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## Viking Link set to consult on cable routes in Lincolnshire

Viking Link project confirms landing point for cables and converter station site

22 Aug 2016

- **Public consultation starts in September on cable routes and converter station**
- **Public urged to have their say**

Local communities will be invited to have their say on routes for a proposed underground and undersea electricity cable link between Denmark and Lincolnshire.

Following public consultation last spring, National Grid Viking Link Ltd (NGVL) today (22 August) announced that it is looking to bring the undersea cables ashore next to Sandilands golf course. The company also announced its preferred site for a converter station, an essential piece of electrical infrastructure, at North Ing Drove, in the vicinity of Bicker Fen.

Now NGVL is looking at potential options for a route to take the two underground cables between the landing point on the coast to the preferred converter station site.

On 5 September, NGVL will launch a six-week public consultation asking people for their views on where the cables should go and design options for the converter station. The project team will consult people on 'cable route corridors' – one-kilometre-wide strips of land within which a specific route for the cables could be identified.

Oliver Wood, National Grid Viking Link Project Director, said: "Local opinion played an important part in deciding where to bring the cables ashore and the location for the converter station.

"We selected these sites after carefully considering all the information provided by local people during our public consultation in the spring, along with environmental and technical information. Both sites were chosen because it was felt they offered the best opportunities to minimise disturbance to local communities and the environment.

"Now we would urge people to have their say in helping us to find the best route for the two underground cables."

Mr Wood added: "Viking Link will help provide our country with a secure supply of affordable electricity and help us move towards more renewable and low carbon sources of energy but it means building new equipment. We want to work with local people to find the best location for this equipment and to minimize any impact on local communities."

The consultation will include a series of public consultation events. Details below:

Venue	Post code	Date	Time
Bicker Village Hall	PE20 3BT	Wednesday 7 September	2:00pm- 8:00pm
Sandilands, Grange & Links Hotel	LN12 2RJ	Thursday 8 September	2:00pm-8:00pm
Donington, The Ruby Hunt Centre	PE11 4UA	Friday 9 September	2:00pm-8:00pm
Stickney Village Hall	PE22 8BA	Saturday 10 September	12:00pm-4:30pm
Orby Village Hall	PE24 5HT	Wednesday 14 September	2:00pm-8:00pm
Helpringham Memorial Hall	NG34 0RJ	Thursday 15 September	2:00pm-8:00pm
Alford Corn Exchange	LN13 9EB	Friday 16 September	2:00pm-8:00pm
Little Steeping Village Hall	PE23 5BH	Thursday 22 September	2:00pm-8:00pm
Partney, Dalby & Dexthorpe Victory Hall	PE23 4PG	Monday 3 October	2:00pm-8:00pm
Hubberts Bridge Community Centre	PE20 3SG	Tuesday 4 October	2:00pm-8:00pm

Viking Link is a proposal to link Britain and Denmark's electricity systems, enabling Britain to import and export electricity to the continent. This will help provide Britain with a secure supply of affordable electricity and assist the move towards more renewable and low carbon sources of energy. It is being developed in co-operation between National Grid Viking Link Ltd and Energinet.dk, the Danish electricity transmission system operator.

The project would involve installing two high voltage, direct current, undersea and underground cables 760kms in total between Revsing in Denmark and Bicker Fen. A 'converter station' would also be needed in the Bicker Fen area to change the 'direct current' electricity into the 'alternating current' that is used in our homes and businesses.

The converter station would need around 10 acres of land. It would be made up of a collection of buildings, the tallest of which would be up to 24 metres (approximately 80 feet) tall. Underground cables would link the converter station to the existing Bicker Fen electricity substation.

The preferred converter station site was chosen because it is away from homes, with land available to landscape and screen the converter station. The site would also allow Viking Link to build a separate access road from the A52, taking construction traffic away from local roads and the village of Northorpe.

The preferred landfall point next to Sandilands was selected because it is further away from local communities. It would allow Viking Link to use specialist drilling methods to install the cables without disturbing the beach, sea defences, golf course or the Lincolnshire Coastal Grazing Marshes.

In the spring, NGVL consulted people on three potential cable landing points at:

- a point just north of Sandilands Golf Course;
- Huttoft
- Anderby Creek.

In addition the company identified four possible converter station sites, all within a five-kilometre radius of the existing Bicker Fen electricity substation.

More information can be found on the project website: [www.viking-link.com](http://www.viking-link.com). If anyone has any questions they can contact the project team on 0800 731 0561 or email [vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk](mailto:vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk).

**Ends**

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## Notes for editors

### Interconnectors:

To meet rising energy demands, National Grid is increasingly looking to join the UK's electricity transmission system to other countries' electricity networks via interconnectors. Links with France, known as IFA (Interconnexion France Angleterre), and the Netherlands, known as BritNed, are in operation. In addition, links with Belgium, known as Nemo Link, and with Norway, known as North Sea Link, are under construction. A second link with France, called IFA2, is in development.

An interconnector allows countries to exchange power, helping to ensure safe, secure and affordable energy supplies.

An interconnector is made up of two converter stations – one in each country – connected by cables. Converter stations convert electricity between Alternating Current (AC) and Direct Current (DC). AC is used on land, to power our homes, businesses and services, while DC is used for sending electricity along the high voltage subsea cables.

Viking Link is a proposed 1400 Mega Watt, high voltage DC electricity link between the British and Danish electricity transmission networks, connecting at Bicker Fen substation in Lincolnshire and Revsing in Denmark. The project will involve building a converter station in each country and installing subsea and underground cables between the two converter stations. Underground cables would then take power from the converter stations to electricity substations in each country, from where the electricity can be transmitted to homes and businesses across each country.

The Viking Link interconnector project is being jointly developed by National Grid Viking Link Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of National Grid Group, and Energinet.dk, which owns, operates and develops the Danish electricity and gas transmission systems.

National Grid Viking Link Limited is legally separate from other companies within National Grid. This is enforced by the energy regulator Ofgem.

National Grid Viking Link Limited Ltd is a separate legal entity to National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET). NGET is a separate company responsible for the works to connect the interconnector project to the existing national grid; by law the grid connection works must be kept separate from the interconnector and one company cannot develop both.

For the purposes of connecting to the existing electricity network, National Grid Viking Link Ltd is a customer of NGET. National Grid Viking Link Ltd does not get preferential treatment.

### Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

### National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

National Grid undertakes no obligation to update any of the information contained in this release, which speaks only as at the date of this release, unless required by law or regulation.

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