

Community Update

February 2026

Eastern Green Link 5 (EGL 5) is a high voltage electricity link which will run mostly undersea between Scotland and England. In 2025 we introduced our early proposals for EGL 5 and held our first stage of public consultation, which ran for six weeks from 13 May to 23 June.

About the Project

EGL 5's subsea cables would run from Scotland and make landfall on the Lincolnshire coastline at Anderby Creek. The onshore cables would run to a single proposed converter station located either to the north-east of Bilsby or to the north-west of Huttoft, in East Lindsey. From there, the cables would then connect into the electricity network.

EGL 5 is a key part of The Great Grid Upgrade, the largest overhaul of the electricity grid in generations. When complete, the project would connect enough home-grown energy to power up to two million homes and businesses, boosting the nation's energy security.

We are still at an early stage in developing the EGL 5 project. We will consult again on more detailed proposals before we finalise our plans and apply to the Planning Inspectorate for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the English onshore and marine elements.

Our Stage 1 consultation

We would like to thank everyone who took the time to contact us, attend our public consultation events and provide feedback at our first stage of consultation in summer 2025.

You can see all the materials we published during our Stage 1 consultation on the *Document library* page on our website: nationalgrid.com/egl5.

We publicised our consultation locally and received hundreds of responses from members of the public, parish councils, and local and national organisations.

Our Stage 1 consultation is now closed. We are considering all feedback we received as we develop more detailed proposals. We'll be sharing these proposals at our Stage 2 consultation later this year.

A consultation report will be submitted with our DCO application which will set out the feedback received and how we have addressed it.

Stage 1 consultation in numbers



3,238 newsletters sent to addresses within 1 km of our proposals.



3,471 people visited our website over the consultation period.



229 people attended our consultation events.



355 responses to the consultation received.

What you told us

We are still in the process of reviewing consultation feedback, however some of the emerging key themes include:



Wildlife: You were interested about the impact of our proposals on local wildlife and animals. We want to reassure you that we carry out in-depth environmental surveys and work with biodiversity specialists to avoid or minimise permanent or long-lasting harm to the local environment.



Landscape and visual: Some feedback showed that residents were concerned about the visual impact of the proposed converter station. We have been looking at how we can address that through the design of the converter station and landscaping. We will present more information about that at the next stage of consultation.



Cumulative impact: You expressed concerns about the impact of different projects being proposed in the Lincolnshire area around the same time. We are coordinating closely with other National Grid projects in the area, and other developers, to minimise impacts on local communities and the environment.



Community benefit: Thank you to those of you who took the time to respond to our community benefit survey during our Stage 1 consultation. Your feedback is helping us to understand how community benefit funds can deliver long-lasting impact. You can find out more in this newsletter.

Surveys

We are currently carrying out technical and environmental surveys in the areas we have identified as the potential route for the onshore underground cables, and in areas that may have been identified through feedback as potentially sensitive.

These surveys assess the landscape, ecology and cultural heritage aspects of the area, and inform further detailed environmental assessments.

Marine geotechnical surveys are also currently underway between England and Scotland. The surveys will help inform the method of installation and design of the subsea cables.

Surveys will be taking place along and near to the proposed onshore cable route and landowners will be contacted by our Lands team directly.



How we review your feedback

Our team is carefully considering all suggestions for potential changes to the Project as we review Stage 1 consultation feedback. Some of the key factors we consider when doing this include:

- 1

The feasibility of the suggested change – are there engineering, environmental or socioeconomic considerations that impact the viability of the suggested change?
- 2

Planning policy and other guidance – does the suggested change comply with planning policy and other guidance?
- 3

National Grid’s statutory duties – would the change comply with our legal duties which require us to develop proposals that are efficient, coordinated, economical and have regard to preserving amenity.

When we apply for development consent, our consultation report will explain how and whether we have been able to take onboard feedback, including requests to change our proposals. If we could not make certain changes, we will explain why.

Community Benefits

We believe communities should benefit from hosting new transmission infrastructure essential to boosting home grown, cleaner and more affordable power for the country.

Last year, the Government published guidance which will enable us to work with communities to deliver meaningful, long-term, social and economic benefits. We want to understand what is important to you, and where community benefit funds could deliver long-lasting benefits, including through grant schemes and investment in community groups or via regional partnerships.

During our public consultation in 2025, we asked for your thoughts about possible community benefits through a Community Benefit Survey.

We have received 68 Community Benefit Survey responses since the survey launch during Stage 1 consultation.

If you have further thoughts about community benefits, our survey is still open for you to complete. The Community Benefit Survey form is available on our Project website (nationalgrid.com/egl5) or you can contact us using the information on the back page of this newsletter for a printed copy.



Next steps

During last year's Stage 1 public consultation, we shared our early thinking for where new infrastructure could be located. Right now, using the feedback we received at the consultation and our environmental assessments, we are working to refine our proposals with more detail on where the marine and underground cables, and converter station for EGL 5 could be built.

We are committed to developing our plans together with local communities. Over the coming months, we will continue talking to public bodies, such as local councils, businesses and organisations on a range of topics as we refine our proposals.

Second stage of public consultation

This year, we are planning to hold our Stage 2 public consultation, where we will share our updated proposals for EGL 5. We will again invite communities, persons with interest in land, organisations and public bodies to give their feedback.

We will publicise details of the consultation closer to the time, including when the consultation will be open, information on planned events and how to provide your feedback.

Until then, you can still contact our community relations team with any comments and queries. Our contact details can be found below. You can also register for updates on the Project via our website - nationalgrid.com/egl5.



Contact us

Call us on **0800 358 4817** (Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm)

Write to us at **Freepost EGL 5**

Email us at contactegl5@nationalgrid.com

To find out more about EGL 5, you can also visit our Project website at: nationalgrid.com/egl5

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