

**THE PROPOSED NATIONAL GRID (RICHBOROUGH CONNECTION PROJECT) DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER
NOTICE OF OPEN FLOOR HEARINGS AND ISSUE SPECIFIC HEARINGS
Section 91 and Section 93 Planning Act 2008 (As Amended) and Rule 13(6) Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (As Amended)
Application Reference: EN020017**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Open Floor Hearings and Issue Specific Hearings will be held by the Examining Authority (appointed by the Secretary of State) for the examination of the application by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc for a Development Consent Order (“DCO”) for the proposed National Grid (Richborough Connection Project). The application was made under sections 14, 16 and 37 of the Planning Act 2008 on 14 January 2016 and accepted for examination by the Secretary of State on 11 February 2016.

The DCO would authorise works to the national electricity transmission system between Richborough 400kV Substation and Canterbury North 400kV Substation in Kent. The proposed development is required to provide a connection between the existing high-voltage electricity network and the proposed high-voltage electricity link between Belgium and Richborough near Sandwich in Kent, known as the Nemo Link®.

There is no high-voltage electricity network in the Richborough area and so National Grid needs to build a new connection to join the Nemo Link to their existing network approximately 20km away, near Canterbury.

The Richborough Connection Project (“the Project”) includes the following principal elements—

- a new 400kV overhead line, approximately 20km long, between Richborough and Canterbury North 400kV Substations (to be known as the PC route);
- a permanent diversion of an existing lower voltage 132kV overhead line, known as the PY route, owned by UK Power Networks;
- three temporary diversions of another existing lower voltage 132kV overhead line, known as the PX route, owned by UK Power Networks;
- the removal of the existing lower voltage 132kV PX route overhead line between Richborough and Canterbury;
- associated works, for example, temporary access roads, highway works, temporary construction compounds, protective scaffold structures, pylon works and ancillary works;
- provision of landscaping and environmental mitigation works;
- diversion of public utility apparatus;
- interference with rights of navigation;
- the compulsory acquisition of rights over land;
- the application and/or disapplication of public and local legislation relevant to the Project; and
- such ancillary, incidental and consequential works and provisions as are necessary for the Project.

Open Floor Hearings will be held on the following date at the times and venue indicated:

Date of Hearing	Speaker’s Registration Time	Hearing Start Time	Venue
Wednesday 27 July 2016 Morning Session	9.30am–10.00am	10.00am The hearing will conclude when all Interested Parties have made oral representations.	Canterbury Cathedral Lodge Kentish Barn The Precincts Canterbury Kent CT1 2EH
Wednesday 27 July 2016 Evening Session	6.00pm–6.30pm	6.30pm The hearing will conclude when all Interested Parties have made oral representations.	

Issue Specific Hearings will be held on the following dates at the times and venue indicated to consider the issues noted below:

Date of Hearing and Issue to be considered	Speaker’s Registration Time	Hearing Start Time	Venue
Thursday 28 July 2016 Draft DCO including Schedule 9 Deemed Marine Licence and any other agreements	9.30am–10.00am	10.00am	Discovery Centre Lawrence Suite (Ground Floor) Discovery Park Building 500 Spitfire Way Sandwich Kent CT13 9FR
Friday 29 July 2016 Effect of the Broad Oak reservoir proposal on the Application	9.30am–10.00am	10.00am	

Further information relating to the administrative arrangements for persons wishing to attend the hearings can be found on the Richborough Connection Project pages of the National Infrastructure Planning website at: <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/richborough-connection-project/>.

A draft agenda for each hearing is normally published by the Planning Inspectorate on the project website at least 5 working days before the hearings. The actual agenda on the day of each hearing may be subject to change at the discretion of the Examining Authority. Depending on the numbers wishing to speak, it may be necessary to limit the time allocated to each speaker.

Further Open Floor Hearings may be held and further Issue Specific Hearings and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings will be held and these will be advertised by one or more further notices.

In accordance with Rule 13(3) of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010, as amended, the Planning Inspectorate will also notify interested parties and affected persons of the date, time and place fixed for each hearing.

Copies of all the application documents, including relevant representations, can be viewed on the Richborough Connection Project pages of the National Infrastructure Planning website at: <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/richborough-connection-project/>.

Copies of the application documents can also be viewed electronically at the following designated public access electronic deposit locations. Please note that you must be a member of the library to use the computers, but membership is free, and takes only a few minutes and ID is not required. Copies may also be made but there will be a charge for this.

Library	Opening Hours
Canterbury Library , The Beane House of Art and Knowledge, 18 High Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2RA Tel: 03000 41 31 31	Monday: 9.00am–6.00pm; Tuesday: 9.00am–6.00pm; Wednesday: 9.00am–6.00pm; Thursday: 9.00am–8.00pm; Friday: 9.00am–6.00pm; Saturday: 9.00am –5.00pm; Sunday: Closed
Printing Costs: A4	Black & White: 10p per sheet Colour: £1.00 per sheet
Ramsgate Library , Guildford Lawn, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 9AY Tel: 03000 41 31 31	Monday to Friday: 9.00am–6.00pm; Saturday: 9.00am –5.00pm; Sunday: Closed
Printing Costs: A4	Black & White: 10p per sheet Colour: £1.00 per sheet

All printing charges quoted are correct as of June 2016

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4 July 2016