No updated SoCG submitted at D8.	Updated SoCG submitted at D9.
			the status of protective provisions.	submitted at D1 (A). This SoCG reflects ongoing discussions with Cadent Gas Limited and summarises the position in terms of the technical interface between the project and Cadent Gas Limited's existing assets, as well as the status of protective provisions. Content agreed in principle before submission but minor wording amendments were made which Cadent Gas Limited have not had the opportunity to formally		material updates to report from D3.	There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	All that remains outstanding with Cadent Gas is the final assemblage of the legal agreements to manage the interface between the parties.	material updates to report from D7.	A signed SoCG has been provided and there are no further matters outstanding with Cadent Gas Limited and all matters are agreed.
11	Draft SoCG TC [East Anglia One OFTO Limited	REP7-014]	Construction programmes and the technical interface between the project and East Anglia One's existing and proposed assets.	D1 (A). The subject of this SoCG was previously contained in the Draft Statement of Common Ground TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited and East Anglia Three Limited [APP-174].	An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D3. There are currently no material updates to the D1 SoCG and the Applicant has been unable to elicit a response from TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited.	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	submitted at D5. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	submitted at D6. Updated SoCG reflects the re- engagement of TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited.	submitted at D7. Updated SoCG reflects the on-going	submitted at D8. There are currently no material updates to	No updated SoCG submitted at D9. All that remains outstanding between the parties is the final assemblage of the legal agreements to manage the interface between the parties. A final update will be provided at D10. Also see Applicant's Protective Provisions and Commercial Side Agreements Tracking List (document 8.7.8 (E))

No.	SoCG Document Name	Latest Document Number	Summary of Key Topics Covered	Progress Update at Deadline 1	Progress Update at Deadline 3	Progress Update at Deadline 4	Progress Update at Deadline 5	Progress Update at Deadline 6	Progress Update at Deadline 7
				the divestment of East Anglia One from Scottish Power Renewables (SPR), the Applicant has been engaging with the new licence holder. Meanwhile, the East Anglia Three project remains wholly owned by SPR.					
				As such, the submission SoCG [APP-174] has been split into two separate SoCG to reflect the two discrete projects and Licence holders.					
				This SoCG reflects ongoing discussions with TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited.					
				An updated draft version of the SoCG was sent to TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited in July 2023; however, no response has been received to date. The Applicant will continue to attempt to engage with TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited in order to fully determine the technical interface between the respective projects.					
				Overall, the Applicant believes the Draft SoCG represents an accurate representation of the status of discussions; however, at present, this has not been formally confirmed with TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited.					
12	Draft SoCG East Anglia Three Limited		Construction programmes, the technical interface	e D1.	No updated SoCG submitted at D3.	No updated SoCG submitted at D4.	Updated SoCG submitted at D5 (B).	No updated SoCG submitted at D6.	Updated SoCG submitted at D7.

No updated SoCG No updated SoCG submitted at D8. submitted at D9.

No	SoCG Latest Document Document Name Number	Summary of Key t Topics Covered	Progress Update at Deadline 1	Progress Update at Deadline 3	Progress Update at Deadline 4	Progress Update at Deadline 5	Progress Update at Deadline 6	Progress Update at Deadline 7	Progress Update at Deadline 8	Progress Update at Deadline 9
		and East Anglia Three Limited's	d contained in the Draft d Statement of Common Ground TC East Anglia One	not been submitted at D3, whilst discussions with East Anglia Three Limited are continuing. There are currently no material updates to the D1 SoCG.	material updates to report from D3.		material updates to report from D5.		report from D7.	
13	Final SoCG 8.8.2.2 (B) Essex Police	Communication during construction designing out crime anti-social behaviou and theft, potentia crime mitigation workforce profile and training, construction travel information incident management, majo accidents, traffic management and road safety and the Construction Traffic Management Plan.	, r l , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	N/A	N/A	N/A	submitted at D6 (A). A new SoCG has been submitted. This SoCG reflects the	Whilst discussions are progressing with the Essex Police, it is anticipated that the next iteration of the SoCG will be provided	submitted at D8 (A). A final agreed SoCG has been provided and there are no further matters	
14	Statement of 8.10.4.1 (A) Common Ground East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust	Communication, emergency planning and construction workers		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	A New SoCG submitted at D8 (A). A final agreed SoCG has been provided and there are no further matters	

further matters outstanding with East England Ambulance

No.	SoCG Document Name	Latest Document Number	Summary of Key Topics Covered	Progress Update at Deadline 1	Progress Update at Deadline 3	Progress Update at Deadline 4	Progress Update at Deadline 5	Progress Update at Deadline 6	Progress Upd Deadline
Non	-Prescribed Consu	ltees							
13	SoCG Royal Society for the Protection of	8.3.6.1 (C)	SSSI and RSPB		No updated SoCG submitted at D3.	No updated SoCG submitted at D4.	No updated SoCG submitted at D5.	No updated SoCG submitted at D6.	No updated submitted at D
	Birds (RSPB)		reserve; effects on birds within the woods and mitigation proposals.	SoCG has been agreed with the RSPB	An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D3, whilst discussions with the RSPB are continuing. There are currently no material updates to the D1 SoCG.	material updates to			
14	SoCG Dedham Vale and Stour Valley Project Partnership	[REP6-039]	Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley including effects on the special qualities	at D1. A draft SoCG which the Applicant intends to submit is currently awaiting review and		at D4. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	at D5. The SoCG has been submitted to the Partnership board for approval but is not	been submitted at D6.	

pdate atProgress Update atProgress Update atne 7Deadline 8Deadline 9

Service NHS Trust and all matters are agreed.

d SoCG Updated SoCG A Final SoCG has t D7. submitted at D8 (B) been submitted at D9.

D9. D9. D9. D9. D9. D9. D9. D9. D8. D7. D

N/A

N/A

Overall Deadline 9 Position 3.

- Significant work has been undertaken during the course of the Examination on narrowing issues to ultimately work towards a position of agreement with Consultees. The Applicant is pleased to report 3.1.1 that there only remains three prescribed consultees where the Applicant has not reached full agreement (the Local Host Authorities, Network Rail and Natural England) and one non-prescribed consultee (RSPB). The Table at 3.1 below sets out the matters which remain not agreed with the consultees.
- In respect of Network Rail, it should be noted that whilst the Applicant did not submit a SoCG with Network Rail during the course of the Examination, the Applicant remains engaged with Network Rail 3.1.2 in respect to progressing a commercial agreement.
- It should also be noted in respect to TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited and East Anglia Three Limited that all that remains is the final assemblage of the legal agreements to manage the interface 3.1.3 between the parties. See the Applicant's Protective Provisions and Commercial Side Agreements Tracking List (document 8.7.8 (E)) for the latest position on these agreements.
- A summary of the remaining matters outstanding with Consultees can be found at Table 3.1. However, in the first instance, the Applicant would divert the reader to the SoCG itself for full details on the 3.1.4 matters not agreed. The Applicant will continue to try and narrow the issues with the Consultees throughout the remainder of the Examination and will provide a further update at Deadline 10.

Table 3.1 - Remaining Matters Not Agreed with Consultees

Consultee SoCG	Matters Not Agreed at Deadline 9
Draft SoCG Local Authorities Babergh District Council; Mic Suffolk District Council Braintree District Council; Essey County Council and Suffolk County Council.	 Viewpoint Assessment (BDC);
SoCG Natural England	 The remaining matters not agreed are: That other route corridors would have avoided affects to Hintlesham Woods SSSI; That other route alignments could have avoided County Wildlife Site<u>s;</u> That the project should commit to Implementation of the Construction Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites; and A buffer zone should be applied around all Ancient Woodland in accordance with the standing advice.
Network Rail	Whilst the parties have made good progress, there remain two commercial issues pertaining to 'lift and shift' provisions and 'termination' provision, in the proposed able to reach agreement. The Applicant has made a submission pursuant to Section127 (document 8.11.4).
SoCG RSPB	 The remaining matters not agreed are: The RSPB consider that SSSI embedded measures need to be legally secured by being within the DCO itself and not a Management Plan; Disagree that no construction phase or post construction vegetation monitoring is proposed for Hintlesham Woods SSSI; Details of the management techniques proposed to produce and maintain the graduated swathe (through either graduated cutting heights or varying the len The RSPB has requested details of construction working methods and agreement of measures to manage impacts (noting that some works are planned d Whilst the RSPB are content with use of woodchip obtained from vegetation cleared from within the swathe for protection of stools, it would be concerned elsewhere. All other matters are agreed with RSPB.

d property documents, where the parties have not been

engths of coppice rotations) have not yet been provided; during the bird breeding season); and ned if it was proposed to import additional material from

Reference List

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2015) The Planning Act 2008: examination of applications for development consent. March 2015.

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