

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 October 2023 20:10
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] FW: The National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC (Scotland to England Green Link 2) Compulsory Purchase Order 2023 - Mr P J Nichols and Mrs J Nichols, Mill Farm, Skerne Road, Wansford, Driffield East Riding of Yorkshire YO25 8NQ

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2023 6:29 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: The National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC (Scotland to England Green Link 2) Compulsory Purchase Order 2023 - Mr P J Nichols and Mrs J Nichols, Mill Farm, Skerne Road, Wansford, Driffield East Riding of Yorkshire YO25 8NQ

Hi [REDACTED] please find below OBJ10.

Thanks.



**Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero**

[REDACTED]
Head of Network Planning team
Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery Team
Energy Development
Tel: 07920 150 513
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3-8 Whitehall Place

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 6:23 PM

To: [REDACTED] >

Subject: The National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC (Scotland to England Green Link 2) Compulsory Purchase Order 2023 - Mr P J Nichols and Mrs J Nichols, Mill Farm, Skerne Road, Wansford, Driffield East Riding of Yorkshire YO25 8NQ

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Mr P J Nichols and Mrs J Nichols, Mill Farm, Skerne Road, Wansford, Driffield East Riding of Yorkshire YO25 8NQ
The National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (Scotland to England Green Link 2) Compulsory Purchase Order 2023 Land Interests (as per Statement of Reasons dated 5th September 2023) 35/989, 35/990, 35/990a

We are instructed as Agents on behalf of Mr P J Nichols and Mrs J Nichols and have been in discussions with the Applicant's Agents, Fisher German ('FG') regarding the terms of a voluntary agreement in connection with the proposed SEGL2 Project. Our clients remain committed to continuing to take forward these negotiations, however due to the speed of progress with the same as well as site specific issues our clients wish to raise **Objections** to the above CPO application as follows:

1. Voluntary Negotiations

1.1 We met with representatives from National Grid and FG on 5th January 2023 to discuss site specific issues in relation to the proposed voluntary agreement. Our client's land holding includes agricultural arable and pasture land as well as part of the River Hull which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). We still await a reply to the issues raised at this meeting including the extent of land which will be affected by the temporary and permanent rights which the Applicant is seeking and therefore believe it is premature to grant a CPO because the negotiations for a voluntary agreement with our clients have not progressed with as much speed, clarity or detail as is required.

2. Site Specific Issues

- 2.1 Following our meeting on 5th January 2023 we are still awaiting information as to the methodology for crossing our client's land. Based on our client's knowledge of their land there will be an issue laying a cable due to the aquifer and artesian groundwater in the area. Our clients are not at all confident that National Grid has addressed this issue to understand the potential consequences. Limited Ground Investigation (GI) works have been carried out under Licence (one borehole) which seems inadequate bearing in mind the groundwater issues.
- 2.2 The suggestion for construction is by Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) including a drill pit in our client's water meadow which seems counterintuitive. Our clients have suggested a drill pit in their arable field which should cause fewer dewatering issues, although the question of how to deal with the groundwater still remains a concern.
- 2.3 Our clients are concerned that dewatering will be into the SSSI or tankering off site. The former has potentially devastating consequences for the SSSI, the latter a significant impact on traffic in the locality. We asked for further information at our meeting on 5th January regarding dewatering and await a reply.
- 2.4 Given the sensitive nature of the SSSI, our client's concerns were magnified by the conclusions drawn by the proposed Dogger Bank South electricity cable project which is currently being promoted by RWE. We attach an extract from that Project's Preliminary Environmental Information Report below. Does the Applicant have confidence that this route is workable?

4.13.3. Review of the Onshore Export Cable Corridor Short List

4.13.3.1. Wansford and A1147 Pinch Points

96. Following further engineering assessment an additional pinch point was identified at Wansford. At Wansford the crossing of the River Hull, Driffield Canal and Main Drain is impacted by the shallow chalk aquifer with artesian groundwater expected at this location (i.e. the groundwater is under pressure and HDD would risk flooding the local area). Detailed intrusive and geophysical investigation would be required to confirm feasibility. Even if the crossing was feasible, it would likely require 24 hour work in close proximity to residential properties. It was deemed this crossing would be too complex and therefore all onshore export cable corridors associated with this pinch point were not taken forward.

2.5 At our meeting in January it was suggested that the HDD would be at 1.2m – 2m beneath the river bed. As well as the impact on groundwater, we are concerned what impact the construction and operation of the cable will have on the SSSI. For example vibration and noise from drilling during construction and heat and electromagnetic frequencies from the cable during operation would disturb the habitat of the river bed. What research has the Applicant carried out in this regard? Are there examples of cables laid in similar ground/water conditions? Should this area be avoided by this cable completely?

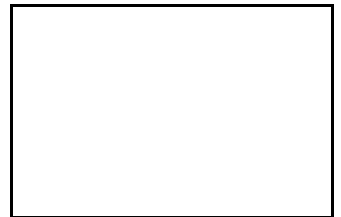
We trust that the Applicant can review our client’s Objections and provide an adequate response in order that our negotiations for a voluntary agreement can continue, as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,



Partner

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