



6th January 2019

National Grid – Latest News on Interconnectors

Expansion of Greater Gabbard and Galloper Windfarms

We have been aware for some time that the destruction planned by Scottish Power might be made even worse by the National Grid Venture's plans to build what are known as Interconnectors. These will connect the UK National Grid to the electricity grids of Belgium and the Netherlands. Interconnectors are in reality offshore power cables leading to yet more giant on-shore substations and will occupy a further 20 acres of countryside. Just before Christmas NGV made a short presentation to the AONB Partnership.

We have obtained a copy of that presentation which is attached. Please note Sites A, B, C and D are possible cable landfall sites. Note that D is the same as SPR's EA1N and EA2 landfall. Sites 1 to 7 are possible sites for the two Converter Stations required, each up to 5 hectares in area by 24m high. NGV stated that for commercial reasons they could not use the trenches or ducts installed by SPR but could run alongside them.

As expected (and as you will see from the presentation) National Grid Ventures are looking to put these interconnectors in the same areas as Scottish Power, as well as potentially some additional ones. Further the development timetable will extend the blight and disruption until 2030 leaving aside the permanent blight of yet more large scale industrial infrastructure planted in the countryside.

In addition to National Grid's plans there are also plans for a major expansion of the Greater Gabbard and Galloper windfarms which will require more onshore infrastructure. It is expected that this will be at the existing sites at Sizewell but this has yet to be confirmed. However this means yet more disruption at Sizewell and yet more traffic.

Yet again as a community we must most strongly oppose these damaging proposals. We would encourage you to write to the people listed below making clear your strong objections. You could include the following points together with any other points you wish to make.

1. Yet another large scale energy project in the open countryside on top of Sizewell C, Scottish Power's four windfarm projects EA1, EA3, EA1N and EA2, the major expansion of Greater Gabbard and Galloper and the Crown Estate's next tranche of wind farm projects Round 4. Again the AONB will be dug up, showing yet again the huge failure in strategic planning by central and local government and the energy sector particularly the transmission arm of National Grid, which continues to favour short term solutions over long-term strategic ones, regardless of the community damage they cause.

2. National Grid has no credibility in onshore development given its conduct in the development of the Bawdsey to Bramford cable route

3. The lack of accountability and transparency of National Grid in their site selection for Grid connection points and their disregard for the environment
4. The area is going to be blighted even further given the massive scale of further industrial development and disruption and this will now last for over 10 years. There is absolutely no consideration for the devastating effect on people's lives and for some people the rest of their lives.

Please make your objections clear to:

Greg Clark MP, Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
greg.clark.mp@parliament.uk enquiries@beis.gov.uk

Claire Perry MP, Minister of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
Claire.perry.mp@parliament.uk enquiries@beis.gov.uk

Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Environment Food & Rural Affairs
Michael.gove.mp@parliament.uk enquiries@defra.gov.uk

Therese Coffey, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs MP for Suffolk Coastal therese.coffey.mp@parliament.uk therese.coffey@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Geoff Holdcroft, East Suffolk District Councillor for Woodbridge
Geoff.holdcroft@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk

Andrew Reid, Suffolk County Councillor (Wilford) Andrew.reid@suffolk.gov.uk

Russ Rainger, Suffolk County Councillor (Aldeburgh & Leiston) russ.rainger@suffolk.gov.uk

Martin Moran, Manager, Business Development – Interconnectors, National Grid Ventures
martin.moran@nationalgrid.com

Liz Wells – National Grid Ventures Liz.Wells@nationalgrid.com

Michael McLaughlin, Electricity System Operator Public Affairs & Policy Officer, Corporate Affairs, NationalGridESO Michael.McLaughlin3@nationalgrid.com

Frances Warburton, Director (Energy System Transition), Ofgem frances.warburton@ofgem.gov.uk