

Community newsletter

Stage 2 consultation, June 2025

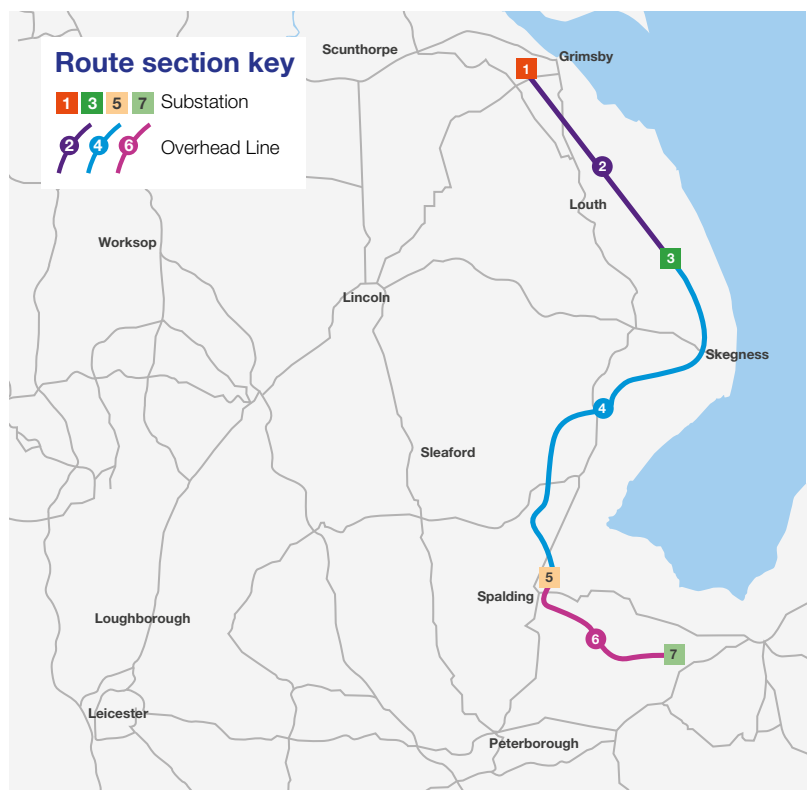
National Grid is bringing forward updated proposals for a new high-voltage electricity transmission line between a new substation at Grimsby West in North East Lincolnshire and a new substation in the Walpole area, in Norfolk.

Grimsby to Walpole is needed as the existing network does not have enough capacity to securely and reliably connect and transport new sources of more affordable home-grown energy to homes and businesses.

These proposals form part of The Great Grid Upgrade, the largest overhaul of the grid in generations. It will help prepare the grid for increasing electricity demand and help deliver greater energy security for Britain.

We will be seeking planning permission for Grimsby to Walpole via an application to the Planning Inspectorate for a development consent order (DCO) and we want to hear your views before finalising our proposals.

This newsletter includes a summary of our proposals, details of how you can get involved in the consultation and where more information can be found.



Take part in the public consultation

In 2024, we held our Stage 1 consultation on the early proposals for Grimsby to Walpole (see our Stage 1 Consultation Feedback Report on the Project website for more information).

This Stage 2 consultation will run for eight weeks, from 12 noon Wednesday 11 June 2025 to 11:59pm Wednesday 6 August 2025 and we encourage you to share your views on our updated proposals.



Our proposals

Grimsby to Walpole would transport enough home-grown power to millions of homes across the North, Midlands, and South of England, playing an important role in building a secure and resilient future energy system.

We are now seeking your feedback on our detailed proposals for Grimsby to Walpole. This includes infrastructure located in the districts of North East Lincolnshire, East Lindsey, Boston, South Holland, Fenland, and King's Lynn and West Norfolk.

Our proposals:

- approximately 140 km of new 400 kV overhead transmission line
- a new 400 kV substation to be built in the vicinity of the existing Grimsby West 400 kV Substation in North East Lincolnshire (to be referred to as New Grimsby West Substation). The existing substation would be decommissioned, in all, or part. The extent of decommissioning will be determined and reported in the Environmental Statement
- two new 400 kV Lincolnshire Connection substations located south-west of Mablethorpe in East Lindsey District (to be referred to as Lincolnshire Connection Substation A and Lincolnshire Connection Substation B)
- up to two new 400 kV substations in the vicinity of the Spalding Tee-Point in South Holland District (to be referred to as Weston Marsh Substation A and Weston Marsh Substation B)
- a new 400 kV substation in proximity to the existing Walpole Substation west of the village of Walpole St Andrew and north of the town of Wisbech, in King's Lynn and West Norfolk District (to be referred to as Walpole B Substation)
- replacement of short sections of existing 400 kV overhead line and local changes to the lower voltage distribution networks to facilitate the construction of the new overhead line and substations
- other required works, including temporary and permanent diversions for existing overhead line routes, temporary access roads, highway works, and various work sites. This encompasses temporary works compounds (areas designated for storage and preparation), work sites (locations where construction activities take place), and ancillary works (additional supportive structures necessary for the main construction activities)
- use of land for mitigation and enhancement of the environment, delivering an overall biodiversity net gain (BNG). BNG is a way to ensure that the environment is left in a better state after construction than it was before the work started. This includes working with regional and local partners to identify BNG opportunities in parallel with the development of the Project design, as well as accommodating various temporary construction activities such as working areas for construction equipment and machinery, site offices, storage, accesses, bellmouths (vehicle accesses), haul roads, watercourse crossings, and the diversion of public rights of way.



Our consultation

During our Stage 2 consultation, we are seeking views on our updated proposals, including the location of our proposed infrastructure within draft order limits.

Draft order limits outline the area within which new infrastructure and temporary construction works would be located. This includes areas where temporary and permanent works to the highways would be needed to facilitate the construction of the Project. This means there are some areas within the draft order limits that are located away from the main Project area. The locations of the proposed infrastructure and the draft order limits (in full and in sections) are shown on the map in this newsletter.

We welcome your feedback on all aspects of our proposals.

The DCO process

Grimsby to Walpole is a Project of national significance. These types of projects require a special type of planning permission in order to be built, known as a development consent order (DCO).

Consultation is an important part of the DCO process as it allows everyone to comment on the proposals. Feedback from our consultations – along with the outcome of technical assessments and environmental surveys – helps us to develop our proposals before submitting a DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate.

The Planning Inspectorate (on behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero) will examine our application and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State, who will decide whether to grant consent for the construction and operation of Grimsby to Walpole.





How to find out more

Our Stage 2 consultation will run for eight weeks from 12 noon on Wednesday 11 June 2025 to 11:59pm on Wednesday 6 August 2025. This consultation is open to anyone interested in our proposals.

You can take part in the consultation by:

- attending an in-person public information event. Come along to one of our 12 events planned at locations across the route that are outlined in this newsletter
- attending a webinar by registering on our Project website or contacting us for more information
- requesting or picking up printed materials. Many are available for free, however some technical documents may be subject to a printing charge
- visiting our website or getting in touch. All the latest consultation materials can be found at nationalgrid.com/g-w. You can also contact us by telephone **0808 258 4395** (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) or by email contact@g-w.nationalgrid.com

The deadline for providing feedback is 11:59pm on Wednesday 6 August 2025.

More detailed information on the Project is available in the Stage 2 consultation document, which is on the Project website and will be available at our public events.

Technical information explaining the potential effects of our proposals on the environment, along with the measures we would take to mitigate against any impacts, can be found in the Preliminary environmental information report (PEIR).

All documents can be found on the Project website and in hard copy at the public information events, local information points or on request. If you require documents in a different format or language, please contact us.

How to submit your feedback

Complete an online Feedback form – which is available on our website at nationalgrid.com/g-w, or by scanning the QR code



Email us your comments – you can submit your feedback via email to:

Write to us – you can download and print a paper copy of the Feedback form from our website. Paper copies of the Feedback form are also available at public information events and at local information points. Completed paper Feedback forms or letters can be posted to **Freepost G TO W** (no stamp required).

Public information events and webinars

We are holding in-person public information events, which will include information about our proposals and copies of maps and technical documents. Members of the project team will be available to explain our proposals and answer your questions.

There is no need to register; you can turn up on the day.

We are also hosting five online webinar sessions. These sessions offer an opportunity for those who do not wish or cannot travel to our in-person events to get involved in the consultation. Two of these webinars will offer a general overview of the Project, while the other three will focus on specific Route sections. For more information on how to sign up, please visit our website, call us at **0808 258 4395**, or email us at **contact@g-w.nationalgrid.com**.

Public information events

Date and time	Venue
Wednesday 18 June, 2–7pm	Burgh le Marsh Village Hall , Jacksons Lane, Burgh le Marsh, Skegness, PE24 5LA
Friday 20 June, 1–7pm	London Road Pavilion , London Road, Louth, LN11 9QP
Tuesday 24 June, 1–7pm	Holton le Clay Village Hall , Pinfold Lane, Holton-le-Clay, Grimsby, DN36 5DL
Wednesday 25 June, 1–7pm	Alvingham Village Community Hall , 352 Yarburgh Road, Alvingham, Louth, LN11 0QG
Friday 27 June, 1–7pm	Huttoft Village Hall , Sutton Road, Alford, LN13 9RG
Saturday 28 June, 11am–4pm	Alford Corn Exchange , 9 Market Place, Alford, LN13 9EB
Wednesday 2 July, 1–7pm	Eastville, Midville and New Leake Village Hall , Station Road, Boston, PE22 8LS
Tuesday 8 July, 1–7pm	Hubberts Bridge Community Centre , Langrick Road, Boston, PE20 3SG
Thursday 10 July, 1–7pm	Weston Village Hall* , Small Drove, Weston, Spalding, PE12 6HU
Wednesday 16 July, 1–7pm	Humber Royal Hotel , Little Coates Road, Grimsby, DN34 4LX
Friday 18 July, 1–7pm	Walpole Community Centre , Summer Close, Wisbech, PE14 7JW
Saturday 19 July, 11am–4pm	Tydd St Giles Community Centre , Broad Drove E, Wisbech, PE13 5LN

*Joint event with National Grid's Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire project

Webinars

Date and time	Proposed session
Monday 23 June, 6:30–7:30pm	General – overview of proposals
Thursday 26 June 2025, 6:30–7:30pm	Route sections 5, 6 and 7 (Weston to Walpole)
Monday 30 June 2025, 6:30–7:30pm	Route sections 1 and 2 (Grimsby to near Alford)
Monday 14 July 2025, 6:30–7:30pm	Route sections 3 and 4 (near Alford to Weston)
Monday 21 July 2025, 2–3pm	General - overview of proposals

Local information points

Information about Grimsby to Walpole is available to view and collect from the following locations from 11 June 2025.

Paper copies of key consultation materials (the Stage 2 consultation document, Community newsletter, and Feedback form) are available to take away at a number of local information points close to the proposed route alignment during the consultation period. Reference copies of the Statement of community consultation, Strategic options report, Design development report and Non-technical summary of the Preliminary environmental information report (PEIR) are also available to view at these locations, as well as USB sticks containing the PEIR.

Please check with the relevant venue for the most up-to-date opening times.

Public information points	Opening times
Cleethorpes Library Alexandra Rd, Cleethorpes, DN35 8LG	Monday to Thursday – 8:30am–5:30pm Friday – Closed Saturday – 9am–1pm Sunday – Closed
Waltham Library High Street, Waltham, Grimsby DN37 0LL	Monday – Closed Tuesday to Friday – 8:30am–12:30pm and 1:30–5:30pm Saturday – 9am–1pm Sunday – Closed
Louth Library Northgate, Louth LN11 0LY	Monday, Wednesday and Friday – 9am–5pm Tuesday – 9am–6pm Thursday – 9am–2pm Saturday – 9am–4pm Sunday – Closed
Burgh le Marsh Library and Community Hub Tinkers Green, Jacksons Lane, Burgh le Marsh, Skegness PE24 5LA	Monday, Wednesday and Friday – Closed Tuesday – 2–4pm Thursday and Saturday – 10am–1pm Sunday – Closed
Skegness Library 23 Roman Bank, Skegness PE25 2SA	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday – 9am–5pm Thursday – 9am–6pm Saturday – 9am–1pm Sunday – Closed
Boston Library County Hall (Bank Street entrance), Boston PE21 6DY	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday – 9am–5pm Thursday – 9am–6pm Saturday – 9am–4pm Sunday – Closed
Spalding Library Victoria Street, Spalding PE11 1EA	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday – 9am–5pm Thursday – 9am–6pm Saturday – 9am–1pm Sunday – Closed
Holbeach Community Library Co-Op Store, 5 Fleet Street, Holbeach, Spalding PE12 7AX	Monday to Friday – 9am–5pm Saturday – 9am–noon Sunday – Closed.
Long Sutton Library Trafalgar Square, Long Sutton, Spalding PE12 9HB	Monday and Thursday – 2–6pm Tuesday and Friday – 10am–5pm Wednesday – Closed Saturday – 10am–1pm Sunday – Closed
Wisbech Library Ely Place, Wisbech PE13 1EU	Monday – 9:30am–1pm Tuesday – 9:30am–7pm Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – 9:30am–5pm Saturday – 9:30am–4pm Sunday – Closed
King's Lynn Library London Road, King's Lynn PE30 5EZ	Monday to Friday - 8am–7pm Saturday - 8am–4pm Sunday - 10am–4pm
Sutton Bridge Community Library Curlew Centre, Bridge Rd, Sutton Bridge, Spalding PE12 9SA	Monday, Friday and Saturday – 10am–12pm Wednesday – 2–4pm Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday - Closed
Walpole Community Centre Summer Close, Wisbech, PE14 7JW	Contact venue for opening times [only open for events]

Frequently asked questions

How will the Project impact farmland?

For areas where there is an overhead line, it is mostly only the land directly under each pylon that is affected. A single pylon will occupy just a small area of land, so most normal agricultural practices are still viable along the route. For the construction and operation of substations, inevitably there will need to be the purchase of land for their construction and operation. We are working with landowners, including farmers, to mitigate impacts and ensure we understand and address the concerns of individuals and businesses where possible.

How will you manage visual impacts?

We aim to manage impacts on the landscape and views as much as possible, and respect the special characteristics of designated areas like the Lincolnshire Wolds National Landscape (formerly AONB). The updated proposed route is sensitive to the landscape and proposes low-height pylons between Barnoldby le Beck and Waithe to minimise impacts.

We have made routeing adjustments and are also considering natural screening with trees and hedges to minimise visual intrusion. We welcome feedback on these proposals to ensure we effectively address community concerns and environmental impacts.



Why do you need to reinforce the network on land, why can't it all go out to sea or underground?

The reasons are technological, environmental and the impact to electricity bills.

An overhead line can carry significantly more power than underground cables. To deliver Grimsby to Walpole's 6 GW of power capacity via underground cables, the Project would require three times more cables than overhead line and would therefore need far more land – mostly agricultural land - for construction. It would require a construction corridor between 40 and 120 metres wide, which would have greater environmental and construction impacts on local farmland and communities, including potential road closures.

During operation, any technical work on underground cables, including repair and replacement, would require excavation works. This would further disrupt local farmland, agricultural practices and communities.

The impacts of maintenance and operation of overhead lines are far less significant. As well as offering environmental and technical advantages, an overhead line is also the most cost effective solution to deliver. Compared to underground and offshore alternatives, which are significantly more expensive and complex to install and maintain, an overhead line helps manage the overall cost of the new infrastructure. This is important because the costs of such projects are ultimately considered by the energy regulator Ofgem when determining the charges paid by everyone in their electricity bills.

We have therefore proposed overhead line because it balances these cost, technical and environmental challenges in order to deliver home-grown, more affordable electricity from Scotland to Lincolnshire, the East Midlands and England.

Contact us

If you have any questions or need help, please contact our team using the details below.

contact@g-w.nationalgrid.com

0808 258 4395

Freepost G TO W (no stamp required)

nationalgrid.com/g-w

Next steps

The feedback we receive at Stage 2 consultation will help us to further refine our proposals for Grimsby to Walpole.

All feedback from this consultation will be carefully considered alongside our ongoing technical and environmental assessments.

The next steps after Stage 2 consultation are:

- 1. Engagement** - we will continue discussions with landowners, local elected representatives, local authorities, and other stakeholders
- 2. Technical work** - further technical studies and surveys will be conducted in the Project area
- 3. Updates** - regular updates will be provided on the Project website and by email to those who have registered to be kept informed
- 4. Proposal refinement** - we will further refine our proposals based on feedback and findings from technical studies
- 5. Consultation** - following further design work, detailed proposals for the Weston Marsh substations will be developed and presented at a future consultation
- 6. DCO application** - we will prepare our application for a DCO, which will include a Consultation Report detailing how feedback has been incorporated.

If approved, construction is expected to start in 2029, with Grimsby to Walpole becoming operational by 2033.

Indicative timeline:



2023:
Project launch



18 January to 13 March 2024:
Stage 1 consultation



June 2025 to August 2025:
Stage 2 consultation



Spring 2026:
Localised consultation at Weston Marsh



2027:
DCO application submission



2027 and 2028:
DCO examination and decision



2029:
Start of construction



From 2033:
Operational