



Our Ref: MV/ 15B901605

13 September 2021

Dear Sir / Madam

**Duty to Cooperate: Strategic Matters
September 2021
Representations on behalf of National Grid**

National Grid has appointed Avison Young to review and respond to local planning authority Development Plan Document consultations on its behalf. We are instructed by our client to submit the following representation with regard to the current consultation on the above document.

About National Grid

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET) owns and maintains the electricity transmission system in England and Wales. The energy is then distributed to the electricity distribution network operators, so it can reach homes and businesses.

National Grid Gas plc (NGG) owns and operates the high-pressure gas transmission system across the UK. In the UK, gas leaves the transmission system and enters the UK's four gas distribution networks where pressure is reduced for public use.

National Grid Ventures (NGV) is separate from National Grid's core regulated businesses. NGV develop, operate and invest in energy projects, technologies, and partnerships to help accelerate the development of a clean energy future for consumers across the UK, Europe and the United States.

National Electricity Transmission System

Specific development proposals within your local planning authority area are unlikely to have a significant direct effect upon National Grid's electricity transmission system. Generally, improvements to the system to provide supplies to the local distribution network are as a result of overall regional demand growth rather than site specific developments.

Electricity Distribution System

National Grid does not distribute electricity to individual sites and premises directly. It is the role of local distribution companies to distribute electricity to homes and businesses. The website below includes a map showing the areas that the local distribution network operators are responsible for and provides links to their websites:

<http://www.energynetworks.org/info/faqs/electricity-distribution-map.html>

The local distribution network operator is responsible for operating the local electricity distribution network which supplies electricity from the national electricity transmission system direct to sites and premises. If new infrastructure is required in response to an increase in demand across the local electricity distribution network the operator may request improvements to an existing National Grid substation or a new grid supply point.

National Gas Transmission System

National Grid owns and operates the high-pressure gas transmission system in England, Scotland and Wales. This consists of around 4,300 miles of pipelines and 26 compressor stations connecting to the distribution networks.

New gas transmission infrastructure developments (for example pipelines and associated installations) are periodically required to meet increases in regional demand and changes in patterns of supply. Developments to the network occur as a result of specific connection requests, for example power stations, and requests for additional capacity on the network from gas shippers.

Gas Distribution Networks

In the UK, gas leaves the transmission system and enters the distribution networks at high pressure. It is then transported through a number of reducing pressure tiers until it is finally delivered to sites and premises. The website below includes a map showing the distribution networks and their regions:

<http://www.energynetworks.org/info/faqs/gas-distribution-map.html>

Further Advice

National Grid is happy to provide advice and guidance to the Council concerning their networks. Please see attached information outlining further guidance on development close to National Grid Infrastructure.

If we can be of any assistance to you in providing informal comments in confidence during your policy development, please do not hesitate to contact us.

To help ensure the continued safe operation of existing sites and equipment and to facilitate future infrastructure investment, National Grid wishes to be involved in the preparation, alteration and review of plans and strategies which may affect their assets. Please remember to consult National Grid on any Development Plan Document (DPD) or site-specific proposals that could affect National Grid's infrastructure.

We would be grateful if you could add our details shown below to your consultation database, if they are not already included:



If you require any further information in respect of this letter, then please contact us.

Yours faithfully,

Guidance on development near National Grid assets

National Grid is able to provide advice and guidance to the Council concerning their networks and encourages high quality and well-planned development in the vicinity of its assets.

Electricity assets

Developers of sites crossed or in close proximity to National Grid assets should be aware that it is National Grid policy to retain existing overhead lines in-situ, though it recognises that there may be exceptional circumstances that would justify the request where, for example, the proposal is of regional or national importance.

National Grid's *'Guidelines for Development near pylons and high voltage overhead power lines'* promote the successful development of sites crossed by existing overhead lines and the creation of well-designed places. The guidelines demonstrate that a creative design approach can minimise the impact of overhead lines whilst promoting a quality environment. The guidelines can be downloaded here: <https://www.nationalgridet.com/document/130626/download>

The statutory safety clearances between overhead lines, the ground, and built structures must not be infringed. Where changes are proposed to ground levels beneath an existing line then it is important that changes in ground levels do not result in safety clearances being infringed. National Grid can, on request, provide to developers detailed line profile drawings that detail the height of conductors, above ordnance datum, at a specific site.

National Grid's statutory safety clearances are detailed in their *'Guidelines when working near National Grid Electricity Transmission assets'*, which can be downloaded here: www.nationalgridet.com/network-and-assets/working-near-our-assets

Gas assets

High-Pressure Gas Pipelines form an essential part of the national gas transmission system and National Grid's approach is always to seek to leave their existing transmission pipelines in situ. Contact should be made with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) in respect of sites affected by High-Pressure Gas Pipelines.

National Grid have land rights for each asset which prevents the erection of permanent/temporary buildings, or structures, changes to existing ground levels, storage of materials etc. Additionally, written permission will be required before any works commence within the National Grid's 12.2m building proximity distance, and a deed of consent is required for any crossing of the easement.

National Grid's *'Guidelines when working near National Grid Gas assets'* can be downloaded here: www.nationalgridgas.com/land-and-assets/working-near-our-assets

How to contact National Grid

If you require any further information in relation to the above and/or if you would like to check if National Grid's transmission networks may be affected by a proposed development, please contact:

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- National Grid's Plant Protection team: plantprotection@nationalgrid.com

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Brick Kiln Street

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LE10 0NA

0800 688 588

or visit the website: <https://www.beforeyoudig.cadentgas.com/login.aspx>