

3RD PARTY ENQUIRIES TECHNICAL QUESTION GUIDANCE NOTE

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PURPOSE AND SCOPE

As part of enquiries for development near NG Electricity Transmission Assets 3rd Parties to National Grid (NG) receive as part of an initial response as built drawings and subsequent responses links to numerous guidance documents created to aid them in planning works near NG Electrical Assets. However, in providing this wealth of documentation NG still receives many supplementary questions.

The answers to these questions are normally available in the supporting documentation and this document is a compilation of the most often asked questions by third parties.

What this document does is place these questions into categories with a generic heading so that anyone can retrieve a suitable answer or at least know how the question should be dealt with.

Repeated answering of these questions cost money and time and diverts staff away from more critical work and is very wasteful. Differing answers to the same question from different members of staff can be very confusing, subject to personal interpretation and occasionally incorrect. The answers supplied in this document follow company policy and procedures.

3RD PARTY ENQUIRIES TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

These top eleven questions are compiled from all the technical questions received by National Grid.

1 DIVERSION OF ASSETS

1.1 National Grid Policy is to Not divert HV Electrical Assets

1.1.1 Reasons

- a) National Grid only consider diversion if the project or development is of National importance and supported by Government of the day (ie HS2, Lower Thames Crossing)
- b) Infrastructure Costs, can cost £M's
- c) Difficulties negotiating New Wayleaves or Easements for routes
- d) Frequently Nowhere else to go
- e) National Grid has rights enabling us to keep assets in situ.
- f) Forecasting of cost difficult and expensive process to undertake
- g) Requires undertaking from developer to meet the costs
- h) NRSWA 'C' documents ask for diversion costs from Utilities for minor road works, surface works rarely affects cable assets and never OHL assets.
- i) NRSWA requires diversion costs are agreed and minimised.

2 STATUTORY SAFETY CLEARANCES AND CONDUCTOR CLEARANCES

2.1 The legal framework that governs how electrical safety is maintained in the UK is The Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations 2012 these also detail minimum statutory electrical safety clearances. Clearances that are used as a basis for Energy Networks Association ENA TS 43-8 these standards have been agreed by CENELEC (European Committee for Electrical Standardisation) which also form part of the British Standard BS EN 50341-1:2012 Overhead Electrical Lines exceeding AC 1kV. All Electricity utilities are bound by these statutes, standards and technical specifications, which they are required to uphold by the operator's license.

2.1.1 Single span Overhead Line Profile drawings show the position of the conductor sets at maximum rated temperature and maximum blowout.

- (a) These can be used by a 3rd party to calculate the clearance available @ 400kV

Help document for the OHL Profile Drawing is available

2.1.2 National Grid should not interpret the clearances for a 3rd Party, developers should employ suitably qualified consultants or engineers who can advise.

2.1.3 Clearances available at 400kV

- (a) Ground Clearance = minimum 7.3m
- (b) To where a man can stand = minimum 5.3m

(c) Passing Clearance = minimum 3.1m

2.1.4 Developers are legally obliged to not damage third party assets or infringe statutory clearances

3 WAYLEAVE AND EASEMENT RESTRICTIONS

3.1 Questions regarding Wayleave or Easement particulars should be dealt with by Land and Acquisitions Team.

(a) The wider National Grid have no access to grantor records.

4 HV COMPOUND ACCESS AND SITE DRAWINGS

4.1 Requests for HV Site Access and Site Drawings are not 3rd Party Enquiries

(a) Access to a HV Compound should be controlled by ETO Operations Teams, Capital Delivery Scheme Teams or the Principle Contractor on site

4.1.2 Site drawings are not available via the TP 147 process

5 NATIONAL GRID AUTHORISATION FOR WORK TO PROCEED

5.1 National Grid will not agree under any circumstance a 3rd Parties request to authorise work to proceed near our assets.

5.1.1 National Grid has no responsibility to agree risk and method statements (RAMS) for work near HV Electrical Assets

5.1.2 NG will not agree or authorise development plans near HV Electrical Assets

5.1.3 For 5.1.1, & 5.1.2

(a) Site safety is the responsibility of the Principle Contractor (CDM regulations)

(b) Any agreement or authorisation could make NG legally responsible for the safety of contractor personnel on whom we have no direct control or make us responsible for possible safety clearance infringements.

6 CLEARANCE ISSUES WITH DEVELOPMENTS

6.1 Following the 3rd party enquiry process will normally highlight clearance problems with a development. When a work area is described in the enquiry the system searches for affected assets using prescribed rules, there are many enquiries which come through which have basically had all the options ticked when placing the enquiry. The first clearance check will be to confirm if the work area is over a cable asset or under an OHL.

6.1.1 For Cable assets in the public highway it would be very unusual for a development to encroach into the highway.

6.1.2 Development boundaries normally follow geographic boundaries and can include existing access routes

6.1.3 Any questions regarding clearance issues with developments should be directed to the AI OHL&C team in the first instance, which could temporarily take over management of the enquiry and liaise with the 3rd Party until resolution is found.

6.1.4 NG will assist with quantifying clearances available but have no responsibility to resolve or suggest solutions

6.1.5 This isn't the same as 2 but does require adherence to the statutes and safety clearances

7 SITE VISITS AND SITE CONTACTS

7.1 Currently there is a option where 3rd Parties can ask for a site visit or site meeting, in which case National Grid will supply the details of a contact in operations who can if they decide it is necessary, visit site, but it is the responsibility of the 3rd Party to make the contact not the National Grid employee.

8 PROPERTY DAMAGE

8.1 Any questions regarding Property damage should be directed to Land and Acquisitions Team

8.1.1 Questions regarding property damage do not fit within 3rd Party Enquiry process and should be dealt with by a Land and Acquisitions Lands Officer who will lead in the negotiations on behalf of NG.

8.1.2 It is the responsibility of the lands team to contact the enquirer.

9 NOISE ISSUES

9.1 Any questions or enquiries involving noise EMF or related topics from HV Electrical Assets should be directed at the EMF helpline who will be able to progress the request

9.1.1 The email address for the EMF Helpline is emfhelpline@nationalgrid.com

9.1.2 Asset Integrity Environmental Team have specific responsibility for, specialist knowledge and expertise in audible noise, EMF, EMC and RFI to the rest of the business and externally in relation to the environmental impacts of third party developments.

10 REQUEST FOR CADD DRAWINGS FOR CUSTOMER USE

10.1 National Grid has no legal obligation to provide a CADD drawing of either OHL or Cable Assets to 3rd Parties

10.1.1 Production of a CADD drawing for an OHL requires a labour-intensive process using bespoke modelling software. National Grid must pay for the collection of the data used and the licensing of the software to utilise the data. National Grid will be looking to pass on costs for this work in the future. Standard 'As Built' drawings will continue to be free at source.

10.1.2 NG cannot control the data once it is sent out so any drawings supplied to us to verify clearances will have the data stripped out first and then reapplied to check accuracy.

11 CLARIFICATION OF GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS AND SUPPLIED INFORMATION

11.1 NG should not interpret guidance documents for 3rd Parties

11.1.1 3rd Parties should employ suitably qualified staff under their direct control who can provide an interpretation

11.1.2 NG risk being held legally responsible for any comments or advice given to 3rd parties

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