

YG-DCO-084

Yorkshire Green Energy Enablement (GREEN) Project

Volume 8

**Document 8.5.17 Statement of Common Ground Between National
Grid Electricity Transmission plc and Cellnex UK Limited**

**Draft Version 1
March 2023**

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Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)
Regulations 2009 Regulation 5(2)(q)

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Yorkshire GREEN Project

Document control

Version History

Document	Version	Status	Description / Changes
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Statement of Common Ground	1	Draft	
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1. Introduction

- 1.1.1 A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is a written statement produced as part of the application process for a Development Consent Order (DCO) and is prepared jointly between the applicant and another party. It sets out matters of agreement between both parties, as well as matters where there is not an agreement. It also details matters that are under discussion.
- 1.1.2 The aim of a SoCG is to help the Examining Authority manage the Examination Phase of a DCO application. Understanding the status of the matters at hand will allow the Examining Authority to focus their questioning and provide greater predictability for all participants in examination. A SoCG may be submitted prior to the start of, or during Examination, and then updated as necessary, or as requested during the Examination Phase.
- 1.1.3 This is a SoCG between National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (National Grid) and Cellnex UK Limited (Cellnex). The SoCG relates to the DCO application for the Yorkshire Green Energy Enablement (GREEN) Project (referred to as the Project or Yorkshire GREEN). It has been prepared in accordance with the guidance¹ published by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).
- 1.1.4 This SoCG has been prepared to identify matters agreed, matters not agreed and matters currently outstanding between National Grid and Cellnex in terms of technical and engineering matters. Political matters have not been set out in this document.
- 1.1.5 This version (V1 March 2023) of the SoCG represents the position between National Grid and Cellnex at the submission of the application on 15 November 2022. The SoCG will evolve as the DCO application progresses to through examination.

1.2 Description of the Project

Need for the Yorkshire GREEN Project

- 1.2.1 National Grid propose to upgrade and reinforce the electricity transmission system in Yorkshire. This reinforcement is needed to improve the transfer of clean energy across the country.
- 1.2.2 Electricity flows are set to double within the next ten years as a result of offshore wind developments, other sources of clean energy and expanding interconnection capacity (high-voltage cables that connect the electricity systems of neighbouring countries) in both Scotland and north-east England. Yorkshire GREEN would contribute towards strengthening the national electricity transmission network so that it can accommodate this growth in electricity flows. Reinforcement would ensure that the network is not

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

overwhelmed, and that potential future pressures on the network are relieved in the north and north-east of England, whilst balancing supply and demand.

- 1.2.3 Without additional reinforcement, the existing transmission system would become overloaded. To stop these overloads from happening, National Grid Electricity System Operator would need to constrain power generation. Such action could result in significant costs to consumers.
- 1.2.4 As a result, it is necessary and economical to invest in network reinforcement in the long term, and critically to ensure that Yorkshire GREEN is designed, tested and installed in sufficient time to meet the 2027 earliest in service date. Reinforcement of the network would enable an increase in the transfer of clean energy, increasing network capacity and avoiding constraint costs.

Yorkshire GREEN Project Description

- 1.2.5 Yorkshire GREEN comprises both new infrastructure and works to existing transmission infrastructure and facilities. The Project is divided into six sections (see **Figure 1**), located within six local authority boundaries² :

- **Section A (Osbalwick Substation) (City of York Council):** Minor works would take place at the existing Osbalwick Substation comprising the installation of a new circuit breaker and isolator along with associated cabling, removal and replacement of one gantry and works to one existing pylon. All substation works would be within existing operational land.
- **Section B (North west of York Area) (Hambleton District Council, City of York Council, Harrogate District Council and North Yorkshire County Council):** Works would comprise:
 - reconductoring of 2.4km of the 400kV Norton to Osbalwick (2TW/YR) overhead line and replacement of one pylon on this overhead line;
 - the new 400kV YN overhead line (2.8km), north of the proposed Overton Substation;
 - the new Shipton North and South 400kV cable sealing end compounds (CSECs) and 230m of cabling to facilitate the connection of the new YN 400kV overhead line with the existing Norton to Osbalwick YR overhead line;
 - a new substation (Overton 400kV/275kV Substation) approximately 1km south of Shipton by Beningbrough;
 - two new sections of 275kV overhead line which would connect into Overton Substation from the south (the 2.1km XC overhead line to the south-west and the 1.5km SP overhead line to the south-east);
 - works to 5km of the existing XCP Poppleton to Monk Fryston overhead line between Moor Monkton in the west and Skelton in the east comprising a mixture of decommissioning, replacement and realignment. To the south and south-east of Moor Monkton the existing overhead line would be realigned up to 230m south from the current overhead line and the closest pylon to Moor Monkton (340m

² North Yorkshire County Council, Selby District Council, Harrogate Borough Council, Hambleton District Council, City of York Council, and Leeds City Council.

south-east) would be permanently removed. A 2.35km section of this existing overhead line permanently removed between the East Coast Mainline (ECML) Railway and Woodhouse Farm to the north of Overton.

- **Section C (existing 275kV Poppleton to Monk Fryston (XC) overhead line north of Tadcaster (Section D)) (Harrogate District Council, Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council):** Works proposed to this existing 275kV overhead line include replacing existing overhead line conductors, replacement of pylon fittings, strengthening of steelwork and works to pylon foundations.
- **Section D (Tadcaster) (Selby District Council, Leeds City Council and North Yorkshire County Council):** Two new CSECs (Tadcaster East and West 275kV CSECs) and approximately 350m of cable would be installed approximately 3km south-west of Tadcaster and north-east of the A64/A659 junction where two existing overhead lines meet. One pylon on the existing 275kV Tadcaster Tee to Knaresborough (XD) overhead line would be replaced.
- **Section E (existing 275kV Poppleton to Monk Fryston (XC) overhead line south of Tadcaster (Section D)) (Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council):** Works proposed to this existing 275kV overhead line include replacing existing overhead line conductors, replacement of pylon fittings, strengthening of steelwork and works to pylon foundations. Work to the existing overhead line similar to those outlined for Section C would be undertaken; and
- **Section F (Monk Fryston Area) (Selby District Council and North Yorkshire County Council):** A new substation would be constructed to the east of the existing Monk Fryston Substation which is located approximately 2km south-west of the village of Monk Fryston and located off Rawfield Lane, south of the A63. A 1.45km section of the 275kV Poppleton to Monk Fryston (XC) overhead line to the west of the existing Monk Fryston Substation and south of Pollums House Farm would be realigned to connect to the proposed Monk Fryston Substation. East of the existing Monk Fryston Substation the existing 4YS 400kV Monk Fryston to Eggborough overhead line, which currently connects to the existing substation, would be reconfigured to connect to the proposed Monk Fryston Substation.

1.2.6 Temporary infrastructure would be required to facilitate the Project, including temporary overhead line diversions and temporary construction compounds.

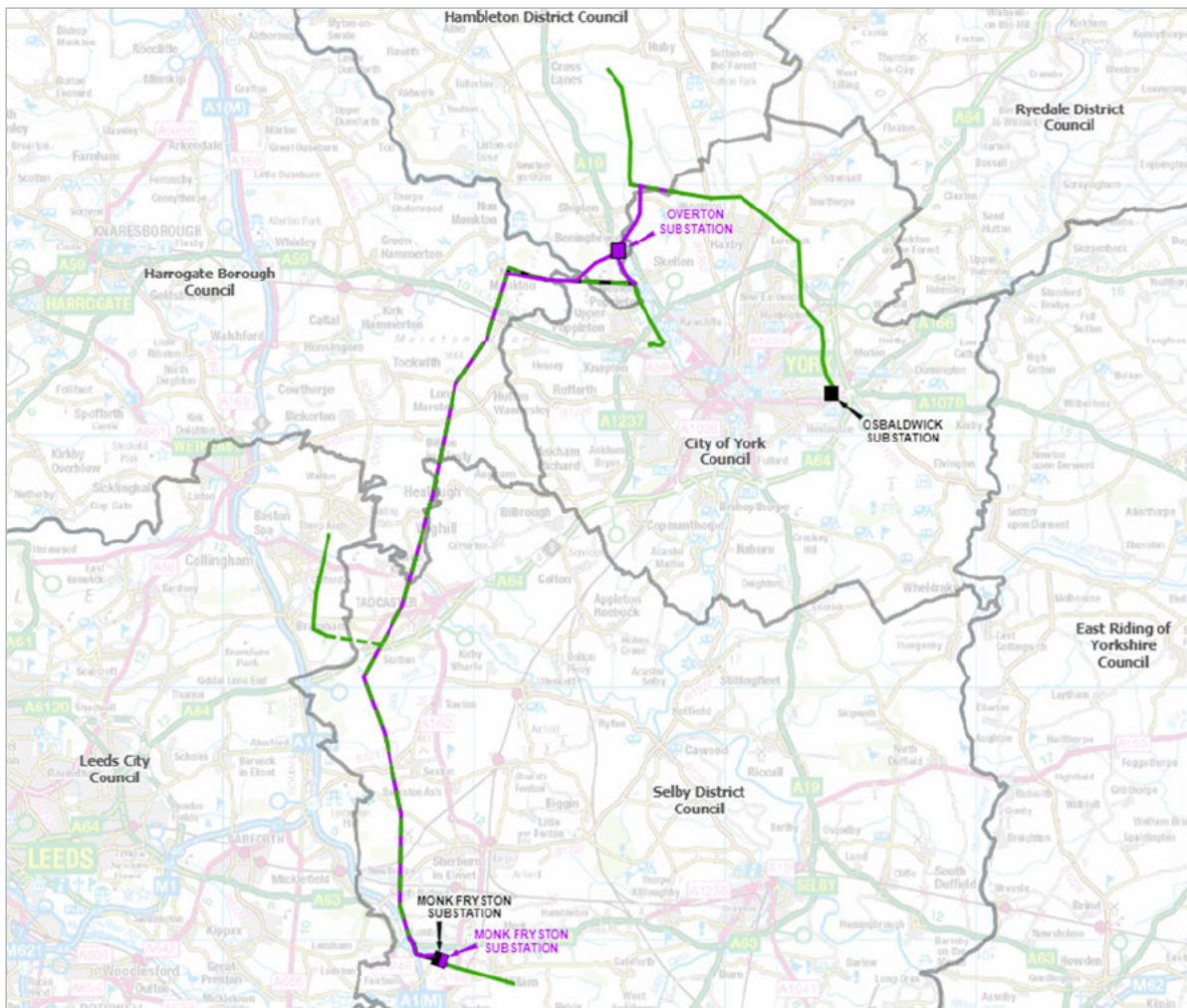


Figure 1– Location of the Yorkshire GREEN Project

1.3 This Statement of Common Ground

1.3.1 For the purpose of this SoCG, National Grid and Cellnex will jointly be referred to as the “Parties”.

1.3.2 Throughout the SoCG:

- Where a section begins ‘matters agreed’, this sets out matters that have been agreed between the Parties or where no issues have been raised by Cellnex, and therefore where there is no dispute;
- Where a section begins ‘matters not agreed’, this sets out matters that have been discussed and are not agreed between the Parties and where a dispute remains; and
- Where a section begins ‘matters outstanding’, this sets out matters that are subject to further negotiation between the Parties.

1.3.3 This SoCG is structured as follows:

- **Section 1:** Provides an introduction to this SoCG and a description of its purpose together with a broad description of the Project;

- **Section 2:** States the role of Cellnex in the DCO application process and details consultation undertaken between the Parties;
- **Section 3:** Sets out matters agreed between the Parties;
- **Section 4:** Sets out matters not agreed between the Parties;
- **Section 5:** Sets out matters where agreement is currently outstanding between the Parties; and
- **Section 6:** Sets out the approvals and the signing off sheet between the Parties.

2. Record of Engagement

2.1 Role of Cellnex in the DCO process

- 2.1.1 Cellnex is Europe's largest independent owner and operator of wireless telecommunications infrastructure and is a UK Critical Infrastructure Provider. Cellnex is the largest supplier of sites available for sharing by other telecommunications operators, emergency service network operators and a range of central and local government departments and agencies.
- 2.1.2 The Application includes provisions which would, if granted, authorise National Grid to carry out works in and in close proximity to operational land and assets belonging to Cellnex and to use such land temporarily and to acquire permanent interests in such land.

2.2 Summary of pre-application discussions

- 2.2.1 **Table 2.1** summarises the consultation and engagement that has taken place between the Parties prior to submission of the DCO application. This includes discussions relating to the impact of the development and protective provisions.

Table 2.1 – Pre-application discussions

Date	Discussion points
6 December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Letter from Cellnex to National Grid regarding proposed DCO application.
01 February 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Meeting between National Grid and Cellnex for National Grid to outline the Project. Summary of points included that 5 Cellnex assets in total will be potentially impacted, 3 Cellnex assets within line-of-sight requiring assessment and 2 Cellnex assets on existing National Grid towers which may result in outages or being placed on temporary masts.
25 May 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Email from National Grid to Cellnex providing internal kmz of latest design ahead of meeting due to take place on 27 May 2022.
27 May 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Meeting between National Grid and Cellnex. Summary points were that:<ul style="list-style-type: none">There are 3 Cellnex assets within line-of-sight requiring assessment of any impacts on their coverage and LOS (?) Links.There are two assets on existing National Grid towers, Cellnex advised it was too early to engage for

Date	Discussion points
	removal of cellular units from National Grid towers and this should be approached in 2023.
04 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email from Cellnex to National Grid requesting additional information on the development particularly the 3 Cellnex assets identified in the representations.
04 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email from National Grid to Cellnex which provided National Grid's typical construction compound drawing and a kmz of latest designs.
08 September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email from National Grid to Cellnex requesting an update on the impact of the development on the masts around Tadcaster.
08 September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email response from Cellnex to National Grid regarding the above request stating they will provide an update shortly.
4 October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email from National Grid to Cellnex chasing an update on the impact of the development on the masts around Tadcaster.
4 October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email from National Grid to Cellnex stating they are happy to have a call once Cellnex have completed their assessment on the impact of the development on the masts around Tadcaster.

2.3 Summary of post-submission discussions

2.3.1 **Table 2.2** will summarise the consultation and engagement that takes place between the Parties post submission of the DCO application.

Table 2.2 – Post-submission discussions

Date	Discussion points
04 January 2023	Email from National Grid to Cellnex requesting an update on the assessment of the impact of the development on the masts around Tadcaster.
04 January 2023	Email from Cellnex to National Grid providing a contact for progressing this matter in order to discuss further.
17 February 2023	Email from National Grid to Cellnex notifying that the Project DCO application was submitted on 15 November 2022. National Grid provided a link to the Protective Provisions.
3 March 2023	Email from National Grid to Cellnex in which National Grid expressed the view that an SoCG with Cellnex would not be necessary as all matters are being addressed. National Grid requested that Cellnex confirm their understanding and agreement on this.

17 March 2023 Phone call from National Grid to Cellnex to raise the point that no engagement has been received from the new point of contact on the following points:

- 3 Cellnex assets within line-of-sight requiring assessment of any impacts on their coverage and LOS links;
 - Protective Provisions; and
 - SoCG.
-
-

3. Matters Agreed

- 3.1.1 This section sets out the matters that have been agreed between National Grid and Cellnex and **Table 3.1** details these matters.
- 3.1.2 Whilst each of the below matters are agreed in principle, the Parties are in ongoing discussions regarding the detailed wording required in each case.
- 3.1.3 The Parties will update the Examining Authority as soon a detailed terms have been agreed between them to address each of the outstanding matters.

Table 3.1 – Matters agreed in principle

SoCG ID	Matter	Agreed position	Date of Agreement
	Protective Provisions	The Parties agree that the Protective Provisions for the protection for operators of electronic communications code networks, as set out within Schedule 15, Part 2 of the draft DCO (Volume 3, Document 3.1(B)) [AS-011] are sufficient to protect Cellnex's assets and operational activities which may be impacted by the Project.	

4. Matters Not Agreed

4.1.1 Section 4 sets out matters not agreed between National Grid and Cellnex. **Table 4.1** details these matters.

Table 4.1 – Matters not agreed

SoCG ID	Matter	Cellnex position	National Grid position
N/A			

5. Matters outstanding

5.1.1 Section 5 sets out matters where agreement is currently outstanding between National Grid and Cellnex. In particular **Table 5.1** details these matters.

Table 5.1 – Matters outstanding

SoCG ID	Matter	Cellnex position	National Grid position
	3 Cellnex assets within line-of-sight potential	Once this information is provided operators can undertake their assessment of any impacts on their coverage and LOS links.	National Grid has provided the required information for the assessment to take place on 04/07/2022. National Grid is awaiting the report / response.
	2 assets on existing National Grid towers	Cellnex advised that it was too early to engage for removal of cellular units from National Grid towers and this should be approached in 2023.	National Grid will work with Cellnex to find the best solution to manage the two assets which may result in outages or being placed on temporary masts.

6. Approvals

Section does not need to be completed at this stage

Signed



On Behalf of

National Grid

Name

Martin McGready

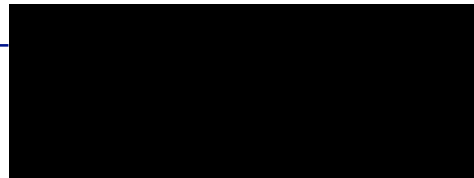
Position

Senior Project Manager

Date

05/04/2023

Signed



On Behalf of

CELLNEX

Name

GEORGIOS D KOLIOS

Position

Estates Surveyor – Business Rates Manager

Date

05/04/23

National Grid plc
National Grid House,
Warwick Technology Park,
Gallows Hill, Warwick.
CV34 6DA United Kingdom

Registered in England and Wales
No. 4031152

