

London Power Tunnels

Bengeworth Road Community Liaison Group, Q&A document

This document answers the questions asked at the third meeting of the Bengeworth Road Community Liaison Group (CLG) held on 27 April 2021. If you feel you have a question which is not answered here, please let us know.

Contents

Site.....	1
Screening Assessment.....	2
Noise.....	2
Local Community & Environment.....	2
HGV movements	2
Neighbouring constructions	3
Access	3
Building	3
Other	4

Site

1. Was the inclusion of Bengeworth Road in the LPT2 project a direct result of a request from UK Power Networks?

The requirement for the site at Bengeworth Road follows a connection request to the National Grid Transmission system by UK Power Networks (UKPN). UKPN made this connection request having reviewed demand forecasts, assets replacement costs and network reinforcement investment.

2. Could you explain why no emergency works took place during the Easter holidays?

During public holidays, UK Power Networks work out of two South London sites, Bengeworth Road and Elton Grid, near Catford. Both of these sites are available for emergency working, but over the Easter Weekend there were no emergencies that involved using the site at Bengeworth Road.

3. Is the realignment of the tunnel presented to the community during the meeting an option that is currently being explored, or is National Grid committed to scrapping the idea of the adits connecting Bengeworth Road to Coldharbour Lane, thus ensuring the implementation of the new tunnel route? What guarantees can National Grid offer to residents?

National Grid is committed to propose and deliver the best engineering solution to deliver the project efficiently and with minimal impact on the environment and local community. The LPT 2 tunnel realignment is our current preferred option subject to consent and approval from Lambeth Council.

Screening Assessment

4. Could you please elaborate on the discussion with Lambeth Council for securing mitigation for the work and detail why this led you to withdraw the application?

The discussion between National Grid and Lambeth Council was around the mitigation details in the construction, environmental and management plan, and the air quality, noise and vibration management plans, focused on securing mitigation through a legal process. This resulted in a joint decision to remove the application for a Lawful Development Certificate. The certificate had also been withdrawn because we have developed a number of engineering solutions, such as the tunnel realignment and alternative access, which form part of the new screening.

5. Which party is employing Avison Young to complete the audit?

Avison Young is employed by Lambeth Council to audit the new screening report.

Noise

6. What can be done to address current noise nuisance from the site?

UK Power Networks is working to reduce noise on site. This includes moving equipment which needs to be collected for emergency work out of hours, so it isn't as close to resident properties.

Local Community & Environment

7. Could you give details of what National Grid is proposing for the new screening assessment regarding any practical measures it may have considered to enhance areas in the vicinity of the works for the benefit of local communities and the natural and historic environment?

As part of National Grid's commitment to Net Zero we are in discussions with the council regarding planting schemes in Ruskin Park which will benefit the community and the natural environment.

The wider LPT scheme is committed to providing employment and STEM opportunities to the communities it interacts with. More information can be found on the LPT website [here](#).

HGV movements

8. Could you provide clarity on which HGVs are currently using Herne Hill Road and Coldharbour Lane, and how frequently?

We can confirm there are no more than 10 HGVs (5 into site and 5 out) using Herne Hill Road and Coldharbour Lane to approach Padfield Road per day at the moment.

9. Could you give more information on whether the HGV traffic has been approaching Padfield Road from the direction of Herne Hill Road or Coldharbour Lane?

While deliveries are allowed from either direction, most HGV traffic comes from the east side, using Coldharbour Lane to make a left turn onto Padfield Road. There are traffic marshals on site to control the HGV movements and ensure safety for everyone.

10. Which direction will the tunnel boring machines be coming in from?

The tunnel boring machine (TBM) will travel west from the LPT site in New Cross on the Old Kent Road in Southwark and is due on site in Southwark this month (May 2021).

Neighbouring constructions

11. Will National Grid commit to following all mitigating measures in the next screening report? E.g., will National Grid liaise with other construction sites within 500m as otherwise recommended (CLG 16th March)?

National Grid is committed to following mitigation measures set out in the management plans submitted as part of the screening request.

Access

12. What are the mitigation measures for the King's College Hospital access route for people living on Northlands Street?

National Grid are liaising with the hospital and currently trying to arrange the next meeting, but as you can imagine the hospital is very busy at the moment. We will also be speaking to residents in that area, as we have been with you.

Building

13. Will the new proposed route impact the location of the new headhouse?

The new proposed route will not impact the location of the headhouse. The headhouse is linked to the shaft location and the shaft will not move under the proposed realignment.

14. Does the new optimised engineering solution mean that there will be no headhouse?

No, the headhouse is needed to provide working room to the project team on site and will also house ventilation equipment.

15. Is the proposed location of the headhouse being determined in view of further expansion of the site rather than in consideration of residents, with a third transformer planned after completion of works by the railway?

The headhouse is the building required over the shaft for the housing of tunnel ventilation and communication equipment and provision of safe access. The shaft position is determined by the location of constraints on site such as buried services, proximity to nearby buildings and the railway line, future site requirements and accommodating an effective substation layout. The substation layout is designed to make efficient, safe use of the area available, with consideration of all stakeholders concerned.

16. Will National Grid agree to a community-based design process to show its commitment to mitigating adverse effects and build confidence in residents that the loss of amenity will be effectively mitigated?

The current substation design is still being worked on while we finalise what equipment needs to be housed. We are aiming to complete the detailed design by the end of this year. There will be an opportunity for residents to comment on the materials and the façade further down the line. We will make residents and CLG members aware when they can submit comments.

17. Has there been any additional work on the substation and headhouses layout to minimise their impact on the listed buildings and the protected Ruskin Park?

National Grid is in conversations with the council about enhancement measures in Ruskin Park as part of its commitment to biodiversity net gain and our investment in the local community.

Through the design work National Grid is actively looking at the façade and materials to be used.

In relation to Ruskin Park, though no significant environmental effects are concluded within the landscape and visual assessment, as part of National Grid's commitment to Net Zero we are in discussions with the council regarding tree planting. Final locations for this have not yet been confirmed.

18. Why is the appearance of the building subject to what goes inside it?

The building needs to house certain equipment which will influence its size, and we will design the building including the external appearance once we have this information.

19. What is the timeframe to complete the detailed design?

We're aiming to complete the detailed design by the end of this year.

Other

20. How will National Grid ensure more people in the community are aware of these meetings?

National Grid would encourage any residents to share details of these meetings with neighbours or other members of the community. The consultation period on the screening process is organised by the Council, who will be contacting all interested parties and sharing details on their website. We have shared a link to the [Planning Portal](#) on our website and with members of the CLG and we encourage residents to pass on the details of the Council consultation to neighbours and friends.

21. Will socially distanced site visits be available to those who are interested?

We are not holding any site visits during the Council's consultation period for our Screening Request, however we are happy to revisit this topic later in June, after the consultation period and when more COVID-19 restrictions lift.

22. With the new tunnel route, are residents required to return any payments they received previously with regards to the two spurs for easements?

Residents are not required to return any payments.