

**NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PLC  
SECTION 47 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 (AS AMENDED)  
SEA LINK**

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF A STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

Notice is hereby given that National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET) of National Grid House, Warwick Technology Park, Gallows Hill, Warwick, CV34 6DA has now published a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Sea Link project in accordance with section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended).

The Sea Link Project ('proposed Project') involves the reinforcement of the electricity transmission network between Suffolk and Kent, predominantly via offshore a High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) link. The proposed Project is split into three distinctive elements, as follows.

#### The Suffolk Onshore Scheme

- A connection from the existing transmission network via Friston Substation, including the substation itself. Friston Substation already has development consent as part of other third-party projects. If Friston Substation has already been constructed under another consent, only a connection into the substation would be constructed by the Sea Link project. A high voltage alternating current (HVAC) underground cable of approximately 1.7 km in length between the proposed Friston Substation and a proposed converter station (below).
- A 2 GW high voltage direct current (HVDC) converter station up to 26 m high plus external equipment (such as

lightning protection & railings for walkways) near Saxmundham.

- A HVDC underground cable connection of approximately 10 km in length between the proposed converter station near Saxmundham, and a transition joint bay (TJB) approximately 900 m inshore from a landfall point (below) where the cable transitions from onshore to offshore technology.
- A landfall on the Suffolk coast (between Aldeburgh and Thorpeness).

The proposals in Suffolk have been developed for Sea Link as a standalone project, but also include opportunities to co-locate infrastructure for up to two further projects at the converter station, cable corridors and the landfall location.

#### The Offshore Scheme

- Approximately 130 km of subsea HVDC cable, running between the Suffolk landfall location (between Aldeburgh and Thorpeness), and the Kent landfall location at Pegwell Bay.

#### The Kent Onshore Scheme

- A landfall point on the Kent coast at Pegwell Bay.

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- A TJB approximately 800 m inshore to transition from offshore HVDC cable to onshore HVDC cable, before continuing underground for approximately 2 km to a proposed new converter station (below).
- A 2 GW HVDC converter station, up to 26 m high plus external equipment (such as lightning protection & railings for walkways), near Minster. A new substation would be located immediately adjacent.
- Removal of approximately 1 km of existing HVAC overhead line, and installation of approximately 2.25 km of new HVAC overhead line from the converter station and substation near Minster and the existing Richborough to Canterbury overhead line.

The project also includes modifications to sections of existing overhead lines in Suffolk and Kent, diversions of third-party assets, and land drainage from the construction and operational footprint. It also includes opportunities for environmental mitigation, compensation and enhancement (such as hedgerow creation, native tree planting or funding local wildlife groups). The construction phase will involve various temporary construction activities including working areas for construction equipment and machinery, site offices, storage, accesses, bellmouths, and haul roads, as well as watercourse crossings and the diversion of public rights of way.

Under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, NGET has a duty to consult the community on its proposals. The SoCC explains how NGET will undertake the consultation, where the consultation documents can be viewed, where public events will be held and

explain how people can comment on the proposals and provide responses to the consultation.

The proposed project is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development, as defined by The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

The consultation will take place between 24 October 2023 and 18 December 2023.

Between these dates the SoCC is available to view free of charge on the project website at: [www.nationalgrid.com/sealink](http://www.nationalgrid.com/sealink)

Reference copies of the SoCC will also be available to view free of charge from 24 October 2023 for the duration of the consultation which ends at 11:59pm on 18 December 2023 at the following locations in the vicinity of the project:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Opening times</b>
Saxmundham Library	Block B, Street Farm Rd, Saxmundham IP17 1AL	Mon: Closed Tues: 09:30 – 17:30 Weds: 09:30 – 17:30 Thur: Closed Fri: 09:30 – 17:30, Sat: 10:00 – 13:00 Sun: 10:00 – 15:00
Leiston Library	Main St, Leiston IP16 4ER	Mon: Closed Tues: 09:30 – 19:30 Weds: Closed Thur: 09:30 – 17:30 Fri: 09:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 17:00 Sat: 09:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 17:00 Sun: 10:00 – 15:00

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<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Opening times</b>
Aldeburgh Library	Victoria Rd, Aldeburgh IP15 5EG	Mon: 09:00 – 13:00 Tues: 09:00 – 13:00 Wed: 09:00 – 18:00 Thur: 09:00 – 13:00 Fri: 09:00 – 13:00 Sat: 10:00 – 15:00 Sun: 10:00 – 13:00
Snape Village Hall	5 Garrett Cl, Snape, Saxmundham IP17 1RN	Mon: 07:00 – 19:00 Tues: 07:00 – 19:00 Weds: 07:00 – 19:00 Thur: 07:00 – 19:00 Fri: 07:00 – 19:00 Sat: 07:00 – 19:00 Sun: Closed
Friston Village Hall	Church Rd, Friston, Saxmundham IP17 1PU	Village hall open depending on events. Contact the village hall in advance via email at <a href="mailto:fristonvillagehall@gmail.com">fristonvillagehall@gmail.com</a> or at 01728 687914.
Ash Library	11 Queen's Rd, Ash, Canterbury CT3 2BG	Mon: 11:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 15:00 Tuesday: 09:30 – 13:00 Weds: 09:30 – 14:00 Thur: Closed Fri: 11:30 – 17:00 Sat: 09:00 – 14:00
Minster Library	4a Monkton Rd, Minster, Ramsgate CT12 4EA	Mon: 13:00 – 17:00 Tues: 09:30 – 13:30 Weds: Closed Thur: 12:00 – 17:00 Fri: 10:00 – 16:00 Sat: 09:30 – 13:30 Sun: Closed

<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Opening times</b>
Sandwich Library	13 Market St, Sandwich CT13 9DA	Mon: Closed Tues: 09:30 – 17:00 Weds: Closed Thur: 09:30 – 17:00 Fri: 09:30 – 17:00 Sat: 09:30 – 15:00 Sun: Closed
Ramsgate Library	Guildford Lawn, Ramsgate CT11 9AY	Mon: Closed Tues: 09:30 – 17:30 Weds: 09:30 – 17:30 Thur: 09:30 – 16:30 Fri: 09:30 – 17:30 Sat: 09:30 – 15:30 Sun: Closed
Newington Library	Royal Harbour Academy, Stirling Way, Ramsgate CT12 6FA	Mon: 09:00 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 17:30 Tues: 09:00 – 13:00 Weds: Closed Thur: 09:00 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 17:30 Fri: Closed Sat: 09:00 – 13:00 Sun: Closed
Thanet District Council	Thanet District Council, Cecil Street, Margate, CT9 1AY	Mon: 08:45 – 17:00 Tues: 08:45 – 17:00 Weds: 08:45 – 17:00 Thur: 08:45 – 17:00 Fri: 08:45 – 17:00 Sat: Closed Sun: Closed
Thanet Gateway	Thanet's Gateway Plus, Margate, CT9 1RE	Mon: 10:00-14:00 Tues: 10:00-14:00 Weds: 10:00-14:00 Thur: 10:00-14:00 Fri: 10:00-14:00 Sat: Closed

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<b>Location</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Opening times</b>
		Sun: Closed

Materials will be available to view during the opening hours listed above, except in circumstances outside of NGET's control which prevent the locations specified from opening.

To request a printed or alternative format copy of the SoCC, please contact the project team via the details at the bottom of this notice.

If you have any questions about the project or the consultation, please get in touch:

<b>Method</b>	<b>Contact details</b>	<b>Hours of operation</b>
Online	<a href="http://nationalgrid.com/sealink">nationalgrid.com/sealink</a>	24/7
Email	<a href="mailto:contact@sealink.nationalgrid.com">contact@sealink.nationalgrid.com</a>	9am-5pm weekdays
Freephone	0808 134 9569	9am-5pm weekdays
Post	Freepost SEA LINK	24/7