

Meeting Note

File reference	EN020009
Status	Draft
Author	Chris Nash/Kate Mignano

Meeting with	National Grid
Meeting date	23 February 2012
Attendees (IPC)	Robert Upton (Pre-application Commissioner) Alan Nettey (Case Manager) Chris White (Case Manager) Nicola Mathiason (Lawyer) Will Spencer (EIA and Land Rights Officer) Jolyon Wootton (Case Officer) Kate Mignano (Case Officer) Chris Nash (Assistant Case Officer)
Attendees (National Grid)	Will Bridges (Consent Officer) Ken Guest (Project Officer) Mark Brown from Local Dialogue (Community Consultation)
Location	IPC Offices, Temple Quay, Bristol

Meeting purpose	Project Update
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Summary of key points discussed and advice given	<p>Introduction</p> <p>1. National Grid were aware of the Infrastructure Planning Commission's (IPC) policy on openness and transparency and that any issues discussed and advice given will be recorded and placed on the IPC's website in line with Section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008).</p> <p>Background</p> <p>2. The ZBC and VC overhead electric lines in North London from Waltham Cross to Hackney are currently operating at 275 kilovolts (kV) and the conductors are proposed to be uprated to 400kV as part of this project. The proposal also includes: a new substation at the existing Waltham Cross substation site; some undergrounding of the conductors at Tottenham substation; all existing towers are to be retained and reused with the exception of one additional tower at Waltham Cross and Brimsdown respectively. Most of the ZBC line is within the Lea Valley Regional Park Authority area and close to and within several environmentally sensitive and other designated sites including Sites of</p>
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Special Scientific Interest.

3. This proposal is not driven by a sole generator; there are multiple drivers for the implementation of this project as this is the a key strategic overhead electric line route in London.
4. The VC line between the Tottenham substation and the Hackney substation already has sufficient permissions and agreements to enable it to be uprated to a 400kV line. Therefore, as identified since the initial consultation stage, the VC line will not form part of the proposed application.
5. National Grid explained they have already held two stages of consultation.

Stage One Consultation

6. National Grid consulted with Local Authorities and other statutory consultees. It also published its initial Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) in April 2011. There were 65,000 leaflets issued to addresses in the vicinity of the proposed project and six exhibitions were held along the proposed route for members of the public to attend.
7. The consultation ended for this stage on 26 June 2011. The findings are published on National Grid's website <http://www.northlondonreinforcement.com/>.
8. Following consultation, land used by Arriva as an overnight, maintenance and storage depot for buses has been identified as being suitable for the construction of a sealing end compound. National Grid is in discussion with the relevant local authorities, the land owner, Arriva (the site operator) and Arriva's agents concerning this.
9. The IPC noted the possibility for the changes to mean that the red line boundary could change from that consulted upon at the EIA Scoping stage. The IPC asked if the land identified was included in the Scoping Report and queried whether National Grid would be making a further request for a Scoping Opinion to account for the changes. National Grid could not confirm the land was included in the Scoping Report and agreed to send a large scale plan to clarify the issue to the IPC. On this basis National Grid do not intend to submit a further request for a Scoping Opinion from the IPC. The IPC recommended that before submitting the application National Grid should be satisfied that the works being sought for inclusion in the DCO fall within the red line boundary and are assessed within the Environmental Statement.

Stage Two Consultation

10. Stage two of National Grid's consultation started on 12 December 2011. There were 45,000 leaflets issued to addresses within the vicinity of the proposed project, three exhibitions held and community forums were briefed.
11. The consultation ended for this stage on 29 January 2012. The findings will be published on National Grid's website for the project shortly.

Stage Three Consultation

12. This stage of consultation will be National Grid's formal consultation under s42 and 47 in the PA 2008 for the proposed project. It will also be its formal s48 publicity for the project. National Grid will consult all the 'B' authorities on a draft revised SoCC and then publish a revised SoCC before commencing this round of consultation. It also intends to send a copy of the draft SoCC to the IPC for comments. Stage three consultation will start 16 April 2012 and continue for six weeks from this date. At least one exhibition is planned. National Grid would also notify the IPC under s46 before commencing the formal consultation.

Draft Development Consent Order (DCO)

13. The IPC stated they would like a minimum of six weeks notice before submission of the draft DCO. National Grid stated they expect the draft DCO to be sent to the IPC for pre-application comments in late April 2012.

Special Category Land

14. National Grid may exchange land at Waltham Cross with Lea Valley Regional Park. A Secretary of State certificate is not anticipated.

Compulsory Acquisition

15. A lot of easements have already been agreed. National Grid was also confident that it could seek agreement with the majority of land owners. With the use of compulsory acquisition as a last resort.

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)

16. National Grid considered that a HRA for the proposed

	<p>project was likely to conclude in a 'no significant effects' finding. The IPC directed National Grid to Advice Note 10: Habitat Regulation Assessment in its approach towards the HRA and the HRA process for the proposed project.</p> <p>AOB</p> <p>17. SoCC is scheduled to be published 5 April 2012. The IPC acknowledged that the Localism Act would change certain pre-application procedures and processes and advised National Grid to seek its own legal advice with regard to the Localism Act and publishing the SoCC.</p> <p>18. Submission of the application to the IPC is expected to be August/September 2012.</p> <p>19. The IPC referred to the legislative changes under the Localism Act which will come into force in April 2012, in particular that the IPC is being abolished and its functions transferred to the relevant Secretary of State. IPC staff and Commissioners will transfer to The Planning Inspectorate from April 2012.</p>
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Specific decisions/ follow up required?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Grid to send a large scale plan demonstrating the Arriva bus depot site has been covered in the scoping report. • National Grid intend to send a draft DCO and other draft application documents such as works and land plans, consultation report, and HRA to the IPC for comments.
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Circulation List	National grid attendees
	IPC attendees