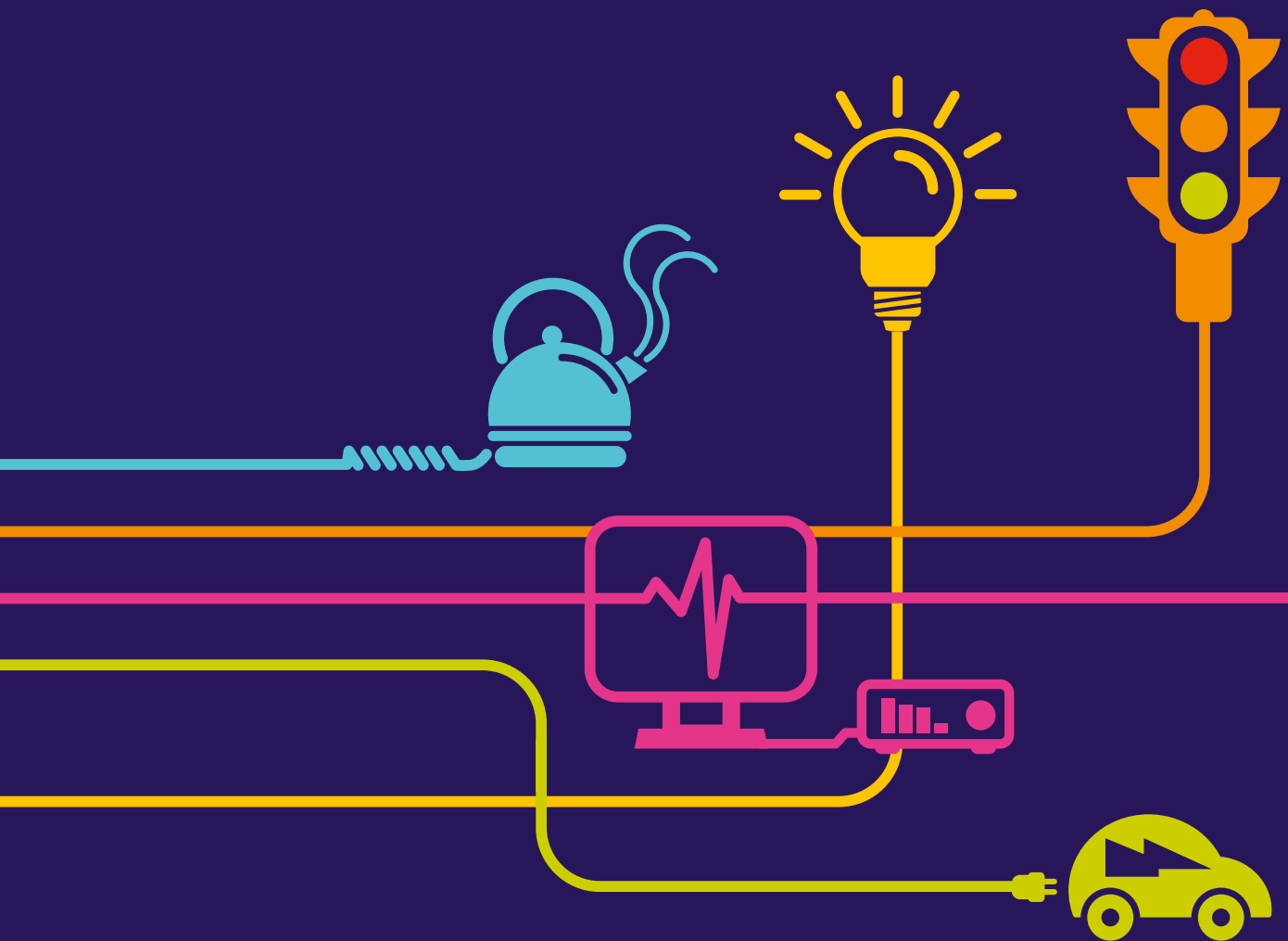


Statements of Common Ground Southern Water

National Grid (Richborough Connection Project) Order



Richborough Connection Project
Statement of Common Ground between
National Grid and Southern Water

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Draft 2

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this Document

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is between National Grid Electricity Transmission Ltd (“National Grid”) and Southern Water Plc (“Southern Water”) relating to the Development Consent Order (“DCO”) application for the Richborough Connection Project. It has been prepared in accordance with the guidance¹ published by the Department of Communities and Local Government.
- 1.1.2 This SoCG has been prepared to identify matters agreed and matters currently outstanding between National Grid and Southern Water. The SoCG will evolve as the DCO application progresses to submission and through examination.

1.2 Approach to the SoCG

1.2.1 This SoCG is structured as follows:

- Section 1 provides an introduction to this SoCG and a description of its purpose.
- Section 2 states the role of Southern Water in the DCO application process and details consultation undertaken between National Grid and Southern Water.
- Section 3 sets out matters agreed between National Grid and Southern Water.
- Section 4 sets out matters where agreement is currently outstanding between National Grid and Southern Water.
- Appendix A includes the signing off sheet.

¹ Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/418015/examinations_guidance_final_for_publication.pdf

2 CONSULTATION

2.1 Role of Southern Water in the DCO process

- 2.1.1 Southern Water is a statutory undertaker in respect of water and sewerage for the area of the proposed development.
- 2.1.2 The proposed development includes provisions which would authorise National Grid to carry out works on and in close proximity to Southern Water assets and adjacent apparatus.
- 2.1.3 Southern Water has land ownership and other assets in proximity to the proposed development:
- Canterbury Waste Treatment Works.
 - Nethergong Hill Water Pipe Systems.
 - Chislet Park Farm Water Pipe Systems.
 - Vauxhall Road Water Pipe Systems and storm tank.
 - Rushbourne Manor Water Pipe Systems.
 - Minister Waste Treatment Works.
 - Other plant in close proximity.
 - Assets on line of existing 132kV overhead line.
 - Assets on line of existing 400kV overhead line.

2.2 Summary of consultation

- 2.2.1 Consultation carried out by National Grid and the way in which it has informed the DCO application is set out in full in the Consultation Report submitted with the DCO application. Southern Water were included in the pre-application consultation carried out by National Grid.
- 2.2.2 National Grid and Southern Water continue to be in direct communication in respect of the DCO application and issues pertinent to Southern Water's interests.

This SoCG between National Grid and Southern Water is based on discussions as summarised in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 Consultation carried out by National Grid with Southern Water

Date	Details
10/02/2015	Section 42 consultation information sent to Southern Water
31/03/2015	Southern Water response to National Grid letter dated 10 February 2015 requesting a schedule of Southern Water's land ownership and other assets in proximity to the proposed development.
14/05/2015	Meeting between Southern Water and National Grid to discuss the project proposals following Section 42 feedback. Information on Southern Water assets in the location of the project were subsequently exchanged.
19/10/2015	Meeting between Southern Water and National Grid to discuss any changes that had arisen since Section 42 consultation.
16/02/2016	Meeting between Southern Water and National Grid to provide project update and introduce SoCG and the Protected Provisions included in the draft DCO.
February 2016 to July 2016	Ongoing exchange of emails confirming and clarifying issues and concerns.

3 MATTERS AGREED

3.1 Summary of current position

- 3.1.1 Southern Water agree with the project description for the Richborough Connection Project as set out in Chapter 4 of the Environment Statement and this is not discussed further.
- 3.1.2 Southern Water has no objection to the principal of the Richborough Connection Project.
- 3.1.3 National Grid and Southern Water have worked together to ensure that all areas of interaction have been identified.
- 3.1.4 Southern Water requires reassurance that its assets will be protected and it will continue to have full unrestricted access to its assets.
- 3.1.5 National Grid is not seeking rights or easements from Southern Water but will be seeking them from land where Southern Water has an interest.

3.2 Southern Water principal matters agreed

- 3.2.1 Southern Water agrees with the following principal matters relating to the DCO application:
 - EIA Approach and Method.
 - Alternatives considered and the Route Corridor Study (June 2013).
 - Baseline descriptions within the ES of relevance to Southern Water.
 - Planning Policy context for the DCO application, namely EN-1 and EN-5.
 - Chosen Pylon design and colour.
 - Final 400kV Overhead Line Alignment.
- 3.2.2 National Grid and Southern Water agree that communication between National Grid's Principal Contractor and Southern Water Operational Staff will be key to ensuring the Richborough Connection Project can be built whilst maintaining Southern Waters 24/7 access requirements.

3.3 Southern Water specific matters agreed

- 3.3.1 National Grid and Southern Water are in agreement in principal with the following Southern Water specific matters relating to the DCO application:
 - **Protective Provisions-** The DCO includes specific provisions for the protection of Southern Water assets.
 - The Southern Water assets, plant and adjacent apparatus that would be within proximity of the proposed development (as issued to National Grid by email on 31/03/2015).
 - National Grid will as per the terms of the protective provisions notify Southern Water in advance and agree methods of any works being undertaken near to their assets.
 - Southern Water and National Grid will consider entering into a separate agreement in the form of an asset protection agreement or a framework agreement to be agreed prior to the commencement of development. The intention of the agreement is to provide Southern Water with the appropriate protections to protect and access its assets.
- 3.3.2 Whilst each of the above matters are agreed in principal, National Grid and Southern Water are in continued discussions regarding the detailed wording of the DCO required in each case.

4 MATTERS CURRENTLY OUTSTANDING

4.1 Summary of current position

- 4.1.1 The specific detail of how the development will affect Southern Water's assets has not been established. This detail will be available once the contractor has been appointed and commenced detailed design. Southern Water requires individual risk assessments to be carried out in respect of each location of interaction before it can make detailed comments.
- 4.1.2 Without details of the effects on specific locations nor a mechanism to ensure risk assessments are carried (and taken into account) Southern Water cannot withdraw its representation.
- 4.1.3 It is likely that Southern Water's outstanding concerns can be addressed through a separate agreement with National Grid and potentially amended wording to the draft DCO.
- 4.1.4 The terms of the separate agreement and amendments to the draft DCO have not yet been agreed.

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Appendix A – Signing Sheet

APPROVALS	
Signed	
On Behalf of	National Grid
Name	
Position	
Date	

APPROVALS	
Signed	
On Behalf of	Southern Water
Name	
Position	
Date	