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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)	1	<u>Final</u>	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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1. Introduction

- 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 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 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 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.
- 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 have been developed in light of ongoing engagement since the submission of the application for development consent in April 2023.
- 1.1.5 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.
- 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).

2. Status of SoCG

- 2.1.1 The Applicant has undertaken preparation of SoCG with the bodies identified in Table 2.1 during the pre-application and post-application period.
- 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 the application for development consent in April 2023. This list is subject to change and is correct as of Deadline 98 (239 February 2024) (D98).
- 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 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.
- 2.1.42.1.3 A number of SoCG are currently being progressed, in addition to those submitted alongside the application for development consent. The status of these SoCG are also detailed in Table 2.1. The SoCG will be updated as agreements progress throughout the Examination period, with revised versions submitted at the next appropriate deadline.
- Where a row in Table 2.1 has been greyed out, this indicates that currently there are no remaining matters under discussion with the Consultee and no further updated SoCGs are anticipated to be submitted during the course of the Examination. Currently, this relates to, Natural England, East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust, Essex Police, Historic England, National Highways, Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Project Partnership, Environment Agency and East Suffolk Water Management Board. 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.	Document Doc	atest cument umber	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
Pres	cribed Consultees										
1	Draft SoCG 7.3.1 Local Authorities: Babergh District Council; Mid Suffolk District Council; Braintree District Council; Essex County Council and Suffolk County Council.	(D)	context, survey methodologies and reviews of draft DCO documentation.	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	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 submissions	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 ongoing 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).	submitted at D7. Whilst discussions are progressing with the Local Authorities, it is anticipated that the next iteration of the SoCG will be provided at D8.	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 Update at Deadline 7	Progress Update at Deadline 8	Progress Update at Deadline 9
								Council were unable to provide comments in respect to the draft D6 SoCG ahead of D6. As such, any 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.			Host Authorities intend on submitting a final signed version at D10.
	Draft SoCG Natural England	: 7.3.2 (FE)	survey methodology and Hintlesham Woods (including ongoing discussions on the timing and nature of the works in	d submitted with application (A). No updated SoCG submitted at D1. Natural England wishes to review the Applicant's response to its Relevant	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 of ancient woodland and peak sound a Hintlesham Woods: Technical Note	There are currently not material updates to report from D3.	The Applicant has submitted an updated SoCG at Deadline 5, which reflects the ongoing discussions	submitted at D6 (D). The Applicant has submitted an updated, SoCG at Deadline 6, which reflects the on-	There are currently no material updates to report from D6. It is anticipated that the next iteration of the	submitted at D8 (E) An updated SoCG (E) has been submitted at D8 which reflects recent engagement with Natural England.	A signed SoCG has been provided and there are no further matters outstanding

No.	SoCG Document Name	Latest Document Number	Summary of Key Topics Covered	Progress Update at Deadline 1	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 in the Applicant's response to its Written Representation to understand whether these resolve the outstanding matters in the SoCG.						
	Draft SoCG Historic England	[REP7-018]		The Applicant is currently awaiting comments from Historic England.		submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to	submitted at D5 (A). The Applicant has	There are currently no material updates to report from D5.	submitted at D7. A signed SoCG has	N/A	N/A
4	SoCG Environment Agency	[REP6-019]	assessments and the approach taken on	submitted with application (A). No updated SoCG submitted at D1. The Environment Agency wishes to review the Applicant's response to its	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	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to	An updated SoCG submitted at D5 (C). The Applicant has submitted an updated SoCG at Deadline 5, which reflects the ongoing discussions with the Environment Agency and there are currently no matters not agreed and only one matter	been submitted at D6. There are no further matters under discussion with the Environment Agency.		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
				resolve a number of outstanding matters in			outstanding in respect to river navigation.				
	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 updates to the submission SoCG.	no need for a strategic road network traffic assessment.		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	SoCG East Suffolk Water Management Board	[REP4-002]	are not likely to affect	submitted with application (A). Updated SoCG submitted at D1 (B). All matters discussed are agreed and no issues are under	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

No.	SoCG Latest Document Document Name Number	Summary of Key Topics Covered	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
			have not had the opportunity to formally confirm yet.							
10	Draft SoCG UK 7.3.6 (C) Power Networks (UKPN)	circa. 25km section of UKPNs existing 132kV distribution network forms a critical component of the project. The Applicant and UKPN have, therefore agreed terms or which this removal may take place, as	An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D1, whilst discussions with UKPN are continuing; there are currently no material updates to the submission SoCG.	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	submitted at D6. There are currently no material updates to	submitted at D7. There are currently no material updates to	submitted at D8. There are currently no	submitted at D9. A signed SoCG has
7	Draft SoCG N/A Network Rail	interface between the project and Network Rail's existing assets and the status or protective provisions	A draft SoCG which the Applicant intends to submit is currently	submitted at D3. A SoCG has not been submitted at D3.	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	Draft SoCG [REP1-019] Anglian Water 7.3.8 (C)	interface between the project and Angliar 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 with Anglian Water are continuing. There are currently no material updates to the D1 SoCG.	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	submitted at D5. There are currently no material updates to		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
				Content agreed in principle before submission but minor wording amendments were made which Anglian Water have not had the opportunity to formally confirm yet.							
		[REP1-029] 8.3.6.2 (B)	interface between the project and Cadent Gas Limited's existing assets, and the status of	the application. Draft SoCG submitted at D1 (A). This SoCG reflects ongoing discussions with Cadent Gas Limited and	submitted at D3. An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D3, whilst discussions with Cadent Gas are continuing. There are	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	submitted at D5. There are currently no	submitted at D6. There are currently no	All that remains	submitted at D8. There are currently no material updates to	submitted at D9.
				principle before submission but minor wording amendments were made which Cadent Gas Limited have not had the opportunity to formally confirm yet.							
	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].	submitted at D3. An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D3. There are currently no material updates to the D1 SoCG and the Applicant has been	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	material updates to report from D3.	submitted at D6. Updated SoCG reflects the reengagement of TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited.	submitted at D7.	submitted at D8. There are currently no material updates to	

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
				Anglia One OFTO Limited, who are now the Transmission Licence holder for these assets. Since 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							

-	No. SoCG Latest Document Document Name Number	Summary of Key Topics Covered	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
			with TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited.							
	12 Draft SoCG East [REP7-016] Anglia Three Limited	technical interface	As above, the subject matter of this SoCG was previously contained in the Draft Statement of Common Ground TC East Anglia One	An updated SoCG has not been submitted at D3, whilst discussions with East Anglia Three Limited are continuing. There are currently no material updates to the D1 SoCG.	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to	Updated soCG submitted at D5 (B). An updated SoCG has been provided at D5. This SoCG reflects the latest position with East Anglia Three Limited, which since the D1 SoCG, the Applicant has issued Heads of Terms in respect to an Interface Agreement to manage the parties respective projects.	There are currently no material updates to report from D5.	submitted at D7. Updated SoCG	No updated SoCG submitted at D8. There are currently no material updates to report from D7.	submitted at D9. All that remains
	13 Final SoCG 8.8.2.2 (B) Essex Police	Communication during construction, designing out crime, anti-social behaviour and theft, potential crime mitigation, workforce profile and training, construction travel information, incident management, major accidents, traffic management and road safety and the Construction Traffic Management Plan.		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 outstanding with	
	14 Statement of 8.10.4.1 (A) Common Ground East of England	Communication, emergency planning	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	A New SoCG submitted at D8 (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
	Ambulance Service NHS Trust		and construction workers							A final agreed SoCG has been provided and there are no further matters outstanding with East England Ambulance Service NHS Trust and all matters are agreed.	
Non-	Prescribed Consu	Itees									
13	Draft SoCG Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	8.3.6.1 (<u>C</u> B)	Hintlesham Woods SSSI and RSPB reserve; effects on birds within the woods and mitigation proposals.	D1. The content of the SoCG has been agreed with the RSPB and a signed SoCG	submitted at D3. An updated SoCG has	submitted at D4. There are currently no material updates to report from D3.	submitted at D5. There are currently no	No updated SoCG submitted at D6. There are currently no material updates to report from D5.	submitted at D7. There are currently no	submitted at D8 (B) An updated SoCG (B) has been submitted at D8 which reflects	A Final SoCG has been submitted at D9. A signed SoCG has been provided and there are no further matters outstanding with RSPB.
14	SoCG Dedham Vale and Stour Valley Project Partnership	[REP6-039]	Effects on the Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley including effects on the special qualities, setting and statutory purpose.	A draft SoCG which the Applicant intends to submit is currently awaiting review and comment from the Dedham Vale ACNB	at D3.	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	A Final SoCG has been submitted at D6. This outlines the matters agreed and not agreed with the Dedham Vale and Stour Valley Project Partnership There are no further matters under discussion with Dedham Vale and Stour Valley Project Partnership		N/A	N/A

3. Overall Deadline 9 Position

- 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 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 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 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 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 Authoriti	ies: The remaining matters not agreed are:
Babergh District Council; I	— Landstape miligation and the application of the miligation metatory,
Suffolk District Cour Braintree District Council; Est	Views aint Assessment (DDO).
County Council and Suff	
County Council.	Construction and permanent lighting;
	Traffic and Transport ;
	 Single stage discharge of Management Plans and the level of detail provided in some Management Plans;
	 Archaeology, Trial Trenching and the Outline Written Scheme of Investigation;
	 Hintlesham Hall (SCC/BMSDC);
	 Construction working hours;
	 Statutory purpose of AONB;
	 Socio-economic impacts; and
	• The draft DCO.
	All other matters are agreed with the Local Authorities.
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 Sites;
	 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.
	All other matters are agreed with Natural England.
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 property documents, where the parties have not been able to reach agreement. The Applicant has made a submission pursuant to Section-127 (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 lengths of coppice rotations) have not yet been provided;
	• The RSPB has requested details of construction working methods and agreement of measures to manage impacts (noting that some works are planned during the bird breeding season); and
	• 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 if it was proposed to import additional material from
	elsewhere.
	All other matters are agreed with RSPB.

3. Next Steps

3.1.1 The Applicant will continue to review and update the SoCG with the relevant bodies throughout the examination stage. Draft SoCG will be submitted to the Examining Authority as required during the examination. This document will subsequently be updated when the next iteration of SoCG have been submitted to the Examining Authority.

3.1.2 As per the Examining Authority Rule 8 Letter [PD-003], the Applicant will be submitting the remaining SoCGs at Deadline 9.

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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