

## Norwich to Tilbury – EN020027

### National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)

#### Section 51 Advice Log

**Version: 23 October 2024**

There is a statutory duty under [section 51 \(s51\) of the Planning Act 2008](#) for the Planning Inspectorate to record the advice that it gives in relation to an application or potential application, and to make this publicly available.

This document comprises a record of the advice that has been provided by the Inspectorate to the applicant (National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)) and their consultants during the pre-application stage. It will be updated by the Inspectorate after every interaction with the applicant during which s51 has been provided. The applicant will always be given the opportunity to comment on the Inspectorate's draft record of advice before it is published.

The applicant will use this Advice Log as the basis for demonstrating regard to section 51 advice within the application.

Project name s51 Advice Log - Index	
Date of meeting	Meeting overview
23 October 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Welcome and introductions</b></li> <li><b>2. Overview of the project (refresh)</b></li> <li><b>3. Previous PINS Meeting</b></li> <li><b>4. Statutory Consultation (wrap up)</b></li> <li><b>5. PINS pre-application Standard Tier Service</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Program Document – content and update</li> <li>b) Draft documents to be shared for PINS review</li> </ol> </li> <li><b>6. PINS Advice notes / new documents</b></li> <li><b>7. Stakeholder engagement (update)</b></li> <li><b>8. Environmental (update)</b></li> <li><b>9. Lands (update)</b></li> <li><b>10. Examination readiness</b></li> <li><b>11. Future project update meetings</b></li> <li><b>12. Next Steps</b></li> <li><b>13. AOB</b></li> </ol>

<b>Project name -s51 Advice Library</b>	
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Meeting date: 23 October 2024</b>
LPA engagement	The Inspectorate emphasised the importance of Local Authorities to the Applicant, with the size of the project the engagement of Local Authorities is vital.
Resourcing	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to consider the resource capacity of Natural England and other statutory environmental bodies. The Applicant advised they haven't found any gaps in Natural England's resourcing with regards the input they have been seeking. The Applicant explained that with Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) and SLA in place as well as giving as much notice as possible there have been no resourcing issues identified as yet even with the scale of the project.
British Pipeline Agency	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant they had received an email from the British Pipeline Agency (BPA), regarding their concerns around a high-pressure pipeline and the Applicant's approach to assessment of major accidents and disasters in the Environmental Statement (ES). The Inspectorate explained that it had advised the BPA to continue to contact the Applicant with any comments on the Proposed Development.
Draft Document Review	The Applicant highlighted the draft documents they planned to share with the Inspectorate in January. The Inspectorate advised that in order to provide an effective review of the documents they should be well advanced in their drafting. The Inspectorate advised that documents listed by the Applicant are part of the draft document review service, but for the Environmental Statement only the Project Description chapter will be reviewed. The Inspectorate advised it would take 6 weeks for all draft documents to be reviewed.
Programme Document	<p>The Applicant advised their programme document hasn't been updated as they are waiting until the Inspectorate makes comments on all National Grids programme documents during October 2025. The Inspectorate advised there will be commentary on the already submitted programme document attached to this advice log.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised that the programme document needs to be clear and precise with dates to help the Inspectorate deploy resources effectively. The Inspectorate told the Applicant to outline when any proposed update meetings with the Inspectorate or statutory bodies will be. The Inspectorate also highlighted that abbreviations need</p>

	<p>clarified as well as any cross referencing to the Statement of Community Consultation.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to ensure regard to advice given throughout pre-application stage is clearly demonstrated within the submission.</p>
Policy Compliance	<p>The Applicant asked if the policy compliance document needs to be submitted individually. The Inspectorate advised it will need to be submitted as a separate document.</p>
Issues Tracker	<p>The Applicant asked the Inspectorate for any advice regarding the issues tracker. The Inspectorate advised the tracker should begin at the start of pre-app and monitored right the way through to feed to the main issues of examination. This is critical as it carries on throughout pre-application and feeds through to the main issues of examination and is beneficial for statutory parties. The Inspectorate advised the issues tracker is also used by statutory bodies who will provide a RAG rating against issues and demonstrate the risk associated with each topic. The Inspectorate then referred the Applicant to the flow chart in the pre-app prospectus.</p>
HRA Document	<p>The Applicant asked the Inspectorate if the HRA Stage 1: Screening report and Stage 2: Information to Inform Appropriate Assessment report could be presented in the same document. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that the Stage 1 and 2 information can be presented in the same document, although noted that these reports are often provided as separate documents due to their size/ length and to assist with navigation.</p>
Advice Note	<p>The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that the <a href="#">Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on Good Design</a> has been published today and by mid-November an advice note on linear projects will be published.</p>
Future Meetings	<p>With regards to future meetings the Inspectorate advised the Applicant to provide potential future dates ahead of time for the Inspectorate to check against its own availability.</p>
Hearing Venues	<p>The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to begin finding potential hearing venues now. The Inspectorate advised there is a list of requirements that can be sent to the Applicant, along with a list of AV companies. The Applicant queried if other large projects have held hearings across multiple locations. The Inspectorate told the Applicant this has been done in the past.</p>

Submission format	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that a glossary should be provided for each application document.
Document Submission	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that the documents 'consents and other licences required under other legislation' and 'details of other consents and licences' are separate documents which should be submitted with the application as each would cover distinct circumstances.
Template Amendments	The Applicant asked if the template for the Commitments Register can be amended to fit all the necessary information. Advice from the Inspectorate is that the template can be amended by the Applicant, as required, to ensure the information is presented clearly.
Application Advice	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that their submission will need to include details of all structures and accesses included within the project scope.