

Richborough Connection Project



Meeting with Planning Inspectorate
29th May, 2013

Agenda

- Introductions and purpose of the meeting
- Project Need Case
- Stage 1: Strategic Options
- Stage 2: Outline Routeing and Siting
 - Route Corridor Study Development
- Consultation
- Overview of Project Timeframe
- AOB

Project Need Case

- Nemo Link® has applied for a transmission connection for their **1000MW Interconnector** at Richborough by **2018**.
- There is no National Grid transmission infrastructure at Richborough and existing distribution lines in the Richborough area owned by UK Power Networks (UKPN), do not have the capacity to carry 1000MW.
- Therefore, **new transmission infrastructure** is required.

Nemo Link®

- Nemo Link® is proposing an electricity interconnector between Belgium and the UK.
- It is a joint project between National Grid Nemo Link Limited and the Belgian Elia group.
- The proposed site for the convertor station and electricity substation in the UK is an 8ha site, formerly occupied by the Richborough Power Station in Kent.
- Nemo Link® have now submitted a planning application under the TCPA 1990 to Thanet and Dover District Councils for the convertor station, substation and underground cable (onshore application).

Our Approach

- *‘Our approach to the design and routeing of new electricity transmission lines’*



- A **process** with 6 stages.
- Recognises **environmental** and **social** impacts as well as system and cost issues.
- Early and meaningful **engagement** with stakeholders and communities to understand local considerations. Several stages of consultation.
- Options Appraisal methods to be applied on a **case-by-case** basis

Strategic Options Considered



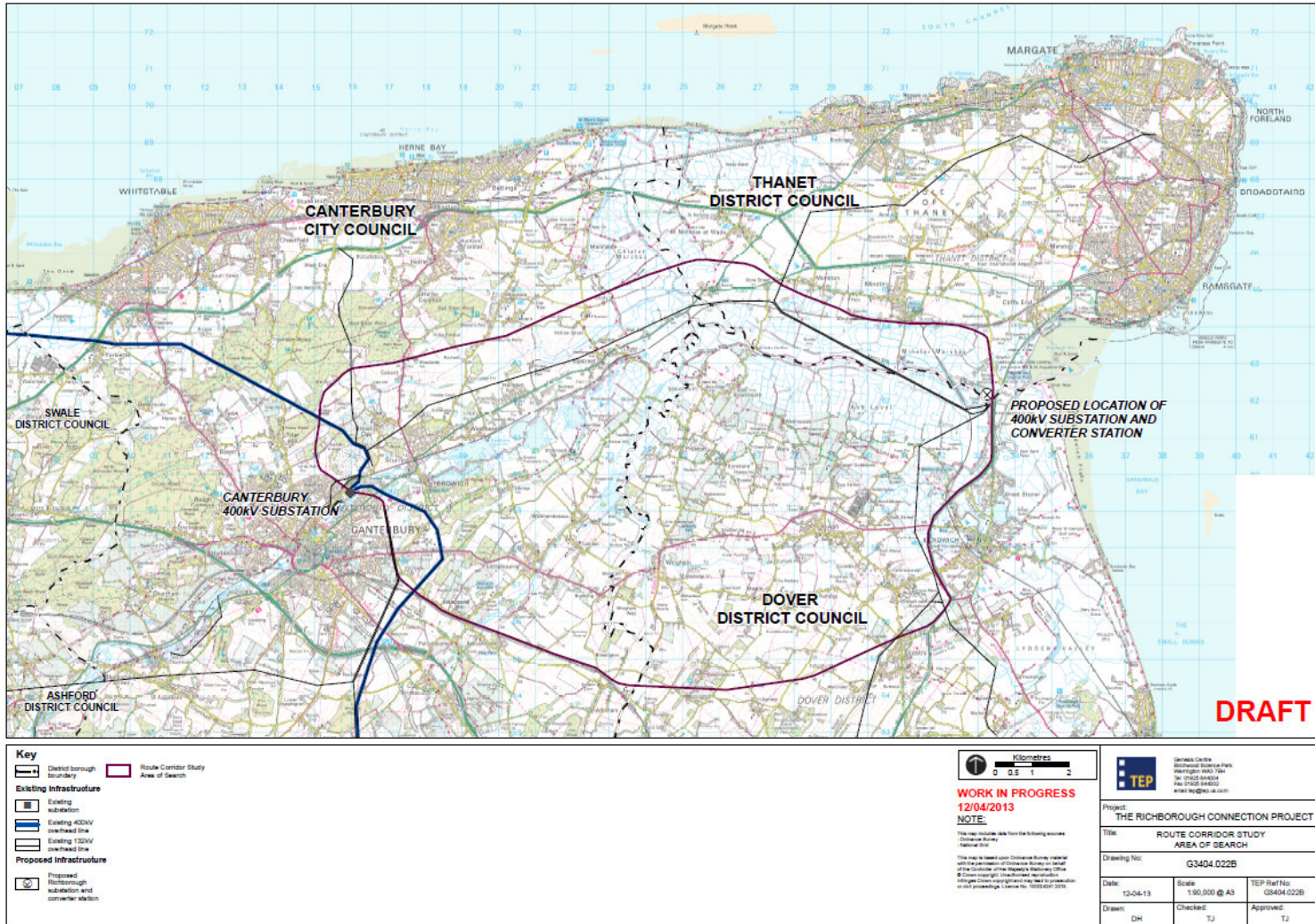
Appraisal Findings

- The Strategic Options Report (SOR) sets out that we are taking forward the option of a connection between [Richborough](#) and [Canterbury](#).
- The decision to move forward with this option is based on the view that it best balances all of the information and Government guidance available to National Grid at this time.
- This option has been taken forward to form the basis of the [route corridor study](#).

Stage 2 Outline Routeing and Siting

- At Stage 2 '**Outline Routeing and Siting**' a route corridor study is carried out to identify broad potential corridors for the new transmission route.
- Includes further environmental constraints data gathering, and field visits.
- **Options Appraisal** is applied to the corridor options identified.
- Consultation is proposed to examine all the options considered to seek feedback from the **public** and **other stakeholders**.
- Confirmation of the **preferred route corridor** taking on board feedback received.

Route Corridors - Area of Search



Engagement Activities to date

- Engagement with Core Stakeholders on the Strategic Options, Route Corridor Study and Consultation Strategy from October 2012 to Present.
- MP briefings – February / March 2013
- Elected member briefings
 - Thanet – 11th April 2013
 - Dover – 16th April 2013
 - Canterbury – 18th April 2013
 - Kent County Council – TBC
- Media release on 19th April

Stage Two Consultation

- Announcement of consultation events – early June
- Consultation launch – late June
- 6 week consultation period – late June to early August
- 1km Consultation Zone
- We will be inviting feedback on:
 - Our strategic options,
 - Route corridor options,
 - Any other comments.
- Publish our Preferred Route Corridor Winter 2013

Project Next Steps

2012 – Summer 2013	Stage 2: Outline Routeing inc RCS
Summer 2013	Stage 2: Public Consultation
Winter 2013	Publish Preferred Route Corridor
Spring 2014	Stage 3: Publish Preliminary Route Alignment
2014 – 2015	Environmental Impact Assessment
Winter 2014	Stage 4: Planning Act 08 S42 and 47 Consultation
Autumn 2015	Stage 5: Submission of Application for Development Consent to PINS
Spring 2017	Commencement of Construction
Autumn 2018	Connection Commissioned

Questions and Answers