

YG-DCO-076

Yorkshire Green Energy Enablement (GREEN) Project

Volume 8

**Document 8.5.9 Statement of Common Ground Between National
Grid Electricity Transmission plc and National Trust**

**Draft Version 1
March 2023**

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Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)
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Yorkshire GREEN Project

Document control

Version History

Document	Version	Status	Description / Changes
Statement of Common Ground	1	Draft	National Trust SoCG for PINS review

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 SoCG is between National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc (“National Grid”) and National Trust relating to the DCO application for the Yorkshire GREEN Project. 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 National Trust.
- 1.1.5 This version (V1 March 2023) of the SoCG represents the position between National Grid and the National Trust at the submission of the application on 15 November 2022. The SoCG will evolve as the DCO application progresses to through the submission process and on to 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):** 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):** 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 south-east) would be permanently removed. A 2.35km section of this existing

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

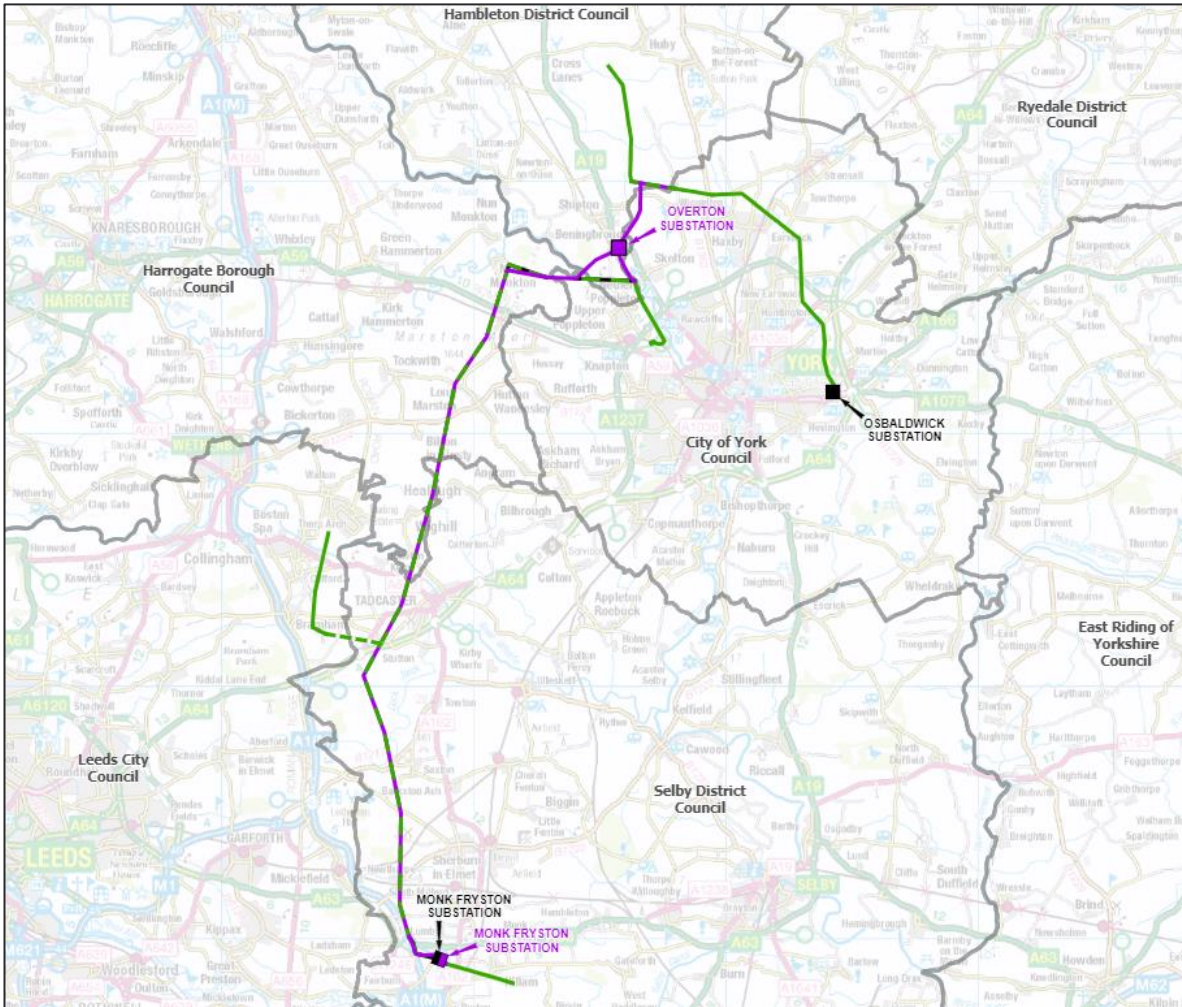
overhead line permanently removed between the East Coast Mainline (ECML) Railway and Woodhouse Farm to the north of Overton.

- **Section C (existing 275kV Poppleton to Monk Fryston (XC) overhead line north of Tadcaster (Section D)):** 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):** 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)):** 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):** 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 National Trust will jointly be referred to as the “Parties”. When referencing National Trust alone, they will be referred to as “the Consultee”.
- 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 National Trust, and therefore where there is no dispute;
 - Where a section begins ‘matters not agreed’, this sets out matters that 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 National Trust 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 National Trust in the DCO process

- 2.1.1 National Trust manage over 300 properties and their associated collections in England and Wales. It was founded as a charity to preserve and manage historic properties and grew through gifts and acquisitions, and achieved a statutory basis in 1907, which sets its role as “*promoting the permanent preservation for the benefit of the nation of lands and tenements (including buildings) of beauty or historic interest and as regards lands for the preservation (so far as practicable) of their natural aspect features and animal and plant life*”. The National Trust is a consultee for consents relating to heritage assets which it owns.
- 2.1.2 Specific to the Project, National Trust are owners of the Beningbrough Hall estate, comprising the house and grounds, including designated heritage assets within the registered park and garden and land beyond the boundary of the designated historic park and garden. National Trust have requested to be consulted over the potential effects of the Project arising through change to setting of Beningbrough Hall as a result of visibility of elements of the Project in views from the gardens and house of Beningbrough Hall in their role as owners and curators of this historic property. While National Trust are not a consultee prescribed by the Planning Act 2008, they are nonetheless an important consultee, and have been identified as a wider consultee for the Project and invited to participate during the pre-application process.
- 2.1.3 As part of the consultation process the Applicant carried out non statutory and statutory consultation. Further information on this consultation is set out in Section 4 and 5 of the **Consultation Report** (Section 4 and 5, **Volume 6, Document 6.1**).
- 2.1.4 On submission of the DCO, the National Trust will be invited to participate in the examination of the Project as Interested Parties. During the examination process, the National Trust may prepare written representations, and respond to written questions from the Examining Authority as well as participate in hearings.

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 EIA Scoping, s42 statutory consultation and additional technical engagement.

Table 2.1 – Pre-application discussions

Date	Topic	Discussion points
26 April 2021	Email from Natasha Rowland (National Trust) to Yorkshire Green	Drawing attention to the absence of notification to National Trust of the consultation stage in March 2021. Response received 4 May 2021 offering briefing session to NT about the proposals.

Date	Topic	Discussion points
12 May 2021	Community relations Email from Natasha Rowland (National Trust) to National Grid	National Trust noted the visibility of the existing 275kV XCP and XC overhead lines from specific viewpoints at Beningbrough Hall and identified specific concerns for the setting of Beningbrough Hall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential increased visibility of the replacement 400kV pylons; and • Visibility of the proposed development from elevated viewpoints on the second floor of the Hall.
21 June 2021	Email from Yorkshire GREEN community Relations to National trust	National Grid have noted comments made by National Trust and following completion of the present stage of design iteration will arrange for their environmental consultants to visit Beningbrough Hall in line with National Trust's request.
07 December 2021	National Trust s42 response	Restated request for detailed consideration of views from second floor of Beningbrough Hall and provision of supporting visualisation(s).
25 January 2022	Site Visit to Beningbrough Hall	The Applicant's environmental consultant emailed National Trust to request a site meeting at Beningbrough Hall to discuss issues raised in National Trust's Section 42 statutory consultation response. National Trust responded to suggest dates and 25 February 2022 was agreed.
25 February 2022	Site Visit to Beningbrough Hall	John Mabbitt (The Applicant's environmental consultant), Neil Furber (The Applicant's environmental consultant) and Bethany Kington (National Grid) met Natasha Rowland (National Trust) and Caroline Hill (National Trust) on site at Beningbrough Hall and inspected various viewpoints identified by National Trust.
28 February 2022	Site Visit to Beningbrough Hall	The Applicant's environmental consultant emailed a summary of the meeting with marked up photography and an initial discussion of the contribution of the identified views to the significance of the heritage assets. National Trust acknowledged receipt on 3 March 2022.
4 April 2022	Site Visit to Beningbrough Hall	National Trust noted general agreement with the discussion contained in the marked-up photography provided on 28 February 2022 and raised the following points:

Date	Topic	Discussion points
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further clarity is needed on the appearance of pylon XC428 and its replacement during construction and on completion of the works; <p>Revised pylon alignment at XCP005-007 appears unlikely to give rise to any adverse effect</p> <p>Clarity needed on increased proximity of pylons replacing XCP008-010</p> <p>Clarity required on visibility of towers replacing XCP010 in views to York Minster</p> <p>National Trust invited further consultation.</p>
30 June 2022	Effects on Beningbrough Hall	The Applicant's environmental consultant emailed National Trust to provide a more detailed characterisation of the potential visibility of the proposed development as a technical note and responded specifically to the points raised on 4 April 2022.
2 August 2022	Effects on Beningbrough Hall	National Trust responded to the Applicant's environmental consultant to note general agreement with the description of the anticipated changes set out in the technical note and requested further clarity on visibility of pylon XC428 and its replacement.
16 September 2022	Effects on Beningbrough Hall	The Applicant's environmental consultant emailed National Trust a copy of the draft VP8 (viewpoint south of the walled garden, Beningbrough Hall) photomontage with explanatory text. A response is awaited.

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	Topic	Discussion points

3. Matters Agreed

3.1.1 This section sets out the matters that have been agreed between National Grid and National Trust. In particular **Table 3.1** details these matters.

Table 3.1 – Matters agreed

SoCG ID	Matter	Agreed position	Date of Agreement
Volume 5 Environmental Statement			
3.1 Chapter 7: Historic Environment			
<i>Assessment Scope and Methodology</i>			
3.1.1	Consideration of specific viewpoints	The parties agree that the further survey of viewpoints requested by National Trust in their s42 statutory consultation response has been completed. These views are discussed in the ES at Chapter 7: Historic Environment, Section 7.16 (Volume 5, Document 5.2.7)	4 April 2022
<i>Baseline</i>			
3.1.2	Consideration of contribution of specific views from the house and garden	The parties agree that the description of the views from Beningbrough Hall as characterised in the PEIR and as further detailed in the marked-up site photography issued to National Trust on 9 March 2022 is accurate and considers the issues of	4 April 2022

SoCG ID	Matter	Agreed position	Date of Agreement
		concern to National Trust. This photography is included as Appendix 7F (Document 5.3.7F) to ES Chapter 7: Historic Environment (Document 5.2.7, Volume 5).	
<i>Assessment of effects</i>			
3.1.2	Consideration of contribution of specific views from the house and garden	The parties agree that the description of the potential change to views from Beningbrough Hall as characterised in the technical note issued on 30 June 2022 is accurate and considers the issues of concern to National Trust. This note is included as Appendix 7F (Document 5.3.7F) to ES Chapter 7: Historic Environment (Document 5.2.7, Volume 5).	2 August 2022
5.1.1	Visibility of angle pylons at XC428 in views south from Beningbrough Hall	<p data-bbox="1106 887 1615 1110">National Trust requested more detailed representation of the appearance of the replacement angle pylon at XC428 (existing) and XC429 (proposed) in these views.</p> <p data-bbox="1106 1166 1615 1461">National Trust confirms it is now satisfied with the information presented in the visualisations. National Trust has considered but discounted a need for mitigation that would be able to screen the pylon given the height and distance involved.</p>	26 January 2023

SoCG ID	Matter	Agreed position	Date of Agreement
5.1.2	The magnitude and significance of effect of the changes set out in the PEIR and as further detailed in the marked up site photography issued to National Trust on 9 March 2022 and the technical note issued on 30 June 2022	The assessment conclusions on the magnitude and significance of the effect of the changes are now agreed by National Trust.	26 January 2023
5.1.3	Any harm accruing to the Grade I Beningbrough Hall would arise solely from change to setting during the construction period. This harm would constitute a very low magnitude of less than substantial harm and would occur for a limited duration. No harm would accrue to the registered park and garden or the other designated heritage assets contained within it.	Having reviewed the submission, providing the alignment remains as currently proposed the National Trust agrees to the assessment of the effects presented.	26 January 2023

4. Matters Not Agreed

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

Table 4.1 – Matters not agreed

SoCG ID	Matter	National Trust 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 Historic England. In particular **Table 5.1** details these matters.

Table 5.1 – Matters outstanding

SoCG ID	Matter	National Trust position	National Grid position
N/A			

6. Approvals

Signed	B. Kington
On Behalf of	National Grid
Name	Bethany Kington
Position	Consents officer
Date	2nd March 2023
Signed	
	N Rowland
On Behalf of	National Trust
Name	Natasha Rowland
Position	Planning Adviser
Date	09 March 2023