

Stage 1 consultation community newsletter

June 2025

National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) owns and operates the high voltage electricity network in England and Wales. We are now introducing our proposals for Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire – a new 400,000 volt (400 kV) overhead line between Weston Marsh in Lincolnshire and East Leicestershire.

The project will also involve upgrading (reconductoring) approximately 55 km of existing overhead line from one of the proposed new substations near Wartnaby to the existing Grendon substation, east of Northampton.

Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire would play an important role in building a more secure and resilient energy system by reliably transporting home-grown electricity generated both onshore and offshore to homes and businesses.

It would carry enough home-grown electricity for up to six million homes and is a key project in The Great Grid Upgrade, which will help deliver energy security for Britain.

We will be seeking planning consent for Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire via an application to the Planning Inspectorate for a Development Consent Order (DCO).

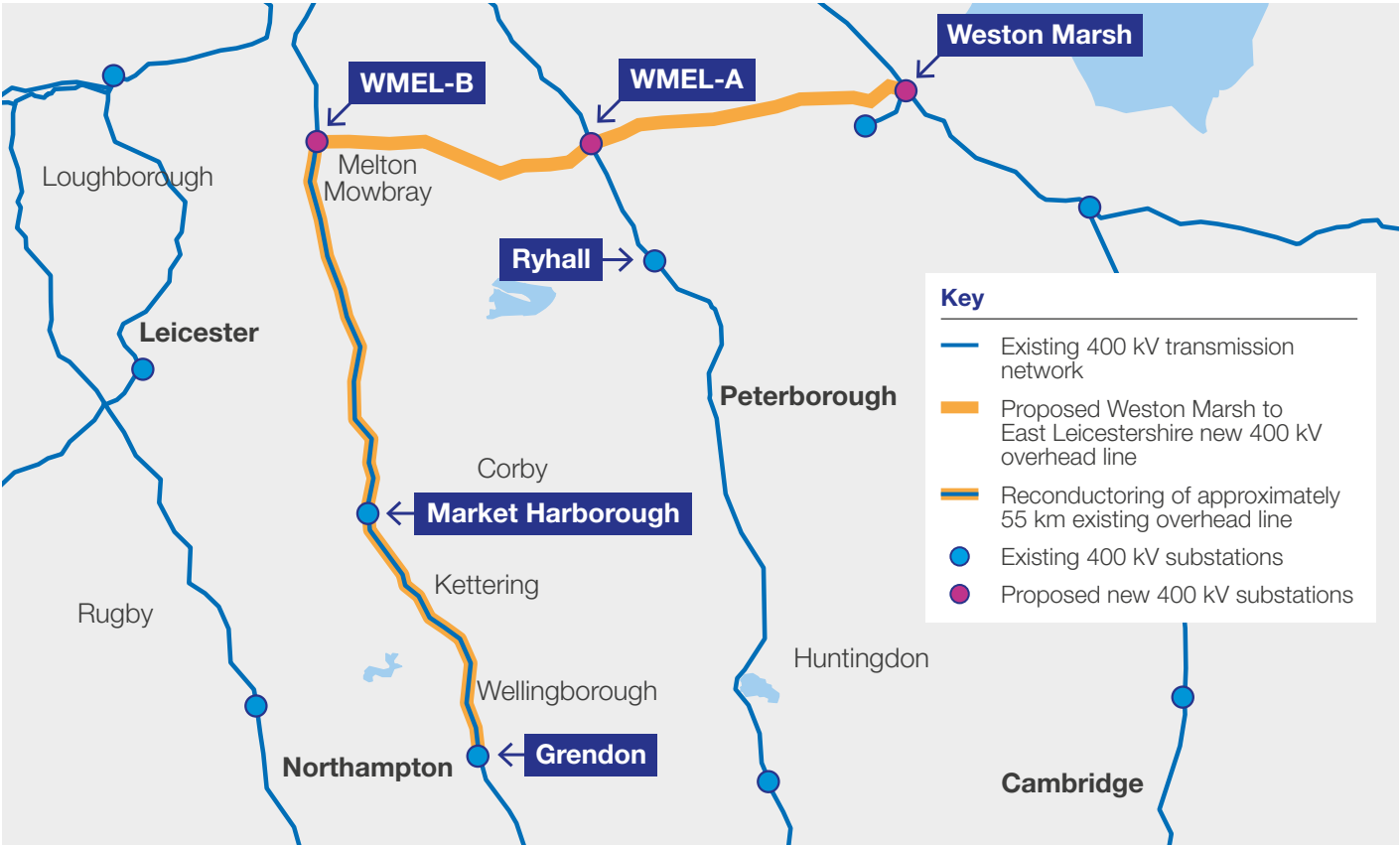
Please read on for more information and to find out how you can get involved in our public consultation on these proposals.

Taking part in our consultation

We will hold at least two stages of public consultation before we submit the application for a DCO to construct and operate Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire.

Stage 1 consultation will open at 12:00 noon on **Wednesday 11 June** and close at 11:59pm on **Wednesday 6 August 2025.**

Our proposals



Demand for electricity in the UK is forecast to increase, and more home-grown electricity is being generated off the coast of Scotland and England.

We need to make sure the Grid has the capacity to securely connect and transport these new sources of energy to homes and businesses where it is needed in Lincolnshire, the wider East Midlands and across the country.

Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire would transport enough clean, home-grown energy to power up to six million homes, playing an important role in building a more secure and resilient future energy system.

During Stage 1 consultation, we are seeking views on our proposals for:

- approximately 60 km of new 400 kV overhead line from Weston Marsh 400 kV substation(s) in Lincolnshire to East Leicestershire;
- two new proposed substations, one near Corby Glen in Lincolnshire (known as WMEL-A) and one near Wartnaby in Leicestershire (known as WMEL-B); and
- upgrading (reconductoring) approximately 55 km of existing 400 kV overhead line from the proposed new substation near Wartnaby to the existing Grendon substation, east of Northampton.

Reconductoring

Reconductoring involves replacing pylon fittings and upgrading the conductors (the wires strung between pylons). It increases the amount of electricity that can be transmitted over the existing lines by using more efficient conductors that generally operate at higher temperatures and carry more power.

Our proposals for the new overhead line and the reconductoring of the existing overhead line are divided into five route sections each. These are based on areas of the preferred corridor and nearby geographical locations.

We are also interested in hearing from you about:

- any concerns or questions you might have about our proposals, or any local factors we should consider;
- local features that are important to you, including any relevant mitigation you would like to see; and
- whether there is anything else we should consider as we develop our proposals further.

Your feedback is important in helping us to develop and refine our plans and we will record and consider all responses we receive.

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is a way to ensure that the environment is left in a better state after construction than it was before the work started.

From mid 2026, it is due to be made mandatory for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects like


Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire to achieve 10% BNG, this means the project would result in more or better quality natural habitat than there was before development. National Grid will also provide wider environmental and social benefits. This may be achieved through habitat creation and/or enhancement.





Our consultation

Stage 1 consultation will run for eight weeks from 12 noon on **Wednesday 11 June** until 11:59pm on **Wednesday 6 August 2025**. It is open to anyone with an interest in our proposals.

You can respond to the consultation in several ways:

- 

Online
You can give your feedback by completing our online feedback form, available at nationalgrid.com/wmel
- 

Email
You can send written feedback via email to ContactWMEL@nationalgrid.com
- 

Paper feedback form
You can download and print a copy of our feedback form from our website and post it back to us at **FREEPOST WM TO EL** (no stamp or other address details needed). You can also pick up a paper feedback form from any of the public information events or information points. Alternatively, you can request a consultation pack (newsletter, feedback form and freepost envelope) to be sent to you in the post.



Important – to avoid any misinterpretation and to ensure we have an accurate record of what we have received, we can only accept written feedback via the methods above. You are still welcome to use our community information line (**0800 138 9191**) or speak to us at our events for information on the project.


The DCO process


Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire is a project of national significance. These types of projects require a special type of planning consent in order to be built, known as a Development Consent Order (DCO).


Consultation is an important part of the process, your feedback – along with the outcome of technical assessments and environmental surveys – helps us to develop our proposals before submitting a DCO application.

Find out more

We encourage you to provide feedback after reviewing our consultation documents, including our Stage 1 Consultation Document, which explains our proposals in more detail. You can also find out more information by:

- 

Attending a public information event
Come to one of our events to view our proposals, speak to members of the project team and read our consultation materials.
- 

Attending a webinar
We are holding five online webinar sessions where you can learn more about our proposals. Two of the webinars will provide a general overview of our proposals, while the remaining three webinars will focus on different geographic sections of the project (two on the new overhead line between Weston Marsh and East Leicestershire and one on the upgrading (reconductoring) between East Leicestershire and Grendon).
- 

Visiting our project website
nationalgrid.com/wmel, where you will find all of our consultation materials, including maps, technical documents, and our feedback form.

Please get in touch if you would like a paper copy of the documents.

Public information events

Throughout the consultation we are holding a series of face-to-face events to provide more information on our proposals and answer your questions.

Venue	Time and date
Corby Glen Village Hall (Ron Dawson Memorial Hall), Swineshead Road, Corby Glen, Grantham, NG33 4NU	Saturday 21 June 2025 2–7pm
Surfleet Village Hall , Glen Gardens, Station Road, Surfleet, Spalding, PE11 4BW	Thursday 26 June 2025 11am–5pm
Great Doddington Memorial Hall , High Street, Great Doddington, Wellingborough, NN29 7TQ	Friday 27 June 2025 1–7pm
Morton Village Hall , 11 High Street, Morton, Lincolnshire, PE10 0NR	Saturday 28 June 2025 11am–4pm
Braybrooke Village Hall , Griffin Road, Braybrooke, Market Harborough, LE16 8LH	Thursday 3 July 2025 2–7pm
South Witham Village Hall , Water Lane, South Witham, Grantham, NG33 5PH	Friday 4 July 2025 1–7pm
Ab Kettleby Community Hall (within Ab Kettleby School) , Wartnaby Road, Ab Kettleby, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE14 3JJ	Saturday 5 July 2025 11am–4pm
Weston Village Hall , Small Drove, Weston, Spalding, PE12 6HU *	Thursday 10 July 2025 1–7pm

*Joint face-to-face public information event with Grimsby to Walpole

These are open, drop-in events which everyone is welcome to attend. You do not need to book.

Online webinars

At our online webinar sessions, we will present details of our proposals, followed by a question-and-answer session.

Our webinars are location themed. You can find the most relevant section to you by looking at the project map enclosed with this newsletter or viewing the interactive map on our website. Details on how to sign up for a webinar are available on the project website, by contacting us on **0800 138 9191** or by emailing ContactWMEL@nationalgrid.com.

Webinar name	Date	Time
General – overview of proposals	Wednesday 18 June 2025	1–2pm
Sections 1, 2 & 3	Tuesday 15 July 2025	6:30–7:30pm
Sections 4 & 5	Thursday 17 July 2025	6:30–7:30pm
Reconductoring (all sections)	Monday 21 July 2025	6:30–7:30pm
General – overview of proposals	Thursday 24 July 2025	6:30–7:30pm

Local information points

Paper copies of the Community Newsletter, Stage 1 Consultation Document, Feedback Form, Freepost envelopes and reference copies of the Corridor Preliminary Routeing and Siting Study (CPRSS) and Strategic Options Report (SOR) are available to collect from the locations listed below.

Information point	Address	Opening times	
Spalding Library	Victoria Street, Spalding, PE11 1EA	Monday – Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	9am–5pm 9am–6pm 9am–5pm 9am–1pm CLOSED
South Kesteven Community Point / Bourne Library	Corn Exchange, 3 Abbey Road, Bourne, PE10 9EF	Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	9am–5pm CLOSED 9am–6pm CLOSED 9am–1pm 9am–1pm CLOSED
Stamford Library	30 High Street, Stamford, PE9 2BB	Monday – Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	9am–5pm 9am–6pm 9am–5pm 9am–4pm CLOSED
Grantham Library	Newton Street, Grantham, NG31 6EE	Monday – Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	9am–5pm 9am–6pm 9am–5pm 9am–4pm CLOSED

South Witham Village Hall	Water Lane, South Witham, Grantham, NG33 5PH	Monday – Friday Saturday Sunday	6:30am–7pm 7:30am–7pm 8am–7pm
Corby Library	The Cube, George Street, Corby, NN17 1QG	Monday – Friday Saturday Sunday	9am–6pm 9am–5pm CLOSED
North Northamptonshire Council Office	Tithe Barn, Tithe Barn Road, Wellingborough, NN8 1BZ	By appointment only	
Kettering Library	Sheep Street, Kettering, NN16 0AY	Monday – Friday Saturday Sunday	9am–6pm 9am–5pm CLOSED
West Northamptonshire Council office *This office will be closing in July. From July documents can be found at their new location in One Angel Square.	The Guildhall, St Giles Street, Northampton, NN1 1DE	Monday – Friday Saturday – Sunday	9am–5pm CLOSED
Melton Mowbray Library	Wilton Road, Melton Mowbray, LE13 0UJ	Monday – Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	10am–6pm CLOSED 10am–6pm 10am–4pm CLOSED
Oakham Library	Catmose Street, Oakham, LE15 6HW	Monday – Friday Saturday Sunday	9am–5pm 9am–1pm CLOSED

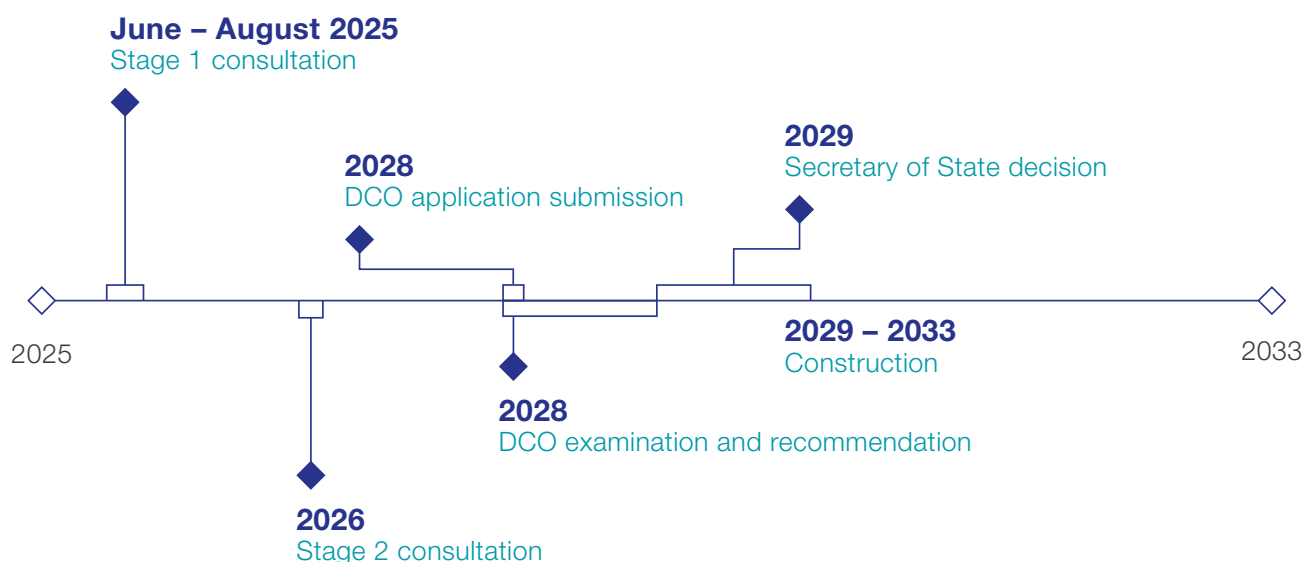
Local information point opening hours can be subject to change. Please check with the relevant venue for the most up to date opening hours.

Consultation documents are also available to download from our website.

Next steps

The feedback we receive at Stage 1 consultation will help us to further develop our proposals for Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire.

All feedback we receive as part of this consultation will be carefully considered, alongside the outputs of technical and environmental assessments, as we further develop our proposals. An indicative project timeline can be found below.



Information for landowners

If you feel your land may be affected by these proposals, please contact the Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire Lands Team by calling **0800 567 7600** or by emailing WMEL@savills.com. Alternatively, you can write to **Freepost WMEL Land** (no stamp or other address details needed).

Contact us

If you would like to contact the team, please get in touch.

0800 138 9191

(Lines are open Monday to Friday, 9am–5:30pm). Please note, we do not accept feedback over the phone. Please complete a feedback form or write to us.

ContactWMEL@nationalgrid.com

FREEPOST WM TO EL

(no stamp or further address details are required)

