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Proposed Grid Supply Point Substation

Proposed Consenting Approach

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nationalgrid

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Executive Summary

This Proposed Consenting Approach statement has been prepared to accompany an application by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET) for planning permission under The Town and Country Planning Act (TCPA) 1990 for the proposed development of *a new 400/132 kilovolt* (*kV*) Grid Supply Point (GSP) substation including two supergrid transformers, associated buildings, equipment, and switchgear, a single circuit cable sealing end compound, a new permanent vehicular access to the public highway, associated landscaping (including boundary fencing, an area for Biodiversity Net Gain, and landscape mounding) and drainage. The proposed development will hereafter be referred to as 'the proposed GSP substation'.

In addition to the proposed GSP substation, other associated works would be required, including replacement pylons and underground cables to tie the substation into the existing 400kV and 132kV networks. These associated works, however, fall outside the scope of the submitted planning application as they are permitted development, or subject to discrete consenting regimes. This is detailed in this Proposed Consenting Approach statement which should be read alongside the Planning Statement.

1. Introduction

1.1 **Overview**

- 1.1.1 This Proposed Consenting Approach statement has been prepared to accompany an application by National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) for planning permission under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, for the proposed development of a *new 400/132 kilovolt (kV) Grid Supply Point (GSP) substation including two supergrid transformers, associated buildings, equipment, and switchgear, a single circuit cable sealing end compound, a new permanent vehicular access to the public highway, associated landscaping (including boundary fencing, an area for Biodiversity Net Gain, and landscape mounding) and drainage.*
- 1.1.2 The proposed GSP substation falls within the administrative boundary of Braintree District Council (BDC), within the parishes of Bulmer and Twinstead, located west of the A131.
- 1.1.3 The Proposed Consenting Approach statement seeks to assist the local planning authority, statutory consultees, and other interested parties in understanding the consenting approach underpinning the implementation of the proposed GSP substation.
- 1.1.4 A suite of further works will need to be undertaken to tie the proposed GSP substation into the existing network, for which planning permission from BDC is not required. These works largely comprise electric line works of various types, such as works to existing overhead lines (including pylons), the construction of new downleads off existing overhead lines, and the construction of new underground cables, alongside temporary construction-phase overhead line diversions.
- 1.1.5 Planning permission will not be sought from BDC for these works because, where consent is required, different consenting routes apply. These include the following, where applicable (see Appendices 1 and 2 of the Planning Statement for more details on the consenting legislative framework):
 - Electricity Act 1989, Section 37
 - General Permitted Development Order 2015, Schedule 2, Part 15
 - The Overhead Lines (Exemption) (England and Wales) Regulations 2009
- 1.1.6 The overall consenting approach is set out in the table at 2.1 and the reference number (Column 1) also relates to the Accompanying Works Consenting Plan (AAA_B2B_GSP_Consenting_Plan_Rev0) at Appendix 1.

2. Description of Works & Route to Consent

2.1 **Consenting Table**

2.1.1 The table below details the description of the works required for an operational GSP substation and its corresponding consenting route. For more details on the legislation which underpins this, please refer to Appendices 1 and 2 of the Planning Statement.

Table 2.1: Proposed Consenting Approach

Ref:	Description of Works	Proposed Consenting Route
1.	A new 400/132 kilovolt (kV) Grid Supply Point (GSP) substation including two supergrid transformers, associated buildings, equipment, and switchgear, a single circuit cable sealing end compound, a new permanent vehicular access to the public highway, associated landscaping (including boundary fencing, an area for Biodiversity Net Gain, and landscape mounding) and drainage	Planning permission (pursuant to TCPA 1990) & S278 agreement for bellmouth (pursuant to Highways Act 1980).
2.	Connection into the proposed GSP substation from the existing 400kV pylon in the southeast of the site boundary via downleads and reconfigured cross arms on the pylon.	Permitted development via GPDO (Schedule 2, Part 15, Class B(a)). Electricity Act consent not required (NGET land) (Electricity Act, S.37(2)(b)).
3.	Removal of the existing 400kV pylon (Tower 81) to the southwest of the proposed GSP substation and erection of a replacement 400kV pylon (Tower 81a) approximately 63m west of the existing pylon. The existing pylon is 50.04m above ground level while the replacement tower would be approximately 55.00m above ground level.	Permitted development via GPDO (Schedule 2, Part 15, Class B(a)) Electricity Act consent not required (NGET land) (Electricity Act, S.37(2)(b)).
4.	Downleads installed on the replacement 400kV pylon to the new 400kV single circuit sealing end enclosure.	Permitted development via GPDO (Schedule 2, Part 15, Class B(a)). Electricity Act consent not required (NGET land) (Electricity Act, S 37(2)(b))

5.	A new 400kV underground cable connecting the proposed GSP substation to the 400kV single circuit sealing end enclosure.	Permitted development via GPDO (Schedule 2, Part 15, Class B(a)).
6.	Two new 132kV underground cables connecting the proposed GSP substation with a new cable sealing end (CSE) platform pylon on the existing 132kV overhead line east of Wickham St Paul.	Permitted development via GPDO (Schedule 2, Part 15, Class B(a)).
7.	Removal of an existing 132kV pylon (PCB98) and erection of a new 132kV CSE platform pylon (PCB98A), approx. 29.3m in height, in the same location.	PD via GPDO (Schedule 2, Part 15, Class B(a)) in combination with Electricity Act $(S.37(2)(c))$ relying upon an exemption set out in the OHL Exemption Regs $(3(1)(e))$.
8.	132kV cable running from below ground electric line to the tower mounted cable sealing end unit. Cable attached to the base part of PCB98A for its entire length.	PD via GPDO (Schedule 2, Part 15, Class B(a)) in combination with Electricity Act (S.37(2)(c)) relying upon an exemption set out in the OHL Exemption Regs (3(1)(a)).
9.	Air insulated electricity conductor running from the tower mounted cable sealing end unit to the horizontal electricity conductors.	Section 37 Consent.
10.	Temporary diversion of the existing 400kV overhead line to facilitate installation of the new replacement pylon. The temporary diversion may be in place for approximately 1 year and be approximately 700m long. It would include two temporary pylons with a height of between approximately 44m and 48m above ground level.	Section 37 Consent will be required due to length of time in situ.
11.	Temporary diversion of the existing 132kV overhead line for approximately 650m (for approximately three months), including a temporary pylon to facilitate installation of the new 132kV CSE platform pylon.	PD via GPDO (Schedule 2, Part 15, Class B(a)) in combination with Electricity Act (S.37(2)(c)) relying upon an exemption set out in the OHL Exemption Regs (3(1)(c)).
12.	Other associated temporary enabling construction phase works including temporary access tracks, temporary compounds, and diversion of fibre optic wire.	Permitted Development under GPDO (2015) Schedule 2, Part 4, Class A.

Appendix 1

Accompanying Works Consenting Plan (AAA_B2B_GSP_Consenting_Plan_Rev0)



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