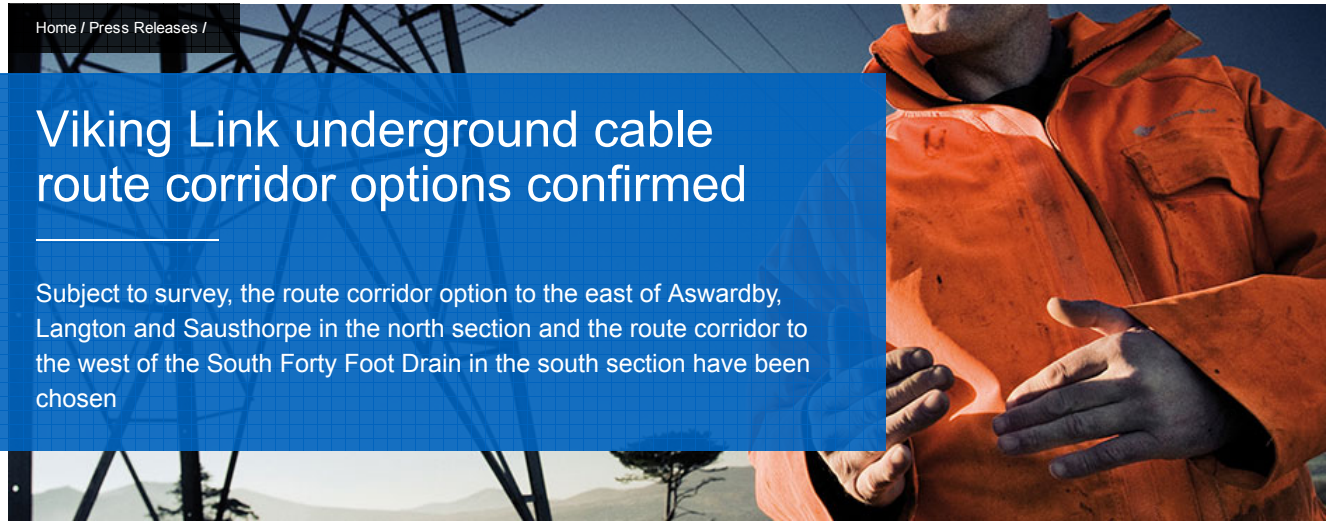

Viking Link underground cable route corridor options confirmed

Subject to survey, the route corridor option to the east of Aswardby, Langton and Sausthorpe in the north section and the route corridor to the west of the South Forty Foot Drain in the south section have been chosen

15 Mar 2017

Following a series of investigations and assessments, the National Grid Viking Link (NGVL) project team has confirmed the preferred route corridor options for two sections of the underground cable route corridor, known as the purple route corridor.

Subject to survey, the north section to the east of Aswardby, Langton and Sausthorpe and the south section to the west of the South Forty Foot Drain have been confirmed as the preferred route options for the direct current (DC) cables.

In the south section, there is an opportunity to adjust the route corridor. This adjustment helps to shorten the length of the route; reduces the land take required during construction and provides a better location to cross the South Forty Foot Drain.

In addition to identifying the most appropriate route corridor options, the corridor of interest has been narrowed down from 1 kilometre to 200 metres wide. Assessments are ongoing to identify an alignment within this reduced corridor as well as suitable access points to the highway network and locations for temporary construction areas.

Oliver Wood, National Grid Viking Link Project Director, said: “In December 2016, we confirmed the purple route corridor as the preferred cable route corridor for the pair of underground DC electricity cables and an optional smaller fibre optic cable between the preferred landfall site at Boygrift, East Lindsey and the preferred converter station site at North Ing Drove, South Holland.

“At the time, we felt we needed to carry out further surveys and assessments before we could confirm the preferred options for two sections to the north and south ends of the purple corridor.

“These east and west route corridor options take into account the feedback we received from local communities as well as other stakeholders during our Phase 2 consultation held last year. It also considers factors such as access to existing road networks, engineering and technical requirements. At this stage, we believe these options will help to minimise any impact on the area.”

The project intends to hold a further round of public information drop-in events to share its’ final proposals with local communities before submitting its planning applications to the local planning authorities in summer 2017.

Viking Link underground cable route corridor options confirmed

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

More detailed information on why we selected the purple cable route corridor is set out in our UK Onshore Scheme Preferred Route Corridor Report.

For additional maps or further information about the project, please contact the project team by emailing vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk or by calling on Freephone 0800 731 0561 between 0900 and 1730, Mondays to Fridays (except bank holidays). An answer phone is available outside of these times to leave a message. Any messages left will be picked up on the next available working day.

Viking Link
Viking Link is a proposed high voltage direct current (DC) electricity link connecting the electricity systems of Denmark and Great Britain and will run between Bicker Fen, in Lincolnshire, and Revsing, Southern Jutland in Denmark. The project is being developed in co-operation between National Grid Viking Link (NGVL) and Energinet.dk, the Danish electricity transmission system operator.
The interconnector will help provide our country with a secure supply of affordable electricity and help the move towards more renewable and low carbon sources of energy.
It would involve laying a pair of high voltage, DC cables, and each approximately 15 centimetres (6 inches) in diameter, between a converter station in each country. The converter stations will change the electricity between direct current and alternating current used in our homes and businesses.

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 (NGVL), a wholly owned subsidiary of National Grid Group, and Energinet.dk, which owns, operates and develops the Danish electricity and gas transmission systems.
NGVL is legally separate from other companies within the National Grid Group.
NGVL is a separate legal entity to National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET). NGET holds the licence to own and operate the electricity transmission network . 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.