The Great Grid Upgrade

Sea Link

Community update

May 2025



Introduction

Welcome to our latest newsletter on Sea Link, National Grid's proposal to reinforce the electricity network between Kent and Suffolk through a new, primarily offshore, cable link.

In this newsletter, you can read about:

- Sea Link application for development consent submitted
- how you can take part in the Examination of our application
- the DCO process.

What is Sea Link?

Sea Link is a proposal to strengthen the electricity network between Kent and Suffolk so that we can connect new renewable and low-carbon electricity to homes and businesses across the country.

Up to two million homes could be powered through the power carried by Sea Link, which would help to boost the UK's energy security by reducing our dependence on imported gas.

Sea Link is part of **The Great Grid Upgrade**, the largest overhaul of the electricity grid in generations.

Sea Link application for development consent submitted

On 27 March, National Grid submitted its application for development consent for Sea Link to the Planning Inspectorate. The submission followed multiple rounds of public consultation on the project between 2022 and 2024, where local communities in Kent and Suffolk provided helpful feedback on the proposals.

Following this, the Planning Inspectorate carried out an initial review of the application to check it meets the requirements to continue through the application process. The Planning Inspectorate has accepted our application, meaning it has enough detail for them to be able to accept and examine it.

What happens next and how to take part

Now our application is accepted, an independent panel of experts will intensively scrutinise our proposals by reviewing our application documents and all representations of support or objection received, and by holding public hearings. This is known as the project's Examination period.

Anyone who is interested can register to take part in the Examination and will have the opportunity to make either verbal or written representations about our plans.

How to participate

To have your say in the planning process, you will need to register as an Interested Party on the Planning Inspectorate's website here, where more information about the project and what happens next is also available. **Registration closes on 23 June 2025**.

Find out more

Visit our website at <u>nationalgrid.com/sealink</u> to find out more about our proposals.

You can also contact us at **contact@sealink.nationalgrid.com**, or by calling **0808 134 9569**.

