



Meeting note

Project name	North Humber to High Marnham Reinforcement
File reference	EN020034
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	16 May 2023
Meeting with	National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)
Venue	Telecon
Meeting objectives	Inception Meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed, and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

National Grid Electricity Transmission (the Applicant) introduced the project, which is to be a reinforcement of the national grid system between North Humber (in the area of Creyke Beck substation) and High Marnham. This is necessary to increase capacity of the grid, which National Grid is under a statutory duty to provide electricity connections under the Electricity Act 1989.

Greater capacity is required to allow the connection of renewably generated electricity (offshore wind, solar), interconnectors (connections with Europe) and connection with the electricity transmission network in Scotland, from the current capability to transfer c10GW of power between the North and the Midlands to 29GW of capability, by 2033.

The Development Consent Order shall seek to construct what is envisaged to be a wholly or largely 400 kV overhead line. Permission to build two new substations, that are required to deliver the project, shall be sought under the Town and County Planning Act 1990 in due course, as they are required earlier to address other needs.

The Applicant will seek to acquire ownership, and/or rights, over land by voluntary agreement, and will only seek compulsory acquisition powers where this cannot be achieved. It was confirmed that the project would involve Crown Estate land at and adjacent to the River Ouse. The Inspectorate asked the Applicant to keep it updated on the extent of land required for compulsory acquisition throughout the course of the pre-application stage.

The Applicant has already engaged with the four host local authorities (East Riding of Yorkshire Council, North Lincolnshire Council, Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council) and environmental bodies (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency), amongst others.

The Applicant stated that non-statutory consultation on initial proposals will be commencing in June 2023 and that the Applicant's project website would be live from 18 May 2023. The non-statutory consultation will seek feedback on the emerging preferred corridor, and graduated swathe.

Statutory Consultation on detailed proposals is expected to be held in the autumn of 2024.

Work is ongoing on ornithology surveys and the Scoping Report. Information on environmental matters, heritage, traffic impacts and landscape has been shared with local authorities for comment to help inform the Scoping Report, which is due to be submitted to the Inspectorate in late July 2023. The Inspectorate reminded the Applicant of the need to submit the GIS shapefile at least 10 days before submitting the Scoping Report.

The Applicant gave an overview of the environmental surveys they intend to carry out, which will commence in earnest in March 2024.

The DCO application submission date is expected to be in early 2026.

The Inspectorate suggested that the next meeting should be following the publication of the Scoping Opinion would be beneficial, in order to discuss feedback from that document.