

nationalgrid

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Bramford to Twinstead 400kV overhead line project

Consultation Strategy

Section 1: Project Information

National Grid
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19th October 2009

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Section 2: Statement of Community Consultation

Statement of Community Consultation

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 Section 2 of this document contains National Grid's Statement of Community Consultation for the Bramford to Twinstead 400kV Overhead Line Project. The preceding sections provide background information about National Grid and the project and outlines the purpose of and principles underpinning the Statement of Community Consultation.

2 BACKGROUND TO NATIONAL GRID

- 2.1.1 National Grid owns and operates the electricity transmission network in England and Wales.
- 2.1.2 When developing proposals for new network infrastructure, we have a duty under the Electricity Act 1989 to do so in an efficient, co-ordinated and economical way. As a statutory undertaker we also have environmental responsibilities which may shape how our network develops. How we set out to meet those environmental responsibilities, including our commitment to carrying out early consultation about major project proposals, is explained in our Stakeholder, Community and Amenity Policy (Appendix 1).

3 THE PROJECT

- 3.1.1 We anticipate that in Summer 2011 we will be applying to the Infrastructure Planning Commission for a Development Consent Order for a new double circuit overhead electric line connection between Bramford Substation near Ipswich, Suffolk and a Tee point near Twinstead, Essex. The new connection will be up to 30km in length.
- 3.1.2 In addition we will also need to build new substations and extend some of our existing substations. At Sizewell a new gas insulated switchgear 400kV substation is required to connect the generating station to the National Grid system. This may form part of a separate application by the developer of the proposed new nuclear power station. A major extension of our existing 400kV substation at Bramford substation is required and extension works are required at our existing Rayleigh substation. If route corridor 2 were to be chosen, a new grid supply point substation to the west of Twinstead would be required.
- 3.1.3 The proposed new infrastructure is needed to reinforce and upgrade our network in order to connect a number of new generators to the electricity transmission system in East Anglia. Our application for a Development Consent Order will be made under the Planning Act 2008 ('the 2008 Act').
- 3.1.4 The proposed development is Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Development and as such the application will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009.
- 3.1.5 Four broad route corridor options for a new line between Bramford and Twinstead have been identified by National Grid, taking account of our statutory duties:
- 3.1.6 **Route Corridor 1** is 26 km in length and runs southwest from Bramford substation following the existing 400kV overhead line to the north of Burstall and Hintlesham, continuing south of Hadleigh and Polstead Heath. The route corridor continues to Twinstead passing through the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty south of Boxford. Route corridor 1 passes through two of Suffolk County's district councils, Mid Suffolk and Babergh, and as it approaches Twinstead Tee it enters the County of Essex and the District Council area of Braintree.

- 3.1.7 **Route Corridor 2** is 28.5 km in length and would involve the removal of the existing EdF 132kV overhead line and the erection of a new 400kV overhead line in its place. This route corridor runs due south from Bramford substation following the route of the existing EDF Energy 132kV overhead line passing the outskirts of Burstall before turning west to the south of Hintlesham. From here route corridor 2 runs parallel with route corridor 1 with only one small variation as the 132kV overhead line approaches Twinstead Tee. Route corridor 2 passes through two of Suffolk County's district councils, Mid Suffolk and Babergh, and as it approaches Twinstead Tee it enters the County of Essex and the District Council area of Braintree. To compensate for the removal of the existing 132kV circuit a new grid supply point substation would also be required west of Twinstead to maintain supplies to the lower voltage local electricity distribution network. Siting studies to determine the location of this proposed substation are underway and when a location is defined, will be the subject of consultation with people living in the vicinity.
- 3.1.8 **Route Corridor 3** is 26.5 km in length and runs in a south-westerly direction from Bramford substation and then turns due west to the north of Hadleigh. After Hadleigh, the route corridor turns south-east, passing north of Boxford and on to Twinstead. Route corridor 3 passes through two of Suffolk County's district councils, Mid Suffolk and Babergh, and as it approaches Twinstead Tee it enters the County of Essex and the District Council area of Braintree.
- 3.1.9 **Route Corridor 4** is 30 km in length and runs north-west from Bramford substation then due west to the small village of Semer before turning south-west to Twinstead. Route corridor 4 passes through two of Suffolk County's district councils, Mid Suffolk and Babergh, and as it approaches Twinstead Tee (East of Newton) it follows the same alignment as route corridor 3 and enters the County of Essex and the District Council area of Braintree.

4 PURPOSE OF THE STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

- 4.1.1 Whilst our proposals are still at an early stage in their development we would like to hear the views of communities and interested parties in the area and to see whether and how their feedback can shape the further development of our proposals. The 2008 Act requires us to undertake public consultation with people living in the vicinity of the proposed works in advance of any Development Consent Order application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission and ultimately to explain how feedback from our consultations has influenced the proposal that goes forward to the Infrastructure Planning Commission.
- 4.1.2 The Statement of Community Consultation in Section 2 has been prepared to set out how we propose to carry out that consultation pursuant to Section 47 of the 2008 Act. It has been prepared in consultation with Babergh District Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, Suffolk Coastal District, Braintree District Council, Uttlesford District Council, Suffolk County Council and Essex County Council and takes account of their comments. It has been informed by relevant government guidance, specifically the Department of Communities and Local Government's 'Planning Act 2008 – Guidance on pre-application consultation', the relevant local authority's Statements of Community Involvement and our own policy and experience in this area.
- 4.1.3 As our proposals evolve and develop there will be other stages during which local communities and interested parties in the area will be invited to express their views. The main consultation stages and a provisional timetable (including publicity once the Development Consent Order application has been submitted to the Infrastructure Planning Commission) are set out in the Statement of Community Consultation and described below.

4.2 Consultation Stage One

4.2.1 We will invite the views of people, local communities and interested parties living in the vicinity of the proposed works about:

1. broad route corridor options which National Grid has identified taking account of its statutory duties. One of the route corridor options (corridor 2) would require a new substation to be built. A draft of a substation siting study report will also be made available at this time to allow sufficient information about this element to be taken into account in responding to the route corridor options; and
2. the next steps – how your comments will be taken into account, how we envisage taking forward the development of our proposals, when we anticipate reaching a decision about our preferred option, anticipated further consultations and timescales.

4.3 Consultation Stage Two

4.3.1 Once your views on the route corridor options have been taken into account and we have decided upon a preferred option, we will develop route alignments for the proposed electric line within the preferred route corridor and carry out further consultations with local communities and interested parties living in the vicinity of those more precise alignment options. A final choice about our preferred route alignment will only be taken after feedback obtained at this stage has been taken into account.

4.3.2 Where route corridor 2 is the preferred option, we will additionally consult at this stage on the substation siting options for a new substation to the west of Twinstead.

4.3.3 Consultation will also be undertaken at this stage on the preliminary environmental information gathered as part of the EIA.

4.4 Provisional timetable

4.4.1 The timetable set out below is our best estimate at this stage and may be subject to change as the project progresses. Changes to the overall programme will be communicated through the methods outlined in Section 5 below.

October 2009

Publication of final Statement of Community Consultation

27th October 2009 to 28th February 2010

Stage One - Consultation on Route Corridor Options

Spring 2010 to 31st March 2011

Stage Two - Consultation on Route Alignment, substation siting options (route corridor 2), and preliminary environmental information.

Summer 2011

Submit Development Consent Order application, Environmental Statement and Consultation Report to the Infrastructure Planning Commission and thereafter publicise, giving the opportunity to comment to the Infrastructure Planning Commission.

4.5 Consultation zones

4.5.1 For the purpose of the Stage One Consultation public consultation, we have defined two broad geographic consultation zones which are shown on the map at Appendix 3. These have been drawn up following discussions with Babergh District Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, Suffolk Coastal District, Uttlesford District Council, Braintree District Council, Suffolk County Council and Essex County Council, whose views have been taken into account, and are based on the following principles:

Consultation Zone One

- 4.5.2 Zone One extends at least 1 km either side of the broad overhead line route corridor options or at least 1 km around the broad substation siting locations. Households in Zone One will be contacted by letter with a project summary leaflet and details of planned public exhibitions in addition to being covered by the more general communications outlined in Section 5.

Consultation Zone Two

- 4.5.3 Zone Two encompasses those households that are more than 1km from the broad overhead line route corridor or broad substation siting locations, but are still within the same Town and Parish Council areas. Within Zone Two, we will offer briefings to all of the Town and Parish Councils. Communities within Zone Two will also be covered by the more general communications outlined in Section 5.
- 4.5.4 As we refine our proposals from broad route corridor options to specific detailed alignments, the same criteria will be applied to define consultation zones at Stage Two. We will redefine our consultation zone around the preferred route corridor.

5 HOW ARE WE CONSULTING AND HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

5.1 Consultations with people living in the vicinity

- 5.1.1 Throughout the consultation process, we will be inviting communities and interested parties to view, discuss and comment on the development of our proposals and the project team can be reached in a number of different ways. We will endeavour to ensure that public consultation is effective to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to express their views. We will endeavour to provide clear and concise information about the project and its impacts throughout the pre-application consultation process to enable constructive debate to take place.
- 5.1.2 We have identified the following ways in which the public can express their views but these will evolve during the consultation process and will be tailored to the needs of each of the project development stages leading up to the submission of our application for a Development Consent Order to the Infrastructure Planning Commission.

Online

- 5.1.3 Project summary information, this Statement of Community Consultation, policy guidance documents and other relevant technical documents will be made available online at www.nationalgrid.com/bramford-twinstead along with instructions on how to comment.

Inspection Copies

- 5.1.4 Inspection copies of the project summary information, this Statement of Community Consultation and relevant technical documents will be made available to view free of charge at the following inspection locations during the opening hours indicated and at appropriate local libraries:
- National Grid, Company Secretariat Office, 1 – 3 Strand, London, WC2N 5EH (Opening Hours: 08.30 – 16.30 Monday – Friday)
 - Babergh District Council, Corks Lane, Hadleigh, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP7 6SJ (Opening Hours: 09:00 to 17:00pm Mon – Thurs and 09:00 to 17:00 Fridays)

- Braintree District Council, Causeway House, Braintree, Essex, CM7 9HB (Opening Hours: 09:00 to 17:30 Mon to Thurs and 09:00 to 17:00 Fridays)
- Mid Suffolk District Council, 131 High Street, Needham Market, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP6 8DL (Opening Hours: 08:30 to 17:00 Monday to Friday)
- Suffolk Coastal District Council, Melton Hill, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 1AU (Opening Hours: 08:45 to 17:15 Mon to Thurs 08:45 to 16:45 Fridays)
- Suffolk County Council, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 2BX (Opening Hours: 08:30 to 18:00 Monday to Friday and 09:00 to 13:00 on Saturdays)
- Essex County Council, County Hall, Market Hall, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1QH (Opening Hours: 08:30 to 17:30 Mon to Thurs and 08:30 to 17:00 Fridays)

- 5.1.5 Members of the public will be able to provide feedback either online or in writing by 28th February 2010 (Consultation Stage One) and 31st March 2011 (Consultation Stage Two) to the following freepost address: Bramford to Twinstead Overhead Line Project Consultation Response, Freepost, RRKX/EBGK/XXHT, PO Box 5689, London W1A 4FG. Alternatively, they will be able to ring our project freephone number: 0800 377 7340. Any comments received may be submitted either in part or in their entirety to the Infrastructure Planning Commission, including names and addresses supplied.

Public Exhibitions

- 5.1.6 Open exhibitions where people living in the vicinity will be able to view our proposals, talk to our project team representatives and record their comments will be held at suitable publicly accessible venues / locations at approximately 6 km intervals within the consultation zones along the length of the proposed route and, where such venues / locations are available, in the consultation zones surrounding proposed substations. People will be informed about venues and dates as and when events are organised at the various consultation stages through a range of communication channels including advertisements in appropriate local newspapers, via our website and the media, by direct communications and project updates. As explained at Section 4.5, the consultation zones are shown on the map at Appendix 2.
- 5.1.7 Feedback forms will be available at the exhibitions for members of the public to record their comments and these can either be left with the project team representatives and/or sent back to us separately via the Bramford to Twinstead Overhead Line Project Consultation Response freepost address noted above.

Parish and Town Council Briefings

- 5.1.8 During Consultation Stage One we will offer to meet and offer project briefings with Parish and Town Councils in the vicinity of the proposed works to outline and discuss our proposals. The following Parish and Town Council areas are dissected by Consultation Zone One and have been identified from our consultations with Babergh District Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, Uttlesford District Council, Braintree District Council, Suffolk County Council, and Essex County Council:
- Alphamstone, Twinstead, Lamarsh, Great Henny, Middleton, Little Henny, Bures St. Mary, Nayland-with-Wissington, Assington, Stoke-by-Nayland, Newton Polstead, Edwardstone, Layham, Kersey, Hadleigh, Monks Eleigh, Hintlesham, Copdock and Washbrook, Sroughton, Little Cornard, Great Cornard, Leavenheath, Boxford, Shelly, Raydon, Great Waldingfield, Little Waldingfield, Brent Eleigh, Groton, Milden,

Lindsey, Semer, Aldham, Chelsworth, Bildeston, Whatfield, Nedging-with-Naughton, Elmsett, Wenham Maga, Wenham Parva, Chattisham, Burstall, Great Bricett, Offton, Somersham, Bramford, Little Blakenham, Willisham, Nettlestead, Flowton.

Other Public Stakeholder Groups

- 5.1.9 Where invited, and where possible, we will attend meetings of relevant existing public stakeholder groups affected by our proposals. This may include community interest groups, area panels, amenity /area focused groups and resident/neighbourhood groups.

Community Forum

- 5.1.10 As we build our relationship with local communities, we will consider, in consultation with relevant Town and Parish Councils, whether there is benefit in establishing a Community Forum, to which we would invite local community nominated representatives to discuss our proposals. If a similar forum is established by our customer, EDF Energy, we will participate when invited to.

Specific Consultation Approaches

- 5.1.11 Sometimes local planning authorities and/or organisations representing the interests of particular ‘hard to reach’ groups may identify a need to communicate our proposals perhaps in a slightly different way to parts of the community who may otherwise find it difficult to effectively engage with us through the methods outlined above. Through our consultations with Babergh District Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, Suffolk Coastal District, Uttlesford District Council, Braintree District Council, Suffolk County Council and Essex County Council it has been identified that certain ‘hard to reach’ groups exist within the project area and guidance has been given to us on how best to engage these groups through the consultation methods explained in this document and in the SOCC.

Publicity & advertising

- 5.1.12 In accordance with Section 47(6) of the 2008 Act, the Statement of Community Consultation is being publicised in local and regional newspapers:
- East Anglian Daily Times
 - Ipswich Evening Star
 - Sudbury Mercury
 - Bury St Edmunds Mercury
 - Ipswich Advertiser
 - Suffolk Advertiser
 - Suffolk Free Press

Project Update

- 5.1.13 Between now and the submission of our Development Consent Order application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission, Project Updates will be produced according to key project milestones but at least every six months providing an update on our proposals and the consultation process, and reporting on the outcome of the consultation process. These will be distributed as appropriate to residents and community groups in Consultation Zone One, by e-mail to those registering for further communications on our website and to Parish and Town Councils who wish to receive them. Copies will be made available on our website and provided on request by our project team.

5.2 Statutory Consultations

- 5.2.1 These public consultations form an important part of our wider project-related consultations. There are also consultations taking place throughout the pre-application process with a wide range of statutory and non-statutory organisations such as relevant local authorities, the Environment Agency, Natural England, English Heritage for example. Once a route corridor has been identified, consultations with landowners, occupiers and persons with an interest in the land will also take place. A map showing all the local authorities, with whom we are consulting, is shown at Appendix 3.
- 5.2.2 Where through consultation with the public and/or local authorities, other bodies with a potential interest in our proposals are identified, such as local schools or businesses, we will consider how best to make contact with and engage these groups in our consultations.

6 NEXT STEPS

- 6.1.1 Feedback and comments made at all stages of the consultation process will be recorded and carefully considered by the project team. Where appropriate, our project team will respond directly on the points that people make. Should other potentially viable options be raised during our consultations we will consider their relative merits and report on them.
- 6.1.2 How feedback has been taken into account will be explained in a number of ways, as appropriate – for example, through subsequent public consultation events, direct communications, local meetings and media and project updates. Ultimately, how comments received have shaped and influenced our proposals will be reported to the Infrastructure Planning Commission in a Consultation Report prepared by us, which will accompany our Development Consent Order application as required by Section 37(3)(c) of the 2008 Act. The Development Consent Order application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission, including that the proposed development is EIA development, will be publicised and the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement (or a summary as appropriate) will be made available on our website and at inspection locations.
- 6.1.3 We anticipate taking a decision about which option to take forward for detailed Environmental Impact Assessment in Spring 2010 and ultimately which option will form the Development Consent application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission.
- 6.1.4 Where the preferred option is route corridor 2, we will consult as part of consultation stage two, between spring 2010 and summer 2010 on the substation siting options for a new substation to the west of Twinstead. Information will be provided during consultation stage one on the substation siting methodology and approach that has refined the wider options to three potential study areas, in order to allow for informed debate on the route corridor options. Following consultation with local authorities and statutory consultees a substation siting study report will be finalised for any public consultation in Spring/Summer 2010 as appropriate.
- 6.1.5 Between Spring 2010 and March 2011, consultation will take place on the preliminary environmental information (PEI) that informs the preparation of the Environmental Statement. The scope of the EIA will be discussed in a series of scoping meetings with the local authorities and organisations like Natural England. We will then apply to the IPC for a scoping opinion following the selection of a preferred route corridor. The scope of the EIA will then be published on our website with a schedule of the surveys we expect to undertake, giving an indication, where known, of the dates and periods of time over which such surveys will be undertaken. On completion of the surveys and information gathering, consultation, by the methods outlined in this document and the

SOCC, will be carried out around each of the subject areas as appropriate where it is considered consultation will bring a value to the project and where a decision is to be made. The programme for the consultation will be communicated via the project website, by direct communications and media and project updates once the EIA scope has been agreed and a preferred route corridor has been chosen.

- 6.1.6 Presently, we anticipate that a Development Consent Order application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission would potentially be ready for submission around summer 2011.

7 CONSULTATIONS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY OTHERS IN THE AREA

- 7.1.1 We are aware that other organisations are likely to be carrying out a number of related and other significant consultations that may have a bearing on our plans. We recognise that other consultations will make demands on the time of the public and their representatives. We will therefore, wherever possible, work closely with those organisations to try to ensure that the timing and content of our consultations has due regard to other related consultation events and seeks to avoid confusion and minimise the risk of inconvenience to consultees. Forthcoming potentially relevant consultations that we are aware of include:

- Government consultation on a draft National Policy Statement (NPS) on nuclear power, expected in the autumn/winter of 2009, which will specify where new nuclear power stations can be located.
- NATS – National Air Traffic Service Consultation

8 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 8.1.1 For further information about National Grid and/or our plans for the Bramford to Twinstead Overhead Line Project, please contact the project team via our dedicated freephone information number 0800 377 7340 or at the following freepost address Freepost,, Bramford to Twinstead 400kV overhead line project, RRKX/EBGK/XXHT, PO Box 5689, London W1A 4FG or via our website www.nationalgrid.com/bramford-twinstead

Appendix 1 National Grid’s Stakeholder, Community & Amenity Policy

Appendix 2 Consultation Zones

Appendix 3 Local Authorities

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Statement of Community Consultation

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc

Section 47 Planning Act 2008 – Publication of Statement of Community Consultation

Bramford – Twinstead 400kV overhead line project

Introduction

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc is publishing this Statement of Community Consultation in connection with a proposed new 400 kilovolt (kV) overhead electricity transmission line between Bramford Substation near Ipswich in Suffolk and Twinstead in Essex plus associated 400kV electricity infrastructure works at Rayleigh and Sizewell and in the vicinity of Twinstead. The Statement sets out how National Grid proposes to consult people living in the vicinity of the proposed infrastructure works.

The proposed electricity infrastructure is needed to reinforce and upgrade the national electricity transmission network in order to connect a number of new electricity generators in East Anglia. Following selection of a preferred option and detailed environmental impact assessment, an application for a Development Consent Order will be made to the Infrastructure Planning Commission under the Planning Act 2008. It is anticipated that this application will be made around summer 2011.

Consultation with people living in the vicinity of the proposed infrastructure will be undertaken in two main stages and throughout the course of the project as follows:

Consultation Stage One October 2009 to 28th February 2010 (5 months): Consultation on the overhead line route corridor options and substation siting options and consultation on people's preferred method for receiving information during Consultation Stage Two.

Consultation Stage Two Spring 2010 to 31st March 2011 (11 months): Consultation on positioning of towers (detailed alignment) along the chosen preferred route corridor, the preferred siting for a substation (if route corridor two is chosen) and consultation on preliminary findings of environmental studies undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment.

We will endeavour to provide clear and concise information about the project and its impacts throughout the pre-application consultation process to enable constructive debate to take place. We are publishing a Stakeholder, Community and Amenity Policy which sets out our commitments to consultation.

Consultation during stages one and two will be undertaken by the following means:

METHOD	DETAIL
<i>Consultation events</i>	Open exhibitions where you can view our proposals, talk to our project team representatives and record your comments will be held at suitable publicly accessible venues / locations at approximately 6 km intervals along the length of the proposed route and where such venues / locations are available in the vicinity of the proposed substations. Notice of the public exhibitions will be given on our project website, by direct communications, and media and project updates, when the venues and dates have been finalised. Feedback forms will be available at the exhibitions for you to record your comments.
<i>Letters</i>	At Consultation Stage One people living within 1km of the proposed route corridor options will be contacted by letter with a project summary leaflet and details of planned public exhibitions.
<i>Parish and Town Briefings</i>	Parish and Town Councils within whose area the proposed works will be constructed will be offered briefings at Consultation Stage One to discuss our proposals.

METHOD	DETAIL
<i>Other public stakeholder group meetings</i>	When invited and where it is possible to do so, we will attend meetings of community groups in areas which may be affected by our proposals.
<i>Community Forum</i>	As we build our relationship with local communities, we will consider, in consultation with relevant Town and Parish Councils, whether there is benefit in establishing a Community Forum, to which we would invite local community nominated representatives to discuss our proposals.
<i>Project Update</i>	Between now and the submission of our Development Consent Order application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission, project updates will be produced according to key project milestones, but at least every six months, providing an update on our proposals and the consultation process, and reporting on the outcome of the consultation process. These will be distributed to residents and community groups, by e-mail to those registering for further communications on our website, and to Parish and Town Councils who wish to receive them. Copies will be made available on our website and provided on request by our project team.
<i>Written Comments</i>	Written comments can be made either online or in writing by 28 th February 2010 (Consultation Stage One), and 31 st March 2011 (Consultation Stage Two) to the following freepost address: Bramford to Twinstead Overhead Line Project Consultation Response, Freepost, RRKX/EBGK/XXHT, PO Box 5689, London W1A 4FG or by ringing our project freephone number: 0800 377 7340. Comments can also be posted on the dedicated project website www.nationalgrid.com/bramford-twinstead

Project Documents available for inspection

Project summary information, this Statement of Community Consultation, policy guidance documents and other relevant technical documents are available online and will be added to throughout the course of the project at www.nationalgrid.com/bramford-twinstead and are available to view free of charge at the inspection locations listed below and at appropriate local libraries:

- National Grid, Company Secretariat Office, 1 – 3 Strand, London, WC2N 5EH (Opening Hours: 08.30 – 16.30 Monday – Friday)
- Babergh District Council, Corks Lane, Hadleigh, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP7 6SJ (Opening Hours: 09:00 to 17:00 Mon to Thurs and 09:00 to 16:30 Fridays)
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- Mid Suffolk District Council, 131 High Street, Needham Market, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP6 8DL (Opening Hours: 08:30 to 17:00 Monday to Friday)
- Suffolk Coastal District Council, Melton Hill, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 1AU (Opening Hours: 08:45 to 17:15 Mon to Thurs and 08:45 to 16:45 Fridays)

- Suffolk County Council, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 2BX (Opening Hours: 08:30 to 18:00 Monday to Friday and 09:00 to 13:00 on Saturdays)
- Essex County Council, County Hall, Market Hall, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1QH (Opening Hours: 08:30 to 17:30 Mon to Thurs and 08:30 to 17:00 Fridays)

Comments made at all stages of the consultation process will be recorded and carefully considered by the project team. Should other potentially viable options be raised during our consultations we will consider their relative merits and report on them. How feedback has been taken into account will be explained by direct communications, local meetings, media and project updates as appropriate. Ultimately, how comments received have shaped and influenced our proposals will be reported on to the Infrastructure Planning Commission in a Consultation Report, which will accompany our Development Consent Order application as required by Section 37(3) (c) of the 2008 Act. Any comments received may therefore be submitted either in part or in their entirety to the Infrastructure Planning Commission, including names and addresses supplied. The Development Consent Order application to the Infrastructure Planning Commission will be publicised and the Consultation Report will be made available on our website and at inspection locations. Where appropriate a charge may be made for copies of project documents up to a maximum of £100 each for a printed hard copy and £15 each for a CD-Rom.

Dated this 19th October 2009

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc