

25 February 2025

Dear Sir / Madam

Targeted Consultation for the project called Norwich to Tilbury: 12 noon 25 February 2025 to 11:59 pm 27 March 2025

Section 42 Planning Act 2008 (as amended): Duty to consult on a proposed application

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications and Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended) (the “APFP Regulations”)

Notification under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended) (the “EIA Regulations”)

We are writing to inform you that National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (“National Grid”) is carrying out further targeted consultation on proposals for the project called Norwich to Tilbury (“the Project”). This consultation, combined with previous rounds of consultation, relates to a proposed application to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero (“the Secretary of State”) under the Planning Act 2008 (the “Act”) for a Development Consent Order (“DCO”) for the Project.

This targeted consultation runs from **12 noon 25 February 2025 to 11:59 pm 27 March 2025**.

Following the close of our previous statutory consultation on 26 July 2024, the National Grid Project team has been reviewing feedback received during that consultation, as well as considering the findings of further assessments including environmental surveys, and considering where there is potential to make further changes to our proposals. A number of potential localised changes are being considered, and we are asking people in close proximity to these changes to provide their feedback. No final decisions have been made on the changes.

We are contacting you because you are a prescribed consultee or local authority under Section 42(1) of the Act and in accordance with Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations, as amended by the Infrastructure Planning (Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2024.

The Project

The Project is a proposal 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, currently comprising:

- approximately 159 km of new overhead line supported on approximately 510 steel lattice pylons (approximately 50 metres (“m”) in height) some of which are gantries (typically up to 15 m in height) within proposed Cable Sealing End (“CSE”) compounds, or existing or proposed substations
- approximately 25 km of 400 kV underground cabling some of which is located through the Dedham Vale National Landscape (formerly known as Dedham Vale AONB)
- six new CSE compounds, each with a permanent access, to connect the overhead lines to the underground cables
- a new 400 kV East Anglia Connection Node (“EACN”) substation, with a new permanent access, on the Tendring Peninsula. This is proposed to be an Air Insulated Switchgear (“AIS”) substation
- substation extension works at the existing Norwich Main, and Bramford substations and works within the existing Tilbury Substation to connect and support operation of the new transmission connection

Third party utilities diversions and / or modifications would also be required to facilitate the construction of the Project. There would also be land required for mitigation, compensation and enhancement of the environment including Biodiversity Net Gain.

As well as the permanent infrastructure, land would also be required temporarily for construction activities including, for example, working areas for construction equipment and machinery, site offices, welfare, storage and temporary construction access.

The Project would be designed, constructed and operated in accordance with applicable health and safety legislation. The Project would also need to comply with design safety standards including the National Electricity Transmission System ("NETS") Security and Quality of Supply Standard, which sets out the criteria and methodology for planning and operating the NETS. This informs a suite of National Grid policies and processes, which contain details on design standards required to be met when designing, constructing and operating assets such as proposed for the Project.

Norwich to Tilbury will play a vital role in delivering electricity efficiently, reliably, and safely and will support the UK's move to reduce carbon emissions and we are committed to working with local communities as we develop our plans.

National Grid expects the Project to be classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ("NSIP") and to require consent from the Secretary of State via a DCO. The development consent being sought would include a number of other provisions, including those for the compulsory acquisition of land and interests in and rights over land, overriding easements and other rights, the temporary use of land, and other ancillary powers, if necessary, to construct and maintain the Project.

Previous statutory consultation and information on environmental effects

The Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") development, as defined by the EIA Regulations and is currently in the pre-application stage of the DCO application process.

As part of that process, during the statutory consultation which took place from April to July 2024, we sought views on the potential environmental effects of the proposed Project and if consultees had suggestions for reducing these effects (for example, through mitigation measures). This information was detailed in the 2024 Preliminary Environmental Information Report ("the 2024 PEIR").

Following our analysis, the proposed changes would not materially change the conclusions reported within the 2024 PEIR published as part of our previous statutory consultation. For more information on the local environmental implications of the changes please refer to the Environmental Implications of Change ("EIC") document, where proportionate and appropriate information on the environmental implications of the proposed changes are presented in an easily accessible form.

An Environmental Statement will subsequently be prepared in accordance with the EIA Regulations and will accompany the application for development consent.

The 2024 PEIR and an EIC for each area of proposed change is available to review on our Project website within the document library, which can be accessed at: nationalgrid.com/norwich-to-tilbury

Enclosed with this letter

Enclosed with this letter is a Feedback Questionnaire and a Freepost envelope.

Consultation materials

Information on the changes being consulted on as part of our targeted consultations can be found at nationalgrid.com/norwich-to-tilbury. There you will find a series of consultation information leaflets and corresponding EICs for each location where we are consulting on proposed changes. We have phased the consultations starting with locations in Norfolk and Suffolk from Thursday 30 January until Monday 3 March 2025 and now follow with locations in Essex and Thurrock until Thursday 27 March.

In addition, the materials published as part of the 2024 statutory consultation remain relevant and available to be viewed on the Project website (nationalgrid.com/norwich-to-tilbury), which include:

- Project Background Document.
- Copy of the notice published as part of the statutory consultation under Section 48 of the Act (as the Project is 'EIA Development' for the purposes of the EIA Regulations and as required by Regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations).
- 2024 PEIR and non-technical summary ("NTS") of the 2024 PEIR.
- Project maps/Project area maps showing the extent of the Project.
- Statement of Community Consultation ("SoCC").

Copies of current and previous consultation materials and documents can be provided on request by contacting us either by email at contact@n-t.nationalgrid.com or by telephone on 0800 915 2497.

Webinars

To give people an opportunity to ask the Project team questions, we are holding three webinars via Microsoft Teams.

You can sign up for a webinar on our website – nationalgrid.com/norwich-to-tilbury:

- Essex - 17 March 2025 at 6:00 pm
- Essex and Thurrock – 18 March 2025 at 12 noon
- Thurrock – 18 March 2025 at 6:00 pm

You can also call us on 0800 915 2497 if you have any questions.

Responding to the consultation

Responses to this consultation must be received between **12 noon 25 February 2025 to 11:59 pm 27 March 2025**

Responses to this consultation can be submitted online at nationalgrid.com/norwich-to-tilbury

Alternatively, you can return a printed copy of the Feedback Questionnaire or a free text response via email: contact@n-t.nationalgrid.com or post: **FREEPOST N TO T** (please write this in capitals, you do not need a stamp).

Requests for paper copies of the technical documents will be reviewed on a case by-case basis. To cover printing costs a reasonable copying charge may apply, to be paid for by the recipient and up-to a maximum value of £500 for the whole suite of consultation documents. Please get in touch with us using the details below if you would like a printed or alternative format copy of materials.

Telephone: 0800 915 2497.

Email: contact@n-t.nationalgrid.com

Following the close of targeted consultation all feedback will be collated, reviewed and analysed to understand key themes and concerns. Our proposals will be reviewed and, where practicable, refined in light of feedback.

We may be required to make copies of representations available to the Secretary of State. However, we will request that personal details are not placed on the public record. Personal details will be held securely in accordance with the relevant data protection legislation and will be used solely in connection with the consultation process and the development of this Project and, except as noted above, will not be disclosed to any third parties. National Grid's privacy policy can be found on its website: <https://www.nationalgrid.com/privacy-policy>.

If you have any questions about the Project, please don't hesitate to contact us at the above postal or email address.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Pepper', written in a cursive style.

Simon Pepper

Project Director