
**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) C R WRIGHT & SON**

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**

CMS Cameron McKenna LLP
Cannon Place
78 Cannon Street
London
EC4N 6AF
T +44 20 7367 3000
F +44 20 7367 2000
cms.law

DATE: [2024]

RNW 1/3/24

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 C R Wright & Son (the **Occupier**) on behalf of Colin and Margaret Wright (the **Landowners**) submitted an objection to the Order dated 25th September 2023 with reference OBJ4 (the **Objection**).
- 1.3 The Objection was based on the **instant** restrictions in the Heads of Terms preventing the planting of trees or hedging on the **entire** easement. In particular, the Objection was based on the restriction preventing planting Christmas Trees for retail production along the entire easement. (**Objection Matters**):

2. OBJECTION MATERS

- 2.1 Since making the Order, NGET, the Occupier and Landowners, and their agent (Andrew Houlden) have been engaged in order to ensure that they have sufficient information to understand the implications of the Project and the Order for the Occupier and Landowners.
- 2.2 On 26th January 2023, 9th March 2023, 17th July 2023, 20th September 2023, and 17th January 2024 NGET, the Occupier and Landowners, and their agent met at Warp Farm, Newsholme in order to discuss the implications of the Project and the Order for the Occupier and Landowners and the Objection Matters. NGET have provided details in respect of each of the Objection Matters. On 30th November 2023 NGET met with their agent Andrew Houlden at his office (the landowner was not present) in order to discuss the implications of the Project and the Order for the Occupier and Landowners and the Objection Matters.
- 2.3 The Occupier and Landowners are now satisfied that they have sufficient information in respect of the existing Christmas Tree plantation and this is agreed.
- 2.4 The Occupier and Landowners are satisfied that they have **now** been provided with information to assist with the calculation in respect of the compensation for the proposed Christmas Tree plantation which is still under negotiation.

Topic	Sub-section	Objector's comment	EGL2 response	Status
Existing Christmas Tree plantation	Restrictions over the easement	"We have been told that we can't grow Christmas trees where the wire is to be laid in an open cut trench , but we can grow trees to a certain size over where the wire is to be laid using HDD as the wire will be deeper , but , as yet we not been given a size of tree."	On 30 th November at the meeting with their agent it was confirmed that Christmas Trees can be grown along the easement for up to 10 years or up to 8 foot high. On 17 th January 2024 it was confirmed with the landowner that Christmas Trees can be grown along the easement for up to 10 years or up to 8 foot high.	AGREED

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			the landowner agreed for legal parties to be instructed to get the option agreement progressed however the option agreement will not be signed nor the objection removed until compensation is agreed.	
Proposed Christmas Tree plantation – open cut	Restrictions over the easement	“In the Heads of Terms it states that we cannot plant trees or hedging on the easement after signing we should carry on farming as though they won’t be coming through , this is a contradiction for our business.”	<p>On 30th November at the meeting with their agent it was confirmed that no Christmas Trees can be planted along the 20 metre easement, negotiations are ongoing with the Occupier and Landowner regarding compensation for this.</p> <p>On 17th January 2024 it was confirmed with the landowner that no Christmas Trees can be planted along the 20 metre easement. The landowner agreed for legal parties to be instructed to get the option agreement progressed however the option agreement will not be signed nor the objection removed until compensation is agreed.</p>	STILL IN NEGOTIATION
Drainage		“Drainage issues have not been resolved”.	NGET have arranged for Land Drainage Consultants Ltd to complete surveys of the land drains and soil structure in order to propose a conceptual drainage design which will put the Occupier and Landowners in no worse position following construction.	AGREED

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NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PLC

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AND

C R WRIGHT & SON on behalf of Colin and Margaret Wright

RW Wright JAP *1-3-24*

2024

STILL IN
NEGOTIATION

On 30 November at the meeting with their agent it was confirmed that no Christmas Trees can be granted along the 20 metre easement. The easement is not a legal point to be instructed to set the easement. However the proposed easement will not be signed and the option removed with compensation is agreed.

On 17 January 2024 it was confirmed with the easement that no Christmas Trees can be granted along the 20 metre easement. The easement is not a legal point to be instructed to set the easement. However the proposed easement will not be signed and the option removed with compensation is agreed.

AGREED

AGREED have arranged for Land Drainage Consultants Ltd to conduct surveys of the land drain and will structure in order to propose a technical drainage design which will put the easement and easement in no water position following construction.

"In the heads of terms it states that we cannot plant trees or hedging as the easement after signing we should carry on farming as though they won't be coming through. This is a contradiction for an easement for an easement."

"Drainage works have not been received."

NATIONAL GRID ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION PLC

END