

Lower Thames Crossing

5.4.3.21 <u>Draft Agreed</u>
Statement of Common Ground
between (1) National Highways
and (2) UK Power Networks
(Tracked changes version)

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)
Regulations 2009

Volume 5

DATE: <u>July 2023</u> <u>DEADLINE:1</u>,

Deleted: October 2022

Planning Inspectorate Scheme Ref: TR010032 Application Document Ref: TR010032/APP/5.4.3.21

VERSION: 2,0

Deleted: 1

Lower Thames Crossing – 5.4.3.21 Draft Agreed Statement of Common Ground between (1) National Highways and (2) UK Power Networks (Tracked changes version)

Volume 5

Revision history

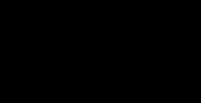
Version	<u>Date</u>	Submitted at
<u>1.0</u>	31 October 2022	DCO Application
2.0	18 July 2023	Examination Deadline 1

Status of the Statement of Common Ground

This is an Agreed Draft Statement of Common Ground with matters outstanding.

The Applicant and (UK Power Networks) agree that this draft Statement of Common Ground is an accurate description of the matters raised and the current status of each matter.

From:
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 10:30 AM
To:
Cc:
Subject: RE: LTC - UKPN SoCG
Hi
Yes, I'm happy with the version you attached.
Kind regards



A high-level overview of the engagement undertaken since the DCO application was submitted on 31 October 2022 is summarised in Appendix A.

Lower Thames Crossing

5.4.3.21 Draft Agreed Statement of Common Ground between (1) National Highways and (2) UK Power Networks (Tracked changes version)

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1.1 Purpose of the Statement of Common Ground 1¶
1.2 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground 1¶

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Table 2.1 Matters......3

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Statement of Common Ground

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared in respect of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the proposed A122 Lower Thames Crossing (the Project) made by National Highways Limited (National Highways) to the Secretary of State for Transport (Secretary of State) under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 on 31 October 2022.
- 1.1.2 The SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority where agreement has been reached between National Highways (the Applicant) and UK Power Networks, and where agreement has not been reached. Where, matters are yet to be agreed, the parties will continue to work proactively to reach agreement and will update, the SoCG to reflect areas of further agreement.
- 1.1.3 This version of the SoCG has been submitted at Examination Deadline 1.

1.2 Principal Areas of Disagreement

- 1.2.1 On 19 December 2022 the Examination Authority made some early procedural decisions to assist the Applicant, potential Interested Parties and themselves to prepare for the Examination of the DCO application.
- 1.2.2 One of these procedural decisions was to use a tracker recording Principal Areas of Disagreement in Summary (PADS).
- 1.2.3 The PADS Tracker would provide a record of those principal matters of disagreement emerging from the SoCG and should be updated alongside the SoCG as appropriate throughout the examination with the expectation that a revised PADS Tracker should be submitted at every Examination deadline.
- 1.2.4 UK Power Networks elected not to produce a PADS Tracker, at preexamination stage, indicating to the Applicant that they were content that the number of outstanding matters within the SoCG was insufficient to warrant the exercise.

1.3 Terminology

- 1.3.1 In the matters table in Section 2 of this SoCG, "Matter not agreed" indicates agreement on the matter could not be reached following significant engagement, and "Matter under discussion" where these points will be the subject of ongoing discussion wherever possible to resolve, or refine, the extent of disagreement between the parties. "Matter agreed" indicates where the issue has now been resolved.
- 1.3.2 In Table 2.1, relevant issues relating to the dDCO articles and Requirements in Schedule 2 to the dDCO have been identified under the heading 'DCO and Consents'.

Deleted: <#>This SoCG does not seek to replicate information which is available elsewhere within the Application Documents. All documents may be available on the Planning Inspectorate website.¶

Deleted: <#>the parties named below

Deleted: <#>(yet)

Deleted: <#>SoCGs are an established means in the planning process of allowing all parties to identify and so focus on specific

Deleted: <#>that may need

Deleted: <#>addressed during

Deleted: <#>examination.

Deleted: Parties to this Statement of Common
Ground¶

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Deleted:) National Highways, and (2) UK Power Networks

Deleted: <#>National Highways became the Government-owned Strategic Highways Company on 1 April 2015. It is the highway authority in England for the strategic road network and has the necessary powers and duties to operate, manage, maintain and enhance the network. Regulatory powers remain with the Secretary of State. The legislation establishing National Highways made provision for all legal rights and obligations of the Highways Agency, including in respect of the Project, to be conferred upon or assumed by National Highways. ¶ UK Power Networks (UKPN) is a licensed distribution network operator (DNO) for electricity covering Southeast England, the East of England and London, managing three licensed distribution networks (Southeastern Power Networks PLC, Eastern Power networks PLC and London Power Networks PLC) which together cover an area of 30000 square kilometres and approximately eight million customers. ¶

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2 Matters

2.1 Movement of outstanding matters

- 2.1.1 Following submission of the previous version of this Draft Statement of
 Common Ground between the Applicant and UK Power Networks, further
 discussions on the outstanding matters have taken place. These discussions
 are summarised in Appendix A and the outcome of these discussions is
 summarised below.
- 2.1.2 The following matters have moved from 'matter under discussion' to 'matter agreed':

2.1.1, 2.1.3 and 2.1.15

In the column 'Item No' in Table 2.1, 'Rule 6' indicates a matter entered in the SoCG as a result of a request in the Rule 6 letter, 'RRN' indicates a matter entered into the SoCG as a result of content in the Relevant Representation, 'RRE' indicates an existing SoCG matter that was also raised in the Relevant Representation and 'DLX' indicates a new matter added during examination at/around that deadline.

- 2.1.3 Further to the matters raised in the original SoCG, the Applicant or UK Power

 Networks submitted further comments on the DCO application which have led
 to new matters being included in Table 2.1.
- 2.1.4 The new matter is 2.1.22 ED1. This matter was introduced by the Applicant to address the 'Project Definition' topic in Issue Specific Hearing 1.
- 2.1.5 Table 2.1 details and presents the matters which have been agreed, not agreed, or are under discussion between (1) the Applicant and (2) UK Power Networks.
- 2.1.6 In Table 2.1, relevant issues relating to the draft DCO articles and
 Requirements in Schedule 2 to the draft DCO have been identified under the heading 'DCO and Consents'.
- 2.1.7 At Examination Deadline 1 there are 21 matters in total of which 9 are agreed and 12 remain under discussion.

Table 2.1 Matters

Topic	Item No.	UK Power Networks comment	National Highways' Response,	Application Document Reference	Status
DCO and Consen	ts				
Scope of the Order	2.1.1	UKPN require all their works to be consented within the scope of works in the DCO.	All UKPN works to be consented within the scope of works in the draft DCO including any associated enabling works.	Draft DCO [Additional Submission AS-038],	Matter Agreed
Land requirements and land rights	2.1.2	The land requirements and land rights for the benefit of UKPN to be sought. Access routes required for UKPN works and compounds to be included in DCO boundary and responsibility of the Project.	The draft DCO contains the appropriate powers necessary for the diversion of UKPN's apparatus, including the powers necessary to acquire the land/rights required for that diversion, for any temporary works, and to extinguish rights for existing apparatus. Compounds and access roads for the use of UKPN have been assessed as part of the application and are shown in the Temporary Works Plans, UKPN is requested to continue to liaise with the Applicant during the detailed design development to ensure their	Temporary Works Plans [Additional Submissions AS-034 and AS-036] Land Plans [Additional Submissions AS-006 to AS-010] Draft DCO [Additional Submission AS-038]	Matter Agreed
Division of Responsibility	2.1.3	Confirmation of responsibilities for delivering mitigation, discharging Requirements	requirements are considered. The DCO, as drafted, makes the Applicant solely responsible for the discharge of Requirements and other obligations as regards the conduct of the works. Where responsibility for the conduct of certain works is subsequently transferred to a third party (e.g., a utility in respect of significant works	Draft DCO [Additional Submission AS-038] ES Appendix 2.2: CoCP [Application Document APP-336],	Matter Agreed

Deleted: <#>It is agreed that any matters not specifically referred to in Section 2 of this SoCG are not of material interest or relevance to UK Power Networks. As such, those matters can be read as agreed, only to the extent that they are either not of material interest or relevance to UK Power Networks. However, if new matters arise UK Power Networks reserves the right to comment on those matters as it considers appropriate.¶ Overview of previous engagement¶ A summary of the meetings and correspondence undertaken between the two parties in relation to the Project is outlined in Appendix C.¶ Status of the Statement of Common Ground¶ It is agreed that this statement is an accurate description of the matters raised by UKPN, and the current status of each matter. ¶ It is agreed that Appendix C is an accurate record of the key meetings and consultation undertaken between (1) National Highways and (2) UKPN in relation to the matters addressed in this Statement of Common Ground. ¶ ---Page Break-Deleted: number **Deleted:** Highways comment Deleted: Draft DCO (3.1) **Deleted:** Under Discussion Deleted: Linked to Division of Responsibilities document -"SU MIL Rev 26- UKPN_1st Draft SF" **Deleted:** Temporary Works Plans (2.17) **Deleted:** Project **Deleted:** (Application Document 2.17). Deleted: are **Deleted:** Project **Deleted:** National Highways **Deleted:** Under Discussion

Deleted: Draft DCO (3.1)

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Planning Inspectorate Scheme Ref: TR010032 Application Document Ref: TR010032/APP/5.4.3.21 DATE: July 2023 DEADLINE:1

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Topic	Item No.,	UK Power Networks	National Highways' Response,	Application Document	Status
		comment		Reference	
			to their infrastructure), the division of responsibility for the discharge of such obligations as between the		
			Applicant, and that third party would be determined on a contractual basis between them.		
Land Use Plans	2.1.4	Accurate reflection of UKPN	The Applicant's land plans	Temporary Works Plans	Matter Under
		rights sought required. Access routes required for UKPN works and compounds to be included in DCO boundary	sufficiently accommodate UKPN's land requirements. Compounds and access roads for the use of UKPN have been assessed as part of the	[Additional Submissions AS-034 and AS-036]	Discussion
		and responsibility of the	application, and are shown in the	ES Appendix 2.2: CoCP [Application	
		Project.	Temporary Works Plans, UKPN is,	Document APP-336L	
			requested to continue to liaise with		
			the Applicant during the detailed		
			design development to ensure their		
			requirements are considered.		
Ecology	2.1. <u>6</u> ,	Ecological reports produced	This information is included within	Draft DCO [Additional	Matter Under
		by the Project have not been	the Application Documents. Once	Submission AS-038	<u>Discussion</u> _▼
		shared with UKPN. Reports to be provided in a timely	the cable route has been finalised, there is a pre-commencement	Environmental	
		manner to allow UKPN to	requirement in Schedule 2 Part 1(7)	Statement [Application	
		review design/scope/costs	Protected Species of the draft DCO,	Documents APP-138	
		ahead of the delivery of the	which requires a final pre-	to APP-486],	
		works. The Project and UKPN	construction survey. All of the		
		to agree timelines for	relevant updated ecological reports		
		provision of Ecology	will be issued in advance of		
		information ahead of	construction phase. Designs are to		
		developed design and	progress making reasonable		
		delivery works. v	assumptions.		J
<u>Arboriculture</u>	2.1.7,	Arboriculture, reports produced	This information is included within	<u>Environmental</u>	Matter Under
		by the Project have not been	the application documents and the	Statement [Application	Discussion

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Deleted: UKPN works are identified as associated

development within the draft DCO.

Moved (insertion) [2]: Arboriculture

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Topic	Item No.	UK Power Networks	National Highways' Response,	Application Document	Status
		comment		Reference	
		shared with UKPN. Reports to	Applicant's designs have included	Documents APP-138	
		be provided in a timely	UKPN's requirements_All the	to APP-486],	
		manner to allow UKPN to	relevant updated Arboriculture,		
		review design/scope/costs	reports will be issued in advance of		
		ahead of the delivery of the	the construction phase. Timelines		
		works. The Project and UKPN	for the provision of the arboriculture		
		to agree timelines for	information, are to be agreed		
		provision of Arboriculture,	between the parties.		
		information ahead of			
		developed design and			
		delivery works.			
Archaeological	2.1. <mark>8,</mark>	Archaeological, reports	This information is included within	Draft DCO [Additional	Matter Under
		produced by the Project have	the application documents.	Submission AS-038],	Discussion
		not been shared with UKPN.	Once the cable route has been		
		Reports to be provided in a	finalised, where any interaction is		
		timely manner to allow UKPN	identified with areas of		
		to review design/scope/costs	archaeological interest, appropriate		
		ahead of the delivery of the	investigation of these areas will be		
		works. The Project and UKPN	undertaken and the relevant		
		to agree timelines for	mitigation measures implemented		
		provision of Archaeological	as set out in Schedule 2 of the draft		
		information ahead of	DCO_All of the relevant updated		
		developed design and delivery	archaeological reports will be issued		
		works.	in advance of the construction		
			phase. Timelines for the provision of		
			the archaeological, information are		
			to be agreed between the parties.		
Flood Risk	2.1. <u>9</u> ,	Flood Risk Assessment report	This information is included within	ES Appendix 14.6:	Matter Under
<u>Assessment</u>		produced by the Project has,	the application documents.	Flood Risk Assessment	Discussion
<u>(FRA)</u>		not been shared with UKPN	Once the cable route has been	[Application	
		Reports to be provided in a	finalised, an updated FRA	Documents APP-460	
		timely manner to allow UKPN	associated with the cable route will	to APP-477],	

Planning Inspectorate Scheme Ref: TR010032 Application Document Ref: TR010032/APP/5.4.3.21 DATE: July 2023 DEADLINÉ:1

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Deleted: cable route has been finalised, there is a precommencement requirement in Sch2 7. Protected Species, which requires a final pre- construction survey.

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Moved (insertion) [4]: Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)

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Deleted: Environmental Statement (Vol 6); Schedule 2 of dDCO (3.1)

Deleted: where any interaction is identified

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Topic	Item No.	UK Power Networks	National Highways' Response,	Application Document Reference	Status
		to review design/scope/costs ahead of the delivery of the works. The Project and UKPN to agree timelines for provision of Flood Risk, information ahead of developed design and delivery works.	be required for those cable routes falling in Flood Zone 3. The FRA will be included within the DCO submission. Designs are to progress making reasonable assumptions. Timelines for the provision of the FRA information are to be agreed between the parties.	Reference	
Vegetation	2.1.10,	Vegetation clearance required	Vegetation clearance considered in	N/A.	Matter Under
Clearance		for certain sections of the proposed cable routes. UKPN are awaiting for arboriculture survey produced by the Project. UKPN has identified areas where the proposed works require vegetation clearance based on information available at the time. Reports to be provided in a timely manner to allow UKPN to review design/scope/costs ahead of the delivery of the works. National Highways, and UKPN to agree timelines for provision of Arboriculture, information ahead of developed design and delivery works.	line with the design proposals shared with UKPN. The division of responsibility is to determine that the Applicant's appointed Contractors undertake vegetation clearance. UKPN is to communicate its specific requirements at the detailed design stage. Timelines for the provision of the information are to be agreed between the parties.		Discussion
Diversion B4	2.1. <u>11</u> ,	Awaiting for final details of	Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)	N/A	Matter Under
HDD1- Under		HDD1 from National Highways.	sketch received from UKPN has been incorporated in the design		Discussion

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Uncontrolled when printed – Copyright © - 2023 National Highways Limited – all rights reserved Deleted: number

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Deleted: Schedule 2 of the draft DCO. All of the relevant updated Archaeological reports

Deleted: Archaeological

Deleted: issued in advance of the construction phase.

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Moved (insertion) [5]: Vegetation Clearance

Moved (insertion) [6]: Vegetation clearance required for certain sections of the proposed cable routes. UKPN are awaiting for arboriculture survey produced by the Project. UKPN has identified areas where the proposed works require vegetation clearance based on information available at the time.

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Deleted: Flood Risk Assessment report produced by the Project has not been shared with UKPN

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Deleted: cable route has been finalised, an updated FRA

associated to

Deleted: cable route will be required for those cable routes

Deleted: FRA

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Deleted: Flood Risk

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Moved up [6]

Moved (insertion) [7]: Awaiting for final details of HDD1 ¶

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Deleted: Reports to be provided in a timely manner to allq

Topic	Item No.,	UK Power Networks comment	National Highways' Response,	Application Document Reference	Status	
proposed highway (Station Road)			(Work No. MU30). Drawings to be updated once HDD1 design available, and the Applicant's Contractor to consider the multicorridor HDDs.			/
Diversion C6- Orsett Cock Roundabout	2.1. <u>12</u> ,	Orsett roundabout is currently being modified. The OS Map still shows old bridge.	Diversion C6 sits within the Project multi-utility corridor (Work No. MUT19), which is aligned based on	N/A	Matter Under Discussion	
			models for the modified roundabout received from the Orsett Cock developers. The cable will later be relocated into modified Rectory Road bridge (Work No. MU45).			
Ditch Crossing	2.1.13	Confirmation required on ownership, ditch depths, existing topographical information and if any bespoke design or permits are required.	The Applicant's appointed Contractor to consider and coordinate as part of the detailed design.	N/A	Matter Under Discussion	_
Diversion D7 – Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) (St Marys Lane)	2.1.14	UKPN is waiting for updated HDD design	Diversion D7 sits within the Project multi-utility corridor (Work No. MU79). The Applicant's appointed Contractor to consider and coordinate as part of the detailed design.	N/A	Matter Under Discussion	~
Utility Works Qualifying As NSIPs	2.1.22 – ED1 Rule 6	On the basis that none of the overhead line works (OH3, OH5 and OH8) involve installations exceeding 2km they do not qualify for NSIPs. Overhead line works OH2 is not the installation of an	Those works required to the UKPN network have been assessed by the Applicant in relation to Section 16 of the Planning Act 2008. This assessment is detailed within the Explanatory Memorandum at Annex 2 – Assessment of proposed	Explanatory Memorandum [Application Document APP-057]	Matter Agreed,	

7

Planning Inspectorate Scheme Ref: TR010032 Application Document Ref: TR010032/APP/5.4.3.21 DATE: July 2023 DEADLINE:1

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Moved (insertion) [9]: Ditch Crossing
Moved (insertion) [10]: Confirmation required on
Deleted: Diversion C6- Orsett Cock Roundabout
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Deleted: Orsett roundabout is currently being modified. Th
Deleted: Diversion C6 sits within the Project multi-utility
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Moved (insertion) [11]: Diversion D7 – Horizontal
Moved (insertion) [12]: UKPN is waiting for updated HDD
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Moved up [12]
Moved up [8]
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Topic	Item No.	UK Power Networks	National Highways' Response,	Application Document	Status
		comment		Reference	
		electric line above the ground	electricity line works for purposes of		
		and so it too does not qualify	section 16 of the Planning Act 2008.		
		as an NSIP.	The findings of the assessment are		
			that no UKPN Works qualify as		
			NSIPs within their own right,		
			including those relevant overhead		
			line works, Work Nos OH2, OH3,		
			OH5 and OH8.		
			This is due to the type of works		
			required not being relevant to the		
			assessment as they are not the		
			'installation of an electric line above		
			ground', or exemption criteria		
			contained with S.16(3) being met by		
			one or more test.		
Design - Road, To	unnels, Utilities	5			
Asset protection	2.1.15	UKPN require assurance that	The Applicant and UKPN are	Protective Provisions,	Matter
		their assets will be protected	discussing a form of protective	Schedule 14 of the	Agreed,
		during the delivery of	provisions to protect UKPN's	Draft DCO [Additional	
		the Project.	existing and diverted assets.	Submission AS-038],	
Construction	2.1.16	UKPN waiting for location of	Compounds and access roads for	Temporary Works Plans	Matter Under
Design		the CDM compounds and	the use of UKPN have been	[Additional	Discussion
Management		access road to be agreed.	assessed as part of the Project and	Submissions AS-034	
(CDM) areas and			are shown in the Temporary Works	and AS-036],	
access roads			Plans, UKPN is, requested to		
			continue to liaise with the Applicant,		
			during the detailed design		
			development to ensure <u>UKPN's</u> ,		
			requirements are considered by the		
			Applicant's Contractor.		

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Topic	Item No.	UK Power Networks comment	National <u>Highways' Response</u> ,	Application Document Reference	Status
Provision of GI data	2.1.17	Targeted Ground Investigation (GI) information not available for UKPN route at various locations GI data to be provided in a timely manner to allow UKPN to review design/scope/costs ahead of the delivery of the works. National Highways and UKPN to agree timelines for provision of GI information ahead of developed design and delivery works.	The Applicant to be responsible, unless otherwise agreed, for the provision of GI data to be utilised by UKPN in its design for the diversion of their assets. UKPN may rely on this data acquired for the design of all project work.	N/A	Matter Agreed
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	2.1.18	UKPN want assurance that all the EIA for their works has been carried out by the Project.	The Applicant is responsible for incorporating the scope of UKPN works in the EIA for DCO.	Environmental Statement [Application Documents APP-138 to APP-486]	Matter Agreed
Third party interface agreement	2.1.19	UKPN to manage the operational network interface with National Grid on behalf of the Project. Only applicable for UKPN works and assets affecting National Grid.	UKPN to manage the operational network interface with National Grid Electricity Transmission (the transmission system operator) on behalf of the Applicant.	N/A	Matter Agreed
UKPN internal interfaces	2.1.20	UKPN to manage works to their network to achieve outages and connections on behalf of the Project in their operational areas. Applies to all UKPN assets that require an outage for works to be undertaken.	UKPN to manage works to its, network to achieve outages and connections on behalf of the Applicant, in their operational land.	N/A	Matter Agreed

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Topic	Item No.	UK Power Networks comment	National Highways' Response,	Application Document Reference	Status
Programming	2.1.21	Adequate time provision to be allowed in the Project schedule for UKPN works. No overall agreed Project programme in place at the moment. National Highways and UKPN to agree timelines for provision of Project programme information ahead of developed design and delivery works.	Adequate time provision to be allowed in the Project schedule for UKPN works. UKPN is requested to confirm schedule requirements for the consideration of the Project.	N/A	Matter Under Discussion

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Volume 5

Appendix A Engagement activity

- <u>A.1.1</u> The Applicant and UK Power Networks have had extensive engagement since the inception of the Project. There has been engagement and dialogue through the statutory and non-statutory consultation, and the various design iterations. The engagement has been in the form of face-to-face meetings, MS Team meetings, telephone calls and email correspondence.
- The parties are content for their engagement to be captured and presented in A.1.2 the SoCG in this manner.

Deleted: <#>Agreement on this Statement of Common Ground¶ STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND¶

This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared and agreed by (1) National Highways Limited and (2) UK Power Networks.¶

Name

Appendix B Glossary

Term	Abbreviation	Explanation
Construction Design Management	CDM	Construction Design Management used in the context of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015.
Development Consent Order	CDO	Means of obtaining permission for developments categorised as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008.
Environmental Impact Assessment	EIA	A process by which information about environmental effects of a proposed development is collected, assessed and used to inform decision making. For certain projects, EIA is a statutory requirement, reported an Environmental Statement.
Environmental Statement	ES	A document produced to support an application for development consent that is subject to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which sets out the likely impacts on the environment arising from the proposed development.
Flood Risk Assessment	FRA	An assessment of the risk of flooding from all flooding mechanisms, the identification of flood mitigation measures, and identification of actions to be taken before and during a flood.
Ground Investigation	GI	Several levels of investigation from desk-based research to onsite sampling to evaluate challenges related to soil/ground.
Statement of Common Ground	SoCG	This document, detailing the issues agreed, under discussion or not agreed at the time of examination.
Transmission System Operator	TSO,	An entity entrusted with transporting energy on a national or regional level using fixed infrastructure.
UK Power Networks	UKPN	UK Power Networks is a distribution network operator for electricity covering South East England, the East of England and London.

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List of engagement activities
National Highways and UKPN have had extensive engagement since the inception of the Project. There has been engagement and dialogue through the statutory and non-statutory consultation, the various design iterations and releases. The engagement has been in the form of face-to-face meetings, MS Teams meetings, telephone calls and email correspondence.
The parties are content for their engagement to be captured and presented in this manner.

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