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**For the attention of Alice Sharlot MRICS, FAAV**

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8 March 2023

Dear Ms Sharlot,

**The National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (Scotland to England Greenlink 1) Compulsory Purchase Order 2023 (the Order)**

We act on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (**NGET**), the acquiring authority in respect of the National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (Scotland to England Greenlink 1) Compulsory Purchase Order 2020 (the **Order**) in respect of NGET's Scotland to England Greenlink 1 project (the **Project**).

The Order was made on 12 January 2023 and has been submitted to the Secretary of State for Energy Security & Net Zero (**DESNZ**) for confirmation. We have been passed a copy of the written submissions made by the NFU in respect of the Order and submitted to DESNZ on 21 February 2023 (the **NFU Submission**). The NFU Submission is purported to be made on behalf of unidentified members.

NGET's position is that the NFU Submission is not a relevant objection for the purposes of s. 13(6) of the Acquisition of Land Act 1981 (**the 1981 Act**) and, accordingly, that the Secretary of State can disregard the grounds of objection raised in the NFU Submission.

The 1981 Act defines a relevant objection as one raised by (or on behalf of) a person who is a "qualifying person" for the purposes of s. 12(2) – that is, an owner, lessee, tenant (whatever the tenancy period) or occupier of the land, or a person whom NGET thinks is likely to be entitled to make a relevant claim if the order is confirmed.

The NFU Submission does not identify any of the members for which the NFU purports to act or identify on whose behalf the objection has been submitted. It does not identify: any specific plots in the Order to which comments relate; the identities of any persons with an interest in said plots; or the nature of

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that interest. On the basis that the NFU Submission is not made on behalf of a qualifying person, it is not a relevant objection.

The NFU has not been directly involved in any negotiations with landowners on the Project to date, as all negotiations in respect of the Project have been directly with landowners and their respective agents. NGET will continue to negotiate directly with landowners and their respective agents.

NGET is aware that individual landowners, represented by their own land agents, have submitted objections and it is committed to working with those parties to resolve the grounds of their objection.

The NFU Submission appends a document identified as best construction practice; as far as we are aware, this is the first time that this document has been submitted to NGET by the NFU in relation to this specific Project, and NGET note that this is the NFU's (and not an industry) best practice document. Moreover, the NFU Submission appears to relate to a different scheme, with references made to "Yorkshire" in the Interface Document appended to the NFU Submission.

NGET's position, therefore, is that the NFU Submission is not a relevant objection and that the Secretary of State does not require to consider the NFU Submission further.

Yours faithfully,



**CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP**

cc: John McKenna, Department for Energy Security & Net Zero