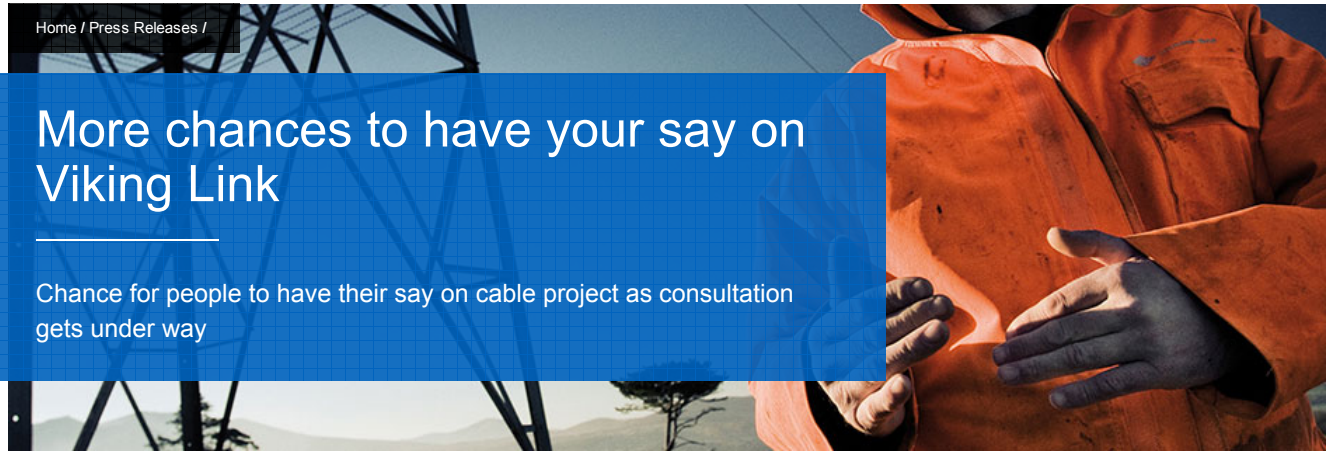

More chances to have your say on Viking Link

Chance for people to have their say on cable project as consultation gets under way

20 Apr 2016

- **Four more consultation events over the next fortnight**
- **People urged to have their say on cable landing sites and converter station locations**

Lincolnshire residents will have the chance to give their views on where a proposed underground and undersea electricity link could come ashore on the county's coastline at public consultation events being held over the next two weeks.

Viking Link is a proposal to link Britain and Denmark's electricity systems, enabling Britain to import and export power to the continent. This will help provide Britain with a secure supply of affordable electricity and help the move towards more renewable and low carbon sources of energy.

The project would involve installing undersea and underground cables between Denmark and Bicker Fen and building a 10-acre 'converter station' in the Bicker Fen area.

National Grid Viking Link Limited (NGVL) is inviting residents, landowners, farmers and others in the community to give their views on potential sites for the converter station and locations where the electricity cables could come ashore.

Three events are being held in the areas of the potential cable landfall sites:

Thursday 21 April, Anderby Village Hall, 12pm – 8pm

Saturday 23 April, Huttoft Village Hall, 10am – 4pm

Wednesday 27 April, Sandilands Grange and Links Hotel 12pm – 8pm

There will also be a further opportunity to find out more and comment on potential converter station sites at Bicker Fen, at the following event:

Friday 22 April, The Ruby Hunt Centre, Donington, 12pm – 8pm

Following discussions with local authorities and other bodies over the winter, NGVL has shortlisted three potential cable landfall sites – Huttoft Bank, a point just south of Sandilands Golf Course and Anderby Creek. The company has also identified four possible converter station sites, all within a five-kilometre radius of Bicker Fen Substation.

Oliver Wood, National Grid Viking Link Project Director, said: "Over the next fortnight there will be further opportunities for people to comment on our proposals, particularly on where the cables could come ashore but also on potential converter station sites. We would encourage people to drop in, find out more and have their say.

"Viking Link will help provide our country with a secure supply of affordable electricity and help us move towards more renewable and low carbon sources of energy. People's opinions are important to us and will help us to identify the best locations for the equipment needed for this important project."

People will have until Friday 20 May to give their views. Following feedback from the public consultation, the company will confirm a preferred converter station location and landfall point for the cables. The project team will then look at potential cable routes between these points and will carry out a further public consultation on cable route options in the summer.

Viking Link is being developed in co-operation between National Grid Viking Link Ltd and Energinet.dk, the Danish electricity transmission system operator.

It would involve laying two high voltage, direct current cables, each approximately 15 centimetres in diameter, between Revsing in Denmark and Bicker Fen and building a 'converter station' in the Bicker Fen area to change the direct current electricity into the alternating current electricity used on land.

More information can be found on the project website: www.viking-link.com. If anyone has any questions they can contact the project team on 0800 731 0561 or email vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk.

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

Interconnectors:

To meet rising energy demands, National Grid is increasingly looking to join the UK's electricity transmission system to other countries' electricity networks via interconnectors. Links with France, known as IFA (Interconnexion France Angleterre), and the Netherlands, known as BritNed, are in operation. In addition, links with Belgium, known as Nemo Link, and with Norway, known as North Sea Link, are under construction. A second link with France, called IFA2, is in development.

An interconnector allows countries to exchange power, helping to ensure safe, secure and affordable energy supplies.

An interconnector is made up of two converter stations – one in each country –connected by cables. Converter stations convert electricity between Alternating Current (AC) and Direct Current (DC). AC is used on land, to power our homes, businesses and services, while DC is used for sending electricity along the high voltage subsea cables.

Viking Link is a proposed 1400 Mega Watt, high voltage DC electricity link between the British and Danish electricity transmission networks, connecting at Bicker Fen substation in Lincolnshire and Revsing in Denmark. The project will involve building a converter station in each country and installing subsea and underground cables between the two converter stations. Underground cables would then take power from the converter stations to electricity substations in each country, from where the electricity can be transmitted to homes and businesses across each country.

The Viking Link interconnector project is being jointly developed by National Grid Viking Link Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of National Grid Group, and Energinet.dk, which owns, operates and develops the Danish electricity and gas transmission systems.

National Grid Viking Link Limited is legally separate from other companies within National Grid. This is enforced by the energy regulator Ofgem.

National Grid Viking Link Limited Ltd is a separate legal entity to National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET). NGET is a separate company responsible for the works to connect the interconnector project to the existing national grid; by law the grid connection works must be kept separate from the interconnector and one company cannot develop both.

For the purposes of connecting to the existing electricity network, National Grid Viking Link Ltd is a customer of NGET. National Grid Viking Link Ltd does not get preferential treatment.

Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.

- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news