

**Submission by National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc  
Response to ExA Questions - Deadline 1**

Number	Question	Response
<b>DCO1.5.37</b>	Schedule 2 of the dDCO [APP-019] provides two options for the siting of the Converter Station, dependent upon negotiations with National Grid around the Lovedean substation. Can the ExA be updated as to the current position of the negotiations and if such discussions could be concluded during the Examination period, thus confirming an actual location for the Proposed Development.	Discussions between the Applicant and NGET on the siting of the converter station on NGET land are ongoing. Draft Heads of terms were first received by NGET from the Applicant on 13 December 2018. Following discussions a revised set of heads of terms was received by NGET on 14 November 2019, with a further revised set received on 17 July 2020. Discussions in relation to these draft heads of terms continue between the parties. It is hoped that agreement will soon be reached.
<b>EIA1.6.2</b>	In its Relevant Representation [RR-049], the South Downs National Park Authority drew attention to National Grid's duties under s62 of the Environment Act as a Statutory Undertaker to have regard to the purposes of the South Downs National Park. It suggested that there is only limited evidence of how National Grid met these duties and that it would be seeking further information from National Grid: 'National Grid is a Statutory Undertaker and therefore, as per section 62 of the Environment Act 1995, they are required to have regard to the purposes of the National Park in their decision making. It is not clear whether the assessment of alternatives (set out in the Environmental Statement Chapter 2: Consideration of Alternatives) by National Grid when preparing the NGET feasibility study in 2014 took into account the impact of the various options on the National Park. There is only limited information on how that duty has been met and the SDNPA will be	<p>Within the National Grid group there are a number of different business, operating separately, and each playing a role in the UK energy industry, transporting energy from producers to local network operators.</p> <p>NGET is an electricity network business and is a subsidiary of National Grid plc. It owns and operate the regulated electricity transmission network in England and Wales. NGET's network comprises approximately 7,211 kilometres of overhead line, 2,279 kilometres of underground cable and 347 substations.</p> <p>NGET has had business separation obligations in its licence for a long time, requiring it to be separate from National Grid group businesses operating in the markets of Interconnectors, Carbon Capture and Storage and Offshore Transmission. With effect from 1 April 2019, following the creation of National Grid Electricity System Operator Ltd (NGESO), NGET's business separation obligations were updated to require separation from NGESO.</p> <p>NGESO's role is to balance the system making sure supply meets demand and move high voltage electricity from where it's generated, such as a</p>

	<p>seeking further information on this from National Grid.’ Have negotiations continued and is there any update to report? Could the South Downs National Park Authority explain if, in its view, the Proposed Development would affect the statutory purposes for which the National Park was designated? Further, does it believe that there any distinction between the effects of Option B (i) and B(ii) in relation to their effects on the statutory purposes of the National Park? Please could NGET explain if and how you had regard to the statutory purposes of the South Downs National Park designation in preparing the 2014 feasibility study referred to in Chapter 2 of the ES [APP-117].</p>	<p>wind farm, through the energy system. It operates the system but is not responsible for the infrastructure (e.g. the pylons and cables) needed to carry the electricity. Using the infrastructure owned by three transmission companies (including NGET) the high voltage electricity is passed onto one of the fourteen Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) across the country.</p> <p>The DNOs own the local networks; they convert the electricity into a more manageable voltage suitable for domestic use and feed low voltage electricity through to homes and businesses.</p> <p>NGET and NGESO are legally separate companies operating within the National Grid group as separate businesses. Since separation in 2019, interactions between the two businesses are formalised and NGET is not in a position to respond to the Examining Authority on matters which are the responsibility of NGESO.</p>
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