

Delegated Report

Section 48 Notice Application

Application no: 20240538

Location: Tilbury Power Station Fort Road Tilbury Essex

Description: Adjacent Authority Application for a Development Consent Order for Norwich to Tilbury. It is proposed by National Grid to upgrade the electricity transmission system in East Anglia between Norwich and Tilbury. The Project includes a new 400 kilovolt (kv) electricity transmission connection of approximately 184 kilometres (km) in overall length from Norwich Main Substation and Tilbury Substation via Bramford Substation.

Applicant: National Grid

Site Visit Date: N/A

Submitted Documents/Plans

Section 48 Notice

Relevant Planning History

None.

Officer's Analysis

This is a section 48 notice from the National Grid which gives notice that the National Grid intends to apply to the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2009 (as amended) to authorise the construction of the Norwich to Tilbury project.

The Norwich to Tilbury project, a proposal by National Grid to reinforce the high voltage power network in East Anglia between the existing substations at Norwich Main in Norfolk, Bramford in Suffolk and Tilbury in Essex, as well as connect new offshore wind generation.

East Anglia's 400m000 volts (400 kVC) electricity transmission network was built in the 1960s to supply regional demand, centred around Norwich and Ipswich. With the growth in new energy generation from offshore wind, nuclear power and interconnection with other countries, there will be more electricity connected in East Anglia than the network can currently accommodate.

There will be 184km of new electricity transmission reinforcement between Norwich and Tilbury, made up mostly of overhead line and pylons, some underground cables and a new 400kV substation.

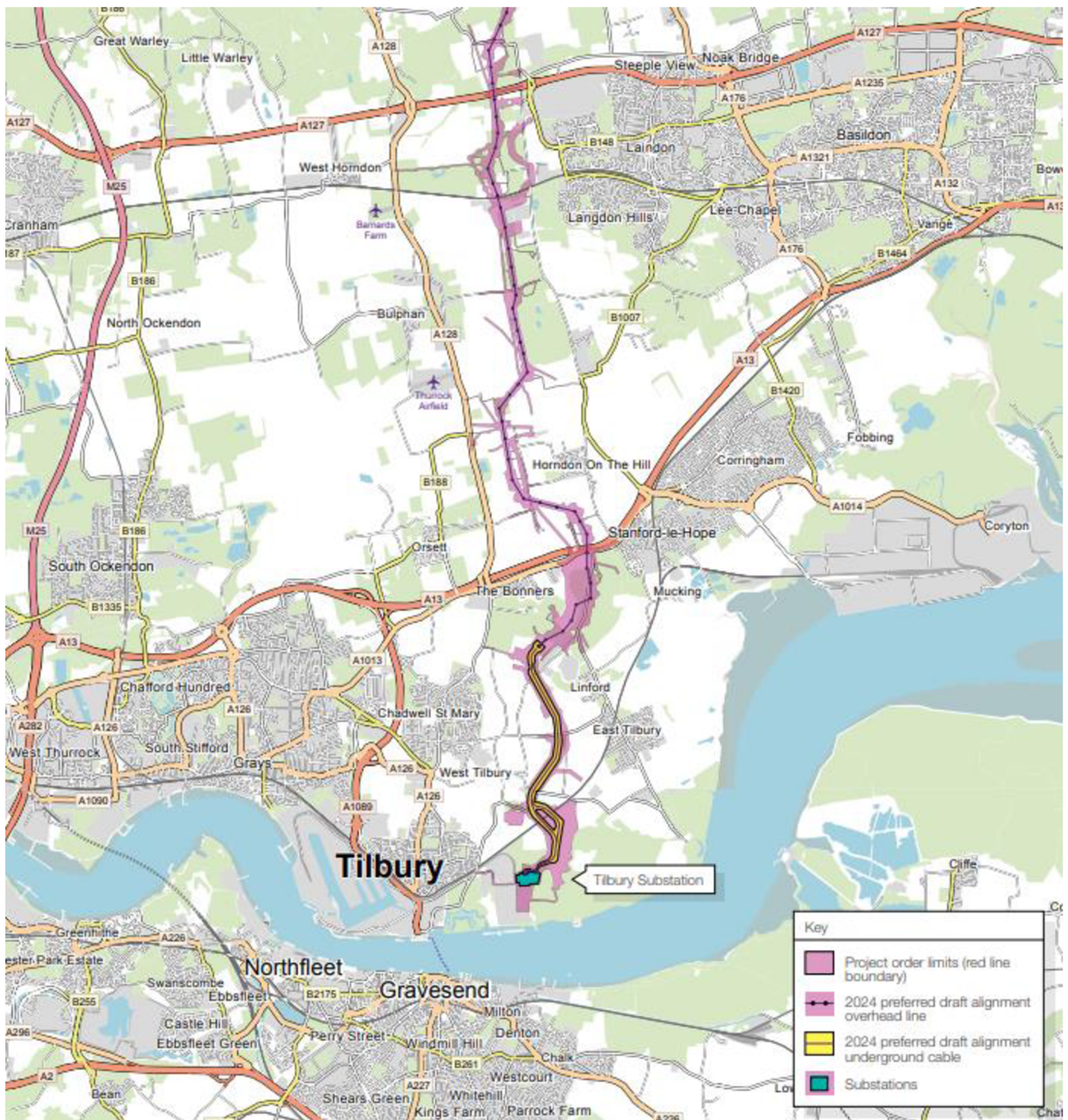
The proposals are part of The Great Grid Upgrade which is the largest overhaul of the grid in generations.

The way electricity is generated in the UK is changing rapidly and National Grid is transiting to cheaper, cleaner and more secure forms of energy like new offshore windfarms. Changes to the network of overhead lines, pylons cables and other infrastructure that transports electricity around the country are therefore needed so that everyone has access to the clean electricity from these new renewable sources.

The network to be upgraded from Norwich to Tilbury is shown below:



In Thurrock Borough there would be realignment of the overhead power line, underground cabling and a new Cable Sealing End ((CSE) compound at Tilbury:



From looking at the proposal it is considered that the proposed works in the Thurrock Borough for the Norwich to Tilbury Project upgrade works to the electricity transmission system in East Anglia between Norwich and Tilbury would have no impact on the operation or appearance of Gravesham Borough or the amenities of its residents.

It is important to note that Gravesham Borough Council have a planning application which is currently under consideration (application reference 20231313) at Eastcourt Marshes Electricity Distribution Site, Mark Lane, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2HN for which the National Grid is the applicant. The proposal is for 'Proposed construction of a new cable tunnel beneath the River Thames between Gravesend and Tilbury to provide additional transmission capacity. Above-ground infrastructure in the form of a new Cable Sealing End compound and a new head house building along with associated electricity infrastructure, access, parking, boundary treatment and two overhead gantry structures for future overhead lines. Temporary compound for the duration of the project to provide parking, staff welfare facilities, delivery vehicle parking, and equipment and machinery storage, including boundary treatment and lighting.'

This is part of National Grid's proposed project for the replacement of a cabled section of the Tilbury to Grain and Tilbury to Kingsnorth (TKRE) 400 kV circuits under the River Thames. The TRKE 400 kV circuits

are currently predominantly overhead line, with a cabled section installed within a deep tunnel beneath the River Thames. The TKRE Cable Tunnel Replacement Project relates only to the tunnelled section of these circuits and the infrastructure required to transition from overhead line to underground cables. As well as a new bored tunnel under the River Thames there would also be a new Cable Sealing End compound and Tunnel Headhouse at Gravesend. This is the focus of any future consultations and application for the Borough which directly affect Gravesham.

Thurrock Council also have a planning application they are currently considering (application reference 23/01502/FUL) at Land to The South Of National Grid's Electrical Sub-station, Fort Road, Tilbury for the new bored tunnel under the River Thames, new Cable Sealing End compound, new Tunnel Head House and other associated development at Tilbury for the same TKRE Cable Tunnel Replacement Project.

National Grid is thanked for consulting the Borough Council.

Recommendation:

Observations Sent (no objection)

See draft Decision

Case Officer:	Ms Rebecca Harrison	Team Leader:	Miss Faye Hobbs
Signed:		Signed:	
Dated:	27th June 2024	Dated:	28 June 2024