

Richard Hart
Planning Department
Gravesham Borough Council
Civic Centre
Gravesend
Kent DA12 1AU

18th July 2025

Dear Richard,

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. (ref 20231313)

Please find enclosed reports as detailed below to allow discharge of Condition 11 of the above application granted permission in March 2025.

Condition 11 – Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP)

No development approved by this permission shall take place until a Landscape Ecological Management Plan (LEMP), including long-term design objectives, management responsibilities and maintenance schedules for all wetland and ditch habitats has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority.

The LEMP shall be carried out as approved and any subsequent variations shall be agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

The LEMP shall include the following:

- a. Details of treatment of operational site boundaries and/or buffers around water bodies; an adequate buffer zone extent (i.e. to provide good forage and shelter for water voles) to be identified and demarked on a scaled map;*
- b. Details demonstrating how the buffer zone will be protected during development;*
- c. Details of how any permanent proposed footpaths, fencing, lighting, and other aspects of the development may interact with the wetland or ditch habitats; the applicant should note that artificial light spill should be directed away from ecological receptors, sensitive lighting design guidance can be accessed via the Bat Conservation Trust;*
- d. No light spill from permanent external artificial lighting into the watercourse or adjacent river corridor habitat. To achieve this the specifications, location and direction of external artificial lights*

should be such that the lighting levels within 8.5 metres of the top of bank of the watercourse are maintained at background level (background levels are considered to be a Lux level of 0-2);

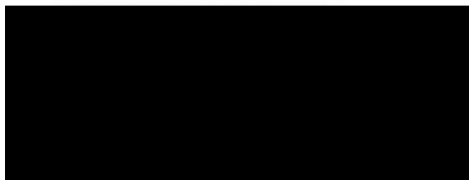
- e. Details of maintenance regimes; including specific treatment of the ditch buffer zone and new wetland habitats;*
- f. Details of any new wetland and ditch habitat created on-site, including any proposed planting scheme should be provided. Planting schemes should use native species, suited to the catchment character and management responsibilities should be provided. The identification of biodiversity protection zones and the use of protective fences, exclusion barriers and warning signs. This shall include a suitable buffer zone(s) (as set out by a suitably qualified ecologist) for relevant protected and priority species;*

Reason: To ensure the protection of wildlife and the supporting habitat and to secure opportunities for enhancing the site's nature conservation value, promoting positive conservation status for water vole in the area and to complement achievement of the proposed Biodiversity Net Gain ambition in accordance with Policy CS12 of the Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy (2014) and section 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2024).

To address the above matters, a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan prepared by National Grid's appointed contractor is enclosed. This strategy considers the whole duration of construction and shall be carried out in accordance with a timetable for implementation as approved.

Please ask if you require any further detail.

Yours sincerely,



Kate McGregor
Senior Consents Manager