

**PREPARED STATEMENT TO EXAMINING AUTHORITY  
AT PRELIMINARY MEETING 03-09-2015  
(Forwarded by email after the close of the meeting 03-09-2015)**

For the Attention of :

Kelvin MacDonald MCIH FRTPI FRSA  
Lead Member of the Panel of Examining Inspectors  
The Planning Inspectorate  
3/18 Eagle Wing  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

Our ExA Ref 10031383

Date: 03-09-2015

Dear Sir,

1. Application by Triton Knoll Offshore Wind Farm Ltd for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Triton Knoll Electrical System EN020019.
2. Viking Link Interconnector Link Interface Proposal.

This further statement is a representation from the Triton Knoll Cable Group (TKCG) on behalf of the affected land owners and concerned interested parties along the length of the Applicant's proposed cable route commencing at the landing point at Anderby Creek, concluding at the National Grid transmission point at Bicker Fen.

TKCG have noted that due to the representations already made, PINS's Initial assessment of the principles issues set before the Examining Authority, has acknowledged the absolute necessity, for an investigation-assessment of the potential cumulative Environmental Impacts arising from the Viking Link Interconnector project proposed National Grid Viking Link Ltd, within the terms of the Triton Knoll Cable route DCO Examination.

TKCG support the position of Lincolnshire County Council and Statements of the Constituency Members of Parliament, through which both the proposed Triton Knoll and Viking Link Interconnectors Cable routes are proposed, Matt Warman MP & Victoria Atkins MP who requested for there to be a joint Examination of the cumulative impacts arising from both projects after full disclosure and public consultation and that the Triton Knoll Cable route DCO time table, open for consideration at this preliminary meeting is deferred and subsequently set out and published, once this statutory process has been satisfactorily completed.

This is in accordance with Environment Impact Assessment Town and Country Planning EIA Regulations 2011 updated 15- 04 -2015 (*There are specific*

*arrangements for considering and determining planning applications that have been subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment. It includes consideration of the adequacy of the information provided, consultation, publicity, and informing the public of the decision and the main reasons for it. The local planning authority should take into account the information in the Environmental Statement, the responses to consultation and any other relevant information when determining a planning application.*

Ofgem in their letter dated 16 October 2014 (attached) confirmed the Viking Link Connection date of 31-10-2020, which is on the same scheduled time frame as Triton Knoll Cable Route.

Ofgem published their Decision 21 July 2015 on the Initial Project Assessment of the FAB Link, IFA2 and Viking Link Interconnectors concluding;

### **Our decision on the IPA**

#### *FAB Link, IFA2 and Viking Link*

*We have reviewed the consultation responses and carefully considered the points raised. Overall, we do not consider that the points raised changed our minded-to positions for the FAB Link, IFA2 or Viking Link projects as detailed in our March 2015 consultation. We still think that the three projects are likely to be in the interests of GB consumers. We have decided to grant these interconnectors a cap and floor regime in principle, subject to the conditions indicated below.*

***Capacity changes:*** *In the IPA consultation we noted that the developer of Viking Link is considering alternative capacity options and we considered that a change to the capacity of Viking Link could delay the planned delivery of the project. NGIH has subsequently suggested that any change in capacity would only be done if it enhanced the benefit accruing to GB consumers. In the IPA consultation we also highlighted concerns about timescales for cable-laying. The interconnector developer has since confirmed that while cable length for Viking Link is similar to NSN it's expected that cable-laying for Viking Link will not take as long as NSN, as NSN's route is more difficult to traverse. The interconnector developer also commented on our assumption that no assessment of the main risks facing the project has been included in the Viking Link submission. This was an oversight in our assessment and we accept that the interconnector developer did provide this information. **We therefore would provide a green rating for the assessment of 'Contingencies are identified and addressed'.***

It is clear that the government intentions are that full consultation on the Viking Link scheme must take place as with any other NSIP application. **We jointly consider that this is a serious matter and that the lack of consultation prior to the commencement of Examination of RWE's proposed Triton Knoll cable route, will prejudice not only the Viking Link project, but this Examination process as well.**

TKCG maintain our position that it would appear that with the very short Examination timescales available for the consideration of all of the intrinsic aspects of the Triton Knoll project, it will not be possible for the Examining Panel or any interested parties to assess all the necessary information from National Grid Viking Link Ltd on the this proposal and then

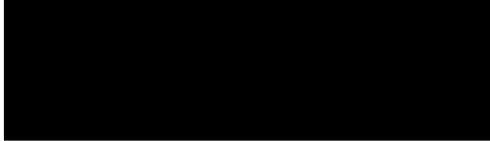
## TRITON KNOLL CABLE GROUP

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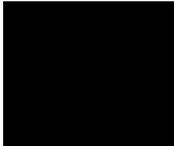
to fairly and fully assess the cumulative impacts arising from both of these schemes, by any of the affected interested parties or communities.

Thank you for your urgent attention and consideration of this matter.

Yours Sincerely,



Melvin Grosvenor  
Chairman  
Triton Knoll Cable Group



END OF STATEMENT