

07 October 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Consultation on proposed changes to the Sea Link development consent order

Earlier this year, National Grid submitted a development consent order application for Sea Link, a proposal to reinforce the electricity network between Suffolk and Kent via a new, primarily offshore cable link. The Planning Inspectorate has since agreed that our application meets the standard required to proceed through the planning process, and we are currently preparing for the start of the formal Examination of our proposals in November 2025.

Whilst our application has been submitted and accepted for Examination, we have continued to undertake technical and survey work, along with continued engagement with stakeholders. We have identified a series of small changes we propose to make to our plans. We wrote to the Planning Inspectorate on 18 September 2025 to notify them of this. The majority of our plans for Sea Link remain unchanged.

As some of these changes are in your local area, we are inviting you to provide any comments you may have about them. A summary of the amendments is included below, with more detail available on our website at nationalgrid.com/sealink. The website provides further information on the changes, the potential environmental impacts of those changes, any changes to the land rights sought, and plans of the proposed changes.

Change to access at the former hoverport near Cliffsend, Kent

Our plans already include a construction, maintenance and operational access to the intertidal area (the area above water level at low tide and underwater at high tide) via the former hoverport near Cliffsend in Kent.

Survey work undertaken in August 2025 identified that the saltmarsh habitat in Pegwell Bay has expanded further than previously recorded.

To ensure we can avoid the saltmarsh habitat when carrying out works, we are proposing to include additional areas of the hoverport within our Order limits (the land we would need to build, operate and maintain Sea Link). This will allow us to avoid driving vehicles on or close to the saltmarsh habitat when accessing the intertidal area.

We are not proposing any changes to when use of the hoverport area would be required, and we are not expecting this change to alter the conclusions of the Environmental Statement included in our development consent order application. Avoiding the sensitive saltmarsh habitat would reduce the ecological impacts of the project.

Have your say

If you have any comments on the changes outlined above, you can provide your feedback to us via email at contact@sealink.nationalgrid.com or by post to Freepost SEA LINK. The deadline for responses is **23:59 on Friday 7 November 2025**.

Should you require paper copies of the consultation document or plans, please contact us via email at contact@sealink.nationalgrid.com or via phone on 0808 134 9569.

Should you choose to give further feedback, please do not include comments that you may have given previously about other aspects of our proposals or the principle of the project as a whole. These comments

have already been considered as part of the Consultation report included in our development consent order application, which you can find on the Planning Inspectorate's website at national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020026 or will be addressed as part of our response to the relevant representations which have been previously received.

Only comments or feedback related to the above changes will be considered as part of this consultation.

All feedback relating to the proposed changes received from this consultation will be reported on in an addendum to our Consultation report. We expect to submit this to the Planning Inspectorate, alongside our formal request to amend our plans, in November 2025.

If you have any questions about the proposed changes, the dedicated Sea Link project email and telephone line (0808 134 9569) is available Monday to Friday from 9am to 5.30pm.

Kind regards,



Adrian Piersenne
Project Director