

DATE: ~~28TH~~ FEBRUARY 2024
29th

**THE NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PLC (SCOTLAND TO ENGLAND
GREEN LINK 2) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 2023**

STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

**(1) NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PLC
AND
(2) PAUL JOHN NICHOLS & JANET NICHOLS**

RULE 15 OF THE COMPULSORY PURCHASE (INQUIRIES PROCEDURE) RULES 2007

NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PLC

**THE ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
AND
THE ACQUISITION OF LAND ACT 1981**

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET) made The National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (Scotland to England Green Link 2) Compulsory Purchase Order 2023 (the **Order**) on 5 September 2023 in respect of the English onshore elements of a subsea High Voltage Direct Current Link (HVDC) between Peterhead in Aberdeenshire and Drax in North Yorkshire (the **Project**).
- 1.2 Samantha Mellor (**Dee-Atkinson & Harrison**) as Agent on behalf of their clients Mr P J Nichols and Mrs J Nichols (the **Landowners**) submitted an objection to the Order dated 7th October 2023 (the **Objection**).
- 1.3 The Objection was based on construction methodology and the wider impact from construction (the **Objection Matters**):

2. OBJECTION MATERS

- 2.1 Since making the Order, NGET, Dee-Atkinson & Harrison and the Landowners have been engaged to discuss the possible implications of the Project and the Order for the Landowners.
- 2.2 On 24th January 2024, NGET, Dee-Atkinson & Harrison and the Landowner met at the Landowners house in order to discuss the implications of the Project and the Order for the Landowners and the Objection Matters. NGET provided details to Dee-Atkinson & Harrison and the Landowners in respect of each of the Objection Matters.
- 2.3 The Landowners have been provided with all the information known at this time in respect of the potential impacts on the SSSI, the potential methods of works, dewatering methods and feasibility of the works and Ground investigation works, however NGET acknowledge that at this point in time, limited information is available.

Topic	Sub-section	Objector's comment	EGL2 response	Status
Land Designations	SSSI	River Hull is a SSSI site and landowner is concerned these works will damage the habitat in this river.	All dewatering works will be done within licence agreed with Environment Agency and Natural England. NGET to provide further information to the Landowner.	IN NEGOTIATION
Methodology	Details of how project will be delivered required.	Construction details required to show how the site will be affected and vice versa.	At the site meeting on 24 th January 2024 it was discussed that the preferred methodology is a one-stage trenchless solution which would only require access to Mr Nichols land for monitoring and potentially installing "blow holes". The Project have committed to sharing the final methodology as soon as this is received from the appointed contractor following detailed design.	IN NEGOTIATION

Methodology	Drill pit in water meadow	Installing a HDD Drill pit within water meadow seems 'counterintuitive' as pit will fill up with water instantly.	The primary proposal plan is to use a trenchless solution under all of Mr and Mrs Nichol' land and not use/ install any drill pits. This cannot be confirmed until detailed design is completed.	IN NEGOTIATION
Ground Investigations	Aquifer and Artesian Groundwater	Limited ground investigations (one borehole) have been carried out to safely install cable.	The Landowner has been informed that further Ground Investigations will commence in September/October to inform the detailed design. The Landowner has explained to NGET at the meeting on 24.01.204 his direct experience of the high pressure of water in this area.	AGREED
Dewatering	Impact of dewatering to SSSI and land.	Disposing of water into the SSSI river will have devastating consequences. Tankering the water off site will affect soil and traffic in the area as this will be a significant volume of water.	If water is deposited into the SSSI river, the water will be treated first, and a licence will be in place with the Environment Agency for environmental compliance.	IN NEGOTIATION
Feasibility of works	Concern over how complex these works are due to the area	Dogger Bank wind farm had concerns over flood risk and feasibility of undergrounding a cable under the River Hull. Confirmation required from National Grid over how feasible/ workable this route will be.	National Grid's engineers understand that this site is more complex but this route will be feasible, due to the depth of the trenchless solution.	AGREED
EMFs and Vibrations	Impact on river and Fish	What research have National Grid carried out? Confirm the depth of cable under river to avoid vibration disturbance.	National Grid have an expert in EMFs and a briefing note is to be issued to Dee-Atkinson & Harrison. Vibration disturbance will be very minimal as cable will be approximately 7m below the River Hull.	IN NEGOTIATION

NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PLC

(SIGN).....

AND

PAUL JOHN NICHOLS AND JANET NICHOLS

(SIGN) *Dee Atkinson & Hawson*

As Authorised Agents For and on Behalf of PAUL JOHN NICHOLS AND JANET NICHOLS

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