

BT-NG-020621-545-0199

Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement

Volume 8: Examination Submissions

Document 8.7.8 (F): Applicant's Protective Provisions and Commercial Side Agreements Tracking List

Final Issue F
March 2024

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020002



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

Version History

Date	Issue	Status	Description / Changes
December 2023	A	Final	First Issue for Deadline 5.
December 2023	B	Final	Second Issue for Deadline 6.
January 2024	C	Final	Third Issue for Deadline 7.
February 2024	D	Final	Fourth Issue for Deadline 8.
February 2024	E	Final	Fifth Issue for Deadline 9.
March 2024	F	Final	Sixth Issue for Deadline 10.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 This document, which is submitted in accordance with Procedural Decision 9 of the Examining Authority's (ExA) Rule 6 Letter dated 7 August 2023 [**PD-002**], provides:
- a tracking list of commercial side agreements and contracts proposed and/or entered into between the Applicant and Interested Parties or other persons for reasons associated with the Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement (the project); and
 - a tracking list of Protective Provisions included in the draft DCO (**document 3.1 (H)**), noting the requirement set out in Annex A (Examination Timetable) of the Rule 8 Letter dated 19 September 2023 [**PD-003**] for the Applicant to submit, at Deadline 5, final agreed Protective Provisions with all relevant statutory undertakers.
- 1.1.2 The Applicant anticipates further progress in relation to the remaining agreements following the end of the Examination and would be pleased to provide the Examining Authority and/or the Secretary of State with relevant material updates in this regard if required.
- 1.1.3 The Applicant does not currently envisage that any planning obligations under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (TCPA 1990) or other legislative provisions relevant to planning are required and therefore has not included a tracker for these.

2. Commercial Side Agreements and Protective Provisions

2.1 Commercial Side Agreement Tracking List

- 2.1.1 The tracking list set out below provides a list of all relevant commercial side agreements under preparation (or agreed) between the Applicant and Interested Parties / other persons, identifying the subject matter(s) for which a commercial side agreement is being (or has been) prepared and its current status.
- 2.1.2 As is common with commercial side agreements, specific details under negotiation are subject to confidentiality provisions preventing public disclosure. Therefore, an outline summary of the subject matter is all that it is possible for the Applicant to provide.
- 2.1.3 The Applicant has updated the ExA on the progress of each commercial side agreement through updates to this tracking list issued into the Examination at relevant deadlines.

Table 2.1 – Commercial side agreement tracking list

Parties	Subject Matter	Status	Likelihood of Resolution
(1) National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc and (2) Eastern Power Networks plc (UKPN)	Overarching agreement containing the main and construction terms, ways of working and overall programme for the interaction between National Grid and UKPN for the BTNO project.	All substantive matters, including those relevant to the Examination, are agreed. Further detail is set out in the Statement of Common Ground – UK Power Networks (Document 7.3.6 (B)). The parties are each securing necessary final internal approvals, following which the agreement will be completed.	The Applicant anticipates completion of the overarching agreement shortly after the close of the Examination. The Applicant intends to provide confirmation of the same by way of post-Examination correspondence.
(1) National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc and (2) Anglian Water Services Limited (AWSL)	A Cooperation Deed (including Construction Interface) which it is anticipated will make provision for managing construction-related interfaces capable of arising as between the Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement and AWSL's Bury St Edmunds to Colchester Pipeline Scheme.	The parties have agreed the terms of the Cooperation Deed (including Construction Interface). An Application under S.127 Planning Act 2008 – Anglian Water Services Limited [REP9-069] was made by the Applicant on a without prejudice basis at Deadline 9.	The Applicant anticipates completion of the Cooperation Deed shortly after the close of the Examination. The Applicant intends to provide confirmation of the same by way of post-Examination correspondence.
(1) National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc and (2)	A Basic Asset Protection Agreement (BAPA) which relates to the design and construction of underground electric cable works	The BAPA has been completed and remains in force.	The BAPA has been completed and remains in force.

Parties	Subject Matter	Status	Likelihood of Resolution
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (NRIL)	<p>and 132kV overhead line removal works forming part of the project both beneath and above the Sudbury Branch Line near Lamarsh.</p> <p>The Applicant understands from NRIL's Written Representation [REP2-028] that a further commercial agreement may be needed in order to regulate the carrying out of works in proximity to the Sudbury Branch Line, and the grant of rights in relation to the same.</p>	<p>The Applicant is continuing to seek to engage with NRIL in relation to the commercial and land agreements mentioned in NRIL's Written Representation.</p> <p>The rate of progress has, however, slowed considerably whilst discussions continue between the parties regarding the need for certain substantive provisions in those agreements.</p> <p>Further detail regarding those provisions in dispute is set out in the Applicant's Application under Section 127 Planning Act 2008 – Network Rail Infrastructure Limited [REP8-037].</p> <p>That submission must be read alongside Part 4 of Schedule 14 to the draft DCO [REP9-006], the Applicant's Schedule of Changes to the draft DCO [REP9-052] and the Applicant's Comments on Other Submissions Received at Deadline 8 [REP9-065].</p>	<p>Whilst the Applicant had been hopeful of reaching full resolution in relation to the commercial and land agreements by the close of the Examination, this outcome is now considered unlikely.</p> <p>Reference is therefore made to the Applicant's Application under Section 127 Planning Act 2008 – Network Rail Infrastructure Limited [REP8-037] submitted at Deadline 8, and also to the Applicant's Comments on Other Submissions Received at Deadline 8 [REP9-065].</p>
(1) National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, (2) Essex County Council (ECC) and (3) Suffolk County Council (SCC)	<p>A Framework Highways Agreement which it is anticipated will make provision for the carrying out by or on behalf of the Applicant of various highway works which it is intended will be authorised by the Development Consent Order.</p>	<p>Initial Heads of Terms (HoTs) were produced by the Applicant.</p> <p>Comments on those HoTs were provided by ECC on 9 February and by SCC on 19 and 20 February.</p> <p>The Applicant re-issued updated HoTs on 7 March.</p> <p>The HoTs are now substantially agreed, with a limited number of matters remaining under active discussion.</p>	<p>The Applicant anticipates that HoTs will be finalised following the close of the Examination, with the expectation that the Framework Highways Agreement will be negotiated and agreed shortly thereafter.</p>
(1) National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc and (2) Pivoted Power LLP	<p>An Interface Agreement which it is anticipated will make provision for ensuring that access rights are maintained over the section of shared access road running between the public highway at Bullen Lane and the Applicant's Bramford Substation site, for the benefit of both the project and Pivoted Power LLP's Bramford Battery Energy Storage System project.</p>	<p>The Interface Agreement is now complete.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that Pivoted Power LLP's solicitor wrote to the Examining Authority on 4 March 2024 in order to confirm withdrawal of Pivoted Power LLP's existing Relevant Representation and Written Representation.</p> <p>The Application under S.127 Planning Act 2008 – Pivoted Power LLP [REP9-067] made by the Applicant on a without prejudice basis at Deadline 9 should therefore be treated as withdrawn.</p>	<p>All matters are now resolved.</p>

Parties	Subject Matter	Status	Likelihood of Resolution
(1) National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc, (2) East Anglia THREE Limited (EA3) and (3) Scottish Power Renewables UK Limited (SPR)	An Interface Agreement which it is anticipated will make provision for managing construction and other related interfaces capable of arising as between the Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement and the East Anglia Three project.	<p>Heads of Terms (HoTs) for the Interface Agreement are agreed between the Applicant and EA3/SPR.</p> <p>The parties are committed to agreeing the form of Interface Agreement as expeditiously as possible following the close of the Examination.</p> <p>An Application under S.127 Planning Act 2008 – East Anglia THREE Limited was made on a without prejudice basis at Deadline 9 (to which see [REP9-068]).</p>	<p>Without prejudice to remaining ongoing negotiations, the Applicant anticipates completion of the Interface Agreement shortly after the close of the Examination.</p> <p>The Applicant intends to provide confirmation of the same by way of post-Examination correspondence.</p>
(1) National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc and (2) Cadent Gas Limited (Cadent)	A Side Agreement which it is anticipated will make provision for certain commercial matters raised in Cadent's Relevant Representation [RR-024] and Written Representation [REP2-020].	<p>The Side Agreement is now complete.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that Cadent's solicitor wrote to the Examining Authority on 21 February 2024 in order to confirm withdrawal of Cadent's existing Relevant Representation and Written Representation.</p>	All matters are now resolved.
TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited (EA One)	An Interface Agreement which it is anticipated will make provision for managing construction-related interfaces capable of arising as between the Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement and the operational East Anglia One Project.	<p>Heads of Terms (HoTs) for the Interface Agreement are substantially agreed between the Applicant and EA One.</p> <p>So far as the Applicant is aware, there are no commercial or other substantive matters remaining outstanding in respect of those HoTs.</p> <p>The parties are committed to agreeing the form of Interface Agreement as expeditiously as possible following the close of the Examination.</p>	<p>Without prejudice to remaining ongoing negotiations, the Applicant anticipates completion of the Interface Agreement shortly after the close of the Examination.</p> <p>The Applicant intends to provide confirmation of the same by way of post-Examination correspondence.</p>

2.2 Protective Provisions Tracking List

- 2.2.1 The table below provides an update on the current status of all relevant protective provisions.
- 2.2.2 The Applicant has updated the ExA on the progress of these Protective Provisions throughout the Examination, with updates to this tracking list issued into the Examination at each relevant deadline.

Table 2.2 – Protective provisions tracking list

Statutory undertaker	Status Update	Likelihood of resolution
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (NRIL)	<p>Protective provisions for the benefit of NRIL have been included in Part 4 of Schedule 14 to the draft Development Consent Order [REP9-006].</p> <p>Certain amendments to the protective provisions were made by the Applicant at Deadline 8.</p> <p>The Applicant’s Schedule of Changes to the draft DCO [REP9-052] explains the nature of the changes made, and should be read alongside the Applicant’s Application under Section 127 Planning Act 2008 – Network Rail Infrastructure Limited [REP8-037] and the Applicant’s Comments on Other Submissions Received at Deadline 8 [REP9-065].</p>	<p>The Applicant has made NRIL aware of the changes made to the protective provisions at Deadline 8.</p> <p>Whilst the Applicant had been hopeful of reaching resolution in relation to the commercial and land agreements by the close of the Examination, this has ultimately not proven possible.</p> <p>A position statement setting out the outstanding points of disagreement in relation to the protective provisions for the benefit of Network Rail has been submitted at Deadline 10 (Document 8.12.4).</p>
UK Power Networks (UKPN)	<p>Protective provisions for the benefit of electricity undertakers (which also includes gas, water and sewerage undertakers) have been included within Part 1 of Schedule 14 to the draft Development Consent Order [REP9-006].</p> <p>The content of these protective provisions is not in dispute with UKPN.</p>	No disagreement.
Anglian Water Services Limited (AWSL)	<p>Protective provisions for the benefit of AWSL have been included in Part 3 of Schedule 14 to the draft Development Consent Order [REP9-006].</p> <p>The protective provisions have been agreed between the Applicant and AWSL.</p>	No disagreement.
Cadent Gas Limited (Cadent)	<p>The Applicant was made aware of Cadent’s requirement for bespoke protective provisions through its Relevant Representation [RR-024].</p> <p>Protective provisions for the benefit of Cadent have been included in Part 5 of Schedule 14 to the draft Development Consent Order [REP9-006].</p> <p>The protective provisions in Part 5 have been agreed between the Applicant and Cadent.</p>	No disagreement.
Gigaclear	<p>Protective provisions for the benefit of operators of Electronic Communications Code Networks have been included within Part 2 of</p>	No disagreement.

Statutory undertaker	Status Update	Likelihood of resolution
Virgin Media Limited	<p>Schedule 14 to the draft Development Consent Order [REP9-006].</p> <p>The content of these protective provisions is not in dispute with Gigaclear.</p>	No disagreement.
Vodafone Limited	<p>Protective provisions for the benefit of operators of Electronic Communications Code Networks have been included within Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Development Consent Order [REP9-006].</p> <p>The content of these protective provisions is not in dispute with Virgin Media Limited.</p>	No disagreement.
BT Group Plc (BT Openreach)	<p>Protective provisions for the benefit of operators of Electronic Communications Code Networks have been included within Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Development Consent Order [REP9-006].</p> <p>The content of these protective provisions is not in dispute with Vodafone Limited.</p>	No disagreement.
East Anglia THREE Limited	<p>Protective provisions for the benefit of operators of Electronic Communications Code Networks have been included within Part 2 of Schedule 14 to the draft Development Consent Order [REP9-006].</p> <p>The content of these protective provisions is not in dispute with BT Group Plc (BT Openreach).</p>	No disagreement.
TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited	<p>Protective provisions for the benefit of electricity undertakers (which also includes gas, water and sewerage undertakers) have been included within Part 1 of Schedule 14 to the draft Development Consent Order [REP9-006].</p> <p>The Applicant is not aware that East Anglia THREE Limited has any concerns with the protective provisions included within Part 1 of Schedule 14.</p>	No disagreement.
TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited	<p>Protective provisions for the benefit of electricity undertakers (which also includes gas, water and sewerage undertakers) have been included within Part 1 of Schedule 14 to the draft Development Consent Order [REP9-006].</p>	No disagreement.

Statutory undertaker	Status Update	Likelihood of resolution
	The Applicant is not aware that TC East Anglia One OFTO Limited has any concerns with the protective provisions included within Part 1 of Schedule 14.	

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