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Emer McDonnell  
National Grid

By e-mail only

Our Ref: EN020017

Date: 14 January 2015

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Dear Ms McDonnell

## **Request of modifications to the Concept for Public Participation**

### **Article 9(3) of the Regulation on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure EU 347/2013 (the TEN-E Regulation)**

#### **Internal line between the vicinity of Richborough and Canterbury (UK) Richborough Connection Project**

On 16 December 2014 the Planning Inspectorate received National Grid's Concept for Public Participation (CfPP) for the Richborough Connection Project. In accordance with the TEN-E Regulation and the delegation of National Competent Authority tasks to the Planning Inspectorate, the Planning Inspectorate has reviewed the CfPP.

It is noted that National Grid has combined the CfPP required in accordance with the TEN-E Regulation, and the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) in accordance with the Planning Act 2008 as amended (hereafter referred to as the 'statement').

In accordance with Article 9(3) of the TEN-E Regulation, the Planning Inspectorate requests the following modifications to the statement.

Whilst some of the following items are not specifically referenced in Annex VI.4 of the TEN-E Regulation regarding the CfPP, they relate to the proposed consultation, and paragraph 4.26 of the Manual of Procedures (in referring to the CfPP) makes reference to subsections (3) and (5) of the Annex, therefore they are considered to be relevant:

- It is not expressly stated how the 'general public and their associations', including those outside of the 1km consultation zone, will be made aware of the consultation and the proposal. This should be clarified within the statement (Annex VI.3(a) and 4(a) of the TEN-E Regulation and paragraph 39 of the DCLG Guidance on the Pre-application Process).

- It would be helpful if the statement could explain how the requirements in Annex VI.5 will be met:
  - o currently no reference is made to the 'information leaflet' required by this Annex, including what information it will contain and where/how can it be viewed (Annex VI.5(a)).
  - o the statement does not clearly state if relevant affected stakeholders will be invited, in written form, to dedicated meetings where concerns shall be discussed (Annex VI.5(c)).
  
- The statement reveals that consultation will be undertaken between 10 February and 27 March 2015, however it should be clearly stated that all consultation responses should be received by the deadline of 27 March 2015 (Annex VI.3(c)).

It would be helpful if National Grid could clarify, either within the statement or in writing separately, if the 'exhibitions' described within the statement are considered as the 'dedicated meetings' under Annex VI.4(b) and VI.5(c)?

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

*Kathryn Dunne*

**Kathryn Dunne**  
**Infrastructure Planning Lead**

Advice may be given about applying for an order granting development consent or making representations about an application (or a proposed application). This communication does not however constitute legal advice upon which you can rely and you should obtain your own legal advice and professional advice as required.

A record of the advice which is provided will be recorded on the Planning Inspectorate website together with the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. The privacy of any other personal information will be protected in accordance with our Information Charter which you should view before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.