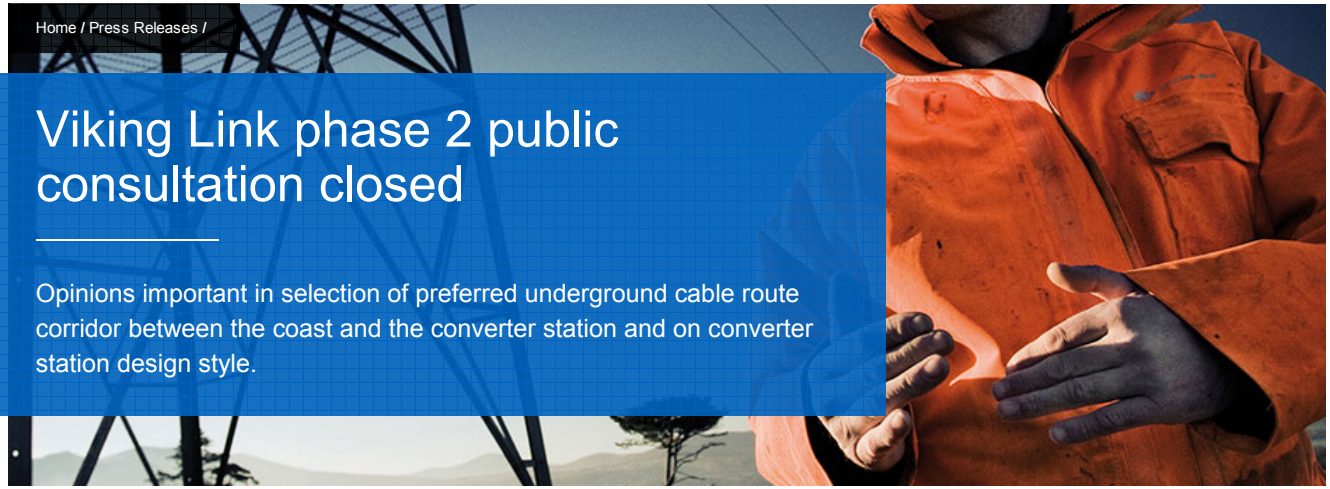

Viking Link phase 2 public consultation closed

Opinions important in selection of preferred underground cable route corridor between the coast and the converter station and on converter station design style.

17 Oct 2016

The team behind the Viking Link interconnector project thanks everybody for giving their views on the latest project proposals.

Over the last six weeks, National Grid Viking Link Limited (NGVL) have been seeking views on potential underground cable routes that will link the coastal landfall at Boy Grift near Sandilands on the Lincolnshire coast with the preferred converter station site at North Ing Drove near to the Bicker Fen 400 kV substation. In addition views have been sought on design options for the converter station which is an integral part of the Viking Link project.

Consultation closed on 14 October and the project team will now consider all of the feedback received as they begin developing a specific route for the underground cables and design style for the converter station.

Oliver Wood, National Grid Viking Link Project Director, said: “Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to give us their views. We have had lots of useful and informative feedback which will be invaluable as we begin to develop a detailed design for the project.

“Once we have identified a specific cable route we will share it with local people before we apply for planning permission from the local authorities next year.”

“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. Achieving these goals will require new equipment and we want to work with local communities to find the best solution for everyone.”

Viking Link is a project that will link the electricity systems of Great Britain and Denmark, enabling power to be imported and exported between the two countries. 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.

Following public consultation in the spring, NGVL announced a preferred coastal landing point for the cables, at Boy Grift near to the Sandilands Golf Course. The team also confirmed a preferred site for the converter station, at North Ing Drove, near Bicker Fen.

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 in Lincolnshire and building a converter station in the Bicker Fen area to change the direct current electricity into the alternating current electricity used in our homes and businesses.

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 GB 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 the National Grid Group.
National Grid Viking Link Limited 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. This is enforced by the energy regulator Ofgem.

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

National Grid undertakes no obligation to update any of the information contained in this release, which speaks only as at the date of this release, unless required by law or regulation.

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