The Great Grid Upgrade

Sea Link

nationalgrid

Community update

Suffolk

Autumn 2026

We are committed to protecting the local environment and to limiting the impact of our work on local communities and businesses.

During the recent Examination of our plans to build Sea Link, we heard your views on issues including the environment, traffic and local businesses. **We listened.** Our plans already included a wide range of measures to manage these issues, and through the Examination we've gone further, agreeing new binding commitments and strengthening the ones we already had.

Here's what that means on the ground.

Managing construction traffic on local roads

by capping Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) movements to 10 per day at the A1094/B1122 Aldeburgh junction, and at the B1121 Main Road/B1119 Church Street Junction. We'll also fit GPS tracking to every vehicle so drivers stick to approved routes.

Safeguarding tourism and supporting local businesses

by limiting overnight worker accommodation within 15 km of Aldeburgh, giving our workers vouchers to eat out locally, and working with councils and local businesses to minimise impacts.

Reducing parking

to one project vehicle at a time in Thorpe Road car park, except in emergencies.

Revised working hours at Kiln Lane substation

to match Scottish Power Renewables' working hours. We'll work 7am - 7pm, Monday to Friday and 7am - 1pm on Saturdays.

Keeping weekend disruption to a minimum

by limiting activity on Sundays and bank holidays, ensuring work does not take place every weekend at every location, and giving advance notice of any weekend working on our website.

Maintaining local access

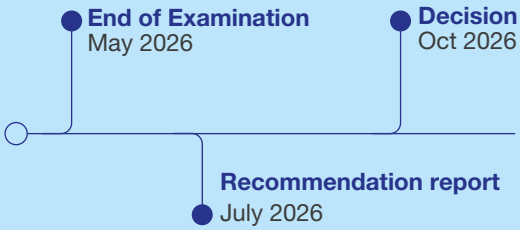
by providing a shuttle or taxi service for Whitearch Park residents if we need to temporarily close Benhall Railway Bridge.

Keeping public rights of way open

wherever possible, minimising closures and signposting any changes in advance.

Examination complete; what's next?

The Planning Inspectorate has now issued a report with their recommendation on whether or not our plans should be approved. The Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero will review this report and we expect a decision on our application in late October 2026.



Your Community Fund

We believe that communities which host new electricity infrastructure should benefit from doing so. That is why we want Sea Link to deliver meaningful and long-lasting benefits for local communities and the wider area.

We recently sought your views on how around **£1.06 million** could be used to benefit your community in Suffolk.

The feedback we've received will help shape your Community Fund, whether it's:

- investing in skills
- enhancing green spaces
- supporting physical health and wellbeing
- improving community hubs
- creating partnerships with charities or service providers.

£530,000 of the Community Fund will be made available in the coming months, as we start building the substation at Kiln Lane. The remaining funding will be unlocked in 2027 if Sea Link is approved, when we start building.

Thank you to everyone who shared their views. We are now reviewing the responses we've received and we will publish a report in the coming months, setting out your feedback on how the fund should be delivered and the types of projects it could support.

Contact us

You can find out more about Sea Link by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera or visiting nationalgrid.com/sealink

- email us: **contact@sealink.nationalgrid.com**
- post: **write to Freepost SEA LINK**
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