

East Suffolk Energy Projects Update

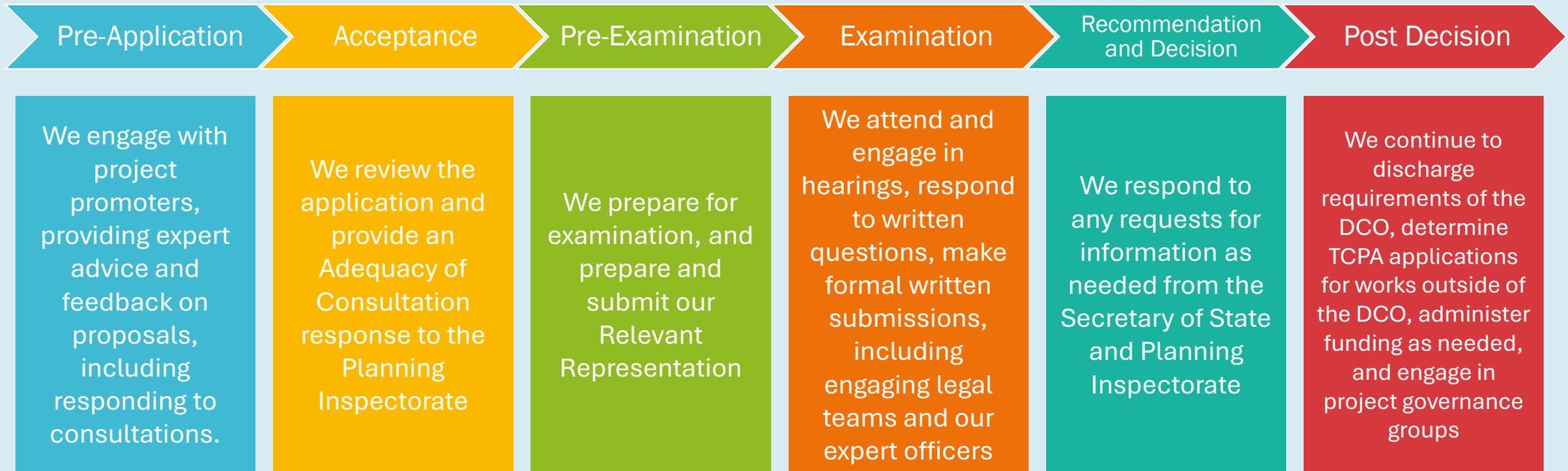
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4 March 2026

East Suffolk Council's Role in NSIPs

East Suffolk Council is not the decision maker for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects; that is the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero. However, we play a vital role at all stages of the consenting process, well into the delivery and operational stages.



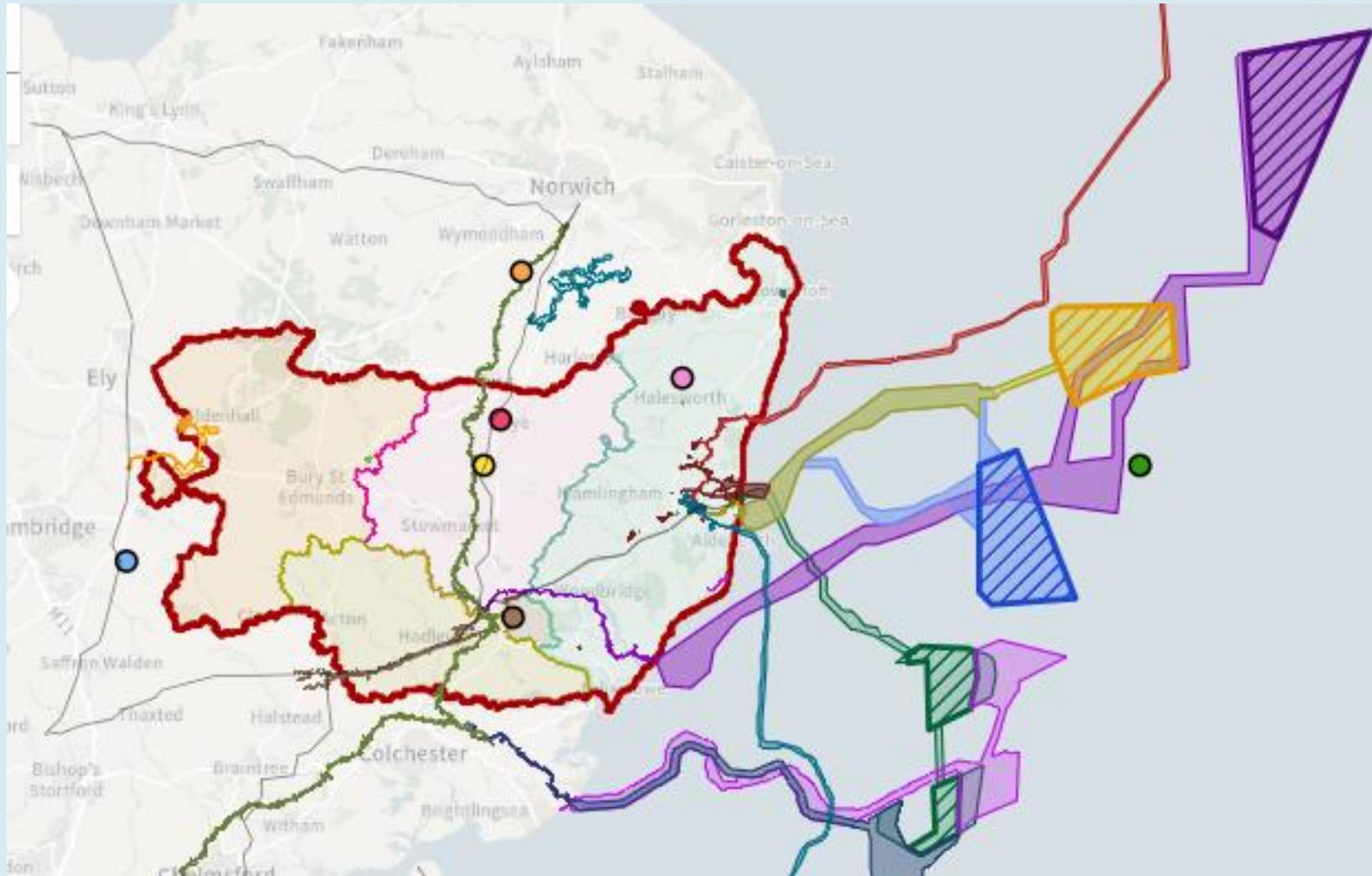
NSIPs Overview



	Project	Stage	Project Headlines
New Nuclear	 Sizewell C 	Post Decision	DCO granted 2022. Formally commenced January 2024, now in third year of construction. Discharges of requirements are ongoing.
Offshore Wind	 East Anglia One 	Post Decision	DCO granted 2014. Now operational
	 East Anglia One North 	Post Decision	DCO granted 2022. Works commenced in July 2025
	 East Anglia Two 	Post Decision	DCO granted 2022. Works commenced in July 2025
	 East Anglia Three 	Post Decision	DCO granted 2017. Commenced works on the cable route 2025
	 Five Estuaries (Galloper extension) 	Post Decision	DCO granted 17 December 2025
	 North Falls (Greater Gabbard extension) 	Decision	In decision period with Secretary of State. Request for further information from parties issued 28 January, deadline of 16 February.
Interconnectors	 LionLink 	Pre-Application	Statutory Consultation expected Q1 2026 DCO application expected to be submitted late 2026
Reinforcement Projects	 Sea Link 	Examination	Examination started 5 November 2025, expected to close early May 2026
Out of District Network Reinforcements	 Bramford to Twinstead 	Post Decision	DCO granted by the Secretary of State 12 September 2024. Pre-commencement
	 Norwich to Tilbury 	Examination	DCO application accepted for examination on 26th September. Examination in progress

NSIPs in Suffolk

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs)
in Suffolk - Suffolk County Council



-  East Anglia Three
-  East Anglia One North
-  East Anglia Two
-  LionLink
-  Sea Link
-  Gallop Offshore Wind Farm
-  Sizewell C
-  Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm

Sizewell C Update

SZC Co

Post Decision

In Construction



What is it?

- Sizewell C is a planned new nuclear power station on the Suffolk coast that will generate 3.2 gigawatts (GW) of electricity
- Will provide power to 6 million homes.
- Formal commencement -15th January 2024
- Anticipated 9–12-year construction period.

What's happening now?

- Governance groups meet regularly, as required by the Deed of Obligation.
- ESC engages with all required working groups e.g. planning group, transport review group, accommodation working group and ecology working group.
- Discharge of requirements ongoing (akin to planning conditions); working closely with stakeholders including Suffolk County Council, Environment Agency, Natural England, and others.
- Works continue to progress on the main development site (MDS) and the associated development sites (ACA, TCA) this year.

Sizewell C at a glance...

9 - 12 year construction period (started January 2024, expected finish mid-2030s)

Output: 3.2 GW of low-carbon electricity - enough to power circa 6 million homes (approx 7% of the UK's total demand).

2,000 workers on site daily as of January 2026

Over £1 billion worth of contracts already awarded to businesses across the East of England.

Based on Hinkley Point C in Somerset, SZC expected to cost 20% less (as a replica)

UK Government is main shareholder (44.9% stake)

32ha site at Sizewell + other associated development sites

2 x 1250 car parking space park and rides: Northern Park and Ride at Darsham, and Southern Park and Ride at Wickham Market

Sizewell Link Road: a new permanent 4.2 mile long road

Two Village Bypass: a new permanent bypass of Farnham and Stratford St Andrew



Estimated ~£40bn build cost

Freight Management Facility at Orwell Logistics Park

Environmental mitigation sites at Benhall and around Sizewell

Extensive highway alterations and improvements

Green Rail Route and extensive improvements to the existing lines

The project includes an extensive Deed of Obligation, providing £200m+ of funding to mitigate the impacts of the project on the local community, landscape, and economy, and provide legacy benefits for East Suffolk residents



£23m Community Fund over 10 years

£12 million is dedicated to a Tourism Fund to protect the local "Suffolk Coast" brand.

£12m Natural Environment Fund for landscape and biodiversity projects

Sizewell C - Construction overview



In mid-November 2025, the Bailey Bridge that links the Temporary Construction Area (TCA) to the Main Construction Area (MCA) (the first of the three SSSI Crossings) was successfully installed, ahead of schedule. Image CO SZC Co

Associated Development Sites

A key focus of the project in the first half on 2026 is getting Friday Street and Yoxford roundabouts linked to the A12 and open to the road network, expected to be in late Spring

Partial operation of the Northern Park and Ride commenced in early November, followed by phased operation of the Southern Park and Ride. Full operation of both expected this summer

Main Development Site

Works along Sizewell beach started in mid February to construct the temporary Marine Bulk Import Facility (MBIF Jetty), with associated footpath closures during the week



On the Temporary Construction Area, 2.5 million m³ of cut and fill has been completed, with the bulk of the site now flat and at design level. Two large borrow pits have started excavations in the north west corner of the TCA, which will supply 800,000 m³ of fill for the project

Works to install the foundations of the water desalination plant have almost completed. Foundations for the nearby concrete batching plant are also being poured

Staying Informed

6 project newsletters/year

- You can sign up to receive this newsletter and access past editions here: [Local Community - Sizewell C](#)

Online works tracker

- Sizewell C maintain an online works tracker which gives access to up-to-date information regarding work locations and timings. You can also subscribe to receive these updates via SMS and email via the works tracker.

Sizewell C Information Office

- Staffed by SZC's comms team and regional external affairs development team

48-50 High Street, Leiston, IP16 4EW

Office is open for visits without appointment:

09:30 – 17:00 weekdays only (closed lunchtimes 12:30 – 13:30)

Forum Schedule

2026

Our forums are open to local people to attend as observers – and they're another great way for you to hear about our latest work.

All forum timings: 18:00-20:00 (arrival from 17:45)

Leiston Town Athletic Association,
Victory Road, Leiston, IP16 4DQ

High Lodge Darsham,
Haw Wood, Hinton, Nr Darsham, IP17 3QT

Stratford St Andrew Riverside Centre,
6 Great Glenham Road, Stratford St Andrew, Saxmundham, IP17 1LL

Woodbridge Rugby Club,
Hatchley Barn, Orford Road, Bromeswell, Woodbridge IP12 2PP



Main Development Site Forum	Wednesday 14 January 2026	Leiston Town Athletic Association
Northern Transport Forum	Wednesday 4 February 2026	High Lodge Darsham
Southern Transport Forum	Wednesday 4 March 2026	Stratford St Andrew Riverside Centre
Community Forum	Thursday 19 March 2026	Woodbridge Rugby Club
Main Development Site Forum	Wednesday 15 April 2026	Leiston Town Athletic Association
Northern Transport Forum	Wednesday 6 May 2026	High Lodge Darsham
Southern Transport Forum	Wednesday 3 June 2026	Stratford St Andrew Riverside Centre
Main Development Site Forum	Wednesday 8 July 2026	Leiston Town Athletic Association
Northern Transport Forum	Wednesday 5 August 2026	High Lodge Darsham
Southern Transport Forum	Wednesday 2 September 2026	Stratford St Andrew Riverside Centre
Main Development Site Forum	Wednesday 7 October 2026	Leiston Town Athletic Association
Community Forum	Thursday 22 October 2026	Sizewell Visitors Centre
Northern Transport Forum	Wednesday 4 November 2026	High Lodge Darsham
Southern Transport Forum	Wednesday 2 December 2026	Stratford St Andrew Riverside Centre

- Slides and notes are published on ESC's website: [Governance groups | East Suffolk Council](#)
- More info on forums: [Forums & Local Information - Sizewell C](#)

Traffic Management and Road Closure Updates

- Sizewell C release weekly road closure and traffic management updates. This can be found on the Sizewell C Works Tracker here: [Sizewell C Works Tracker - Track SZC Projects & Get Alerts for New Activities.](#)

Sea Link - Update

National Grid Electricity Transmission

Examination



nationalgrid

Sea Link

What is it?

National Grid proposes to **reinforce the electricity network between Suffolk and Kent via a new 2GW high voltage direct current (HVDC) link** between a proposed substation near Friston in Suffolk and the existing Richborough to Canterbury 400kV overhead line in Kent to increase the capability of the network to carry low carbon and renewable energy from where it is generated to 2m homes and businesses across the country

What's happening now?

- Sea Link is in the **formal 6-month examination phase** with the Planning Inspectorate, which opened on 5 November 2025.
- ESC officers continue to engage with the examination, reviewing submitted materials, preparing responses, and making submissions.
- The **examination will close on 5 May 2026**. This will be followed by a 3-month period for the Planning Inspectorate's Examining Authority to make a recommendation on the project, and a further 3-month period for the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero to decide whether to grant development consent or not.
- If consented, as with all DCOs, there will be a 6-week window of time for any legal challenges to be lodged regarding the decision.

Up to date Sea Link project information is available on the Planning Inspectorate's website [Sea Link - Project information](#)
The Rule 8 letter which contains the revised examination timetable (Annex A) can be [found here](#)

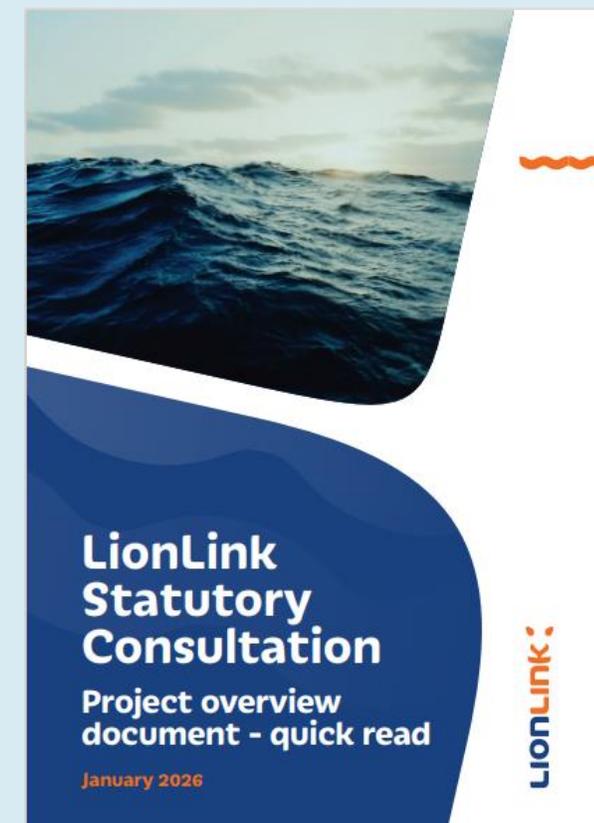
Sea Link - Update

National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)



The Suffolk Onshore Scheme

- A connection from the existing transmission network via Friston Substation (already consented under other schemes), and the substation itself
- A **high voltage alternating current (HVAC) underground cable of approximately 1.9 km in length between the proposed Friston Substation and a proposed converter station**
- A **2 GW high voltage direct current (HVDC) converter station (including permanent access from the B1121 and a new bridge over the River Fromus) up to 26 m high plus external equipment near Saxmundham.**
- A **HVDC underground cable connection of approximately 10 km in length between the proposed converter station, and a transition joint bay approximately 900 m inshore from a landfall point** where the cable transitions from onshore to offshore technology.
- A landfall on the Suffolk coast **between Aldeburgh and Thorpeness.**



LionLink - Update

National Grid Ventures

What is it?

- ❑ LionLink is a new **subsea electricity cable (known as an interconnector) proposed to run between Great Britain and the Netherlands**, being developed by National Grid Ventures (NGV) and Dutch partner, TenneT.
- ❑ Interconnectors are high-voltage, primarily offshore cables that connect our electricity system with neighbouring countries.

What's happening now?

- ❑ LionLink remains in the pre-application phase.
- ❑ **Statutory consultation launched on Tuesday 13 January 2026 and ends on 10 March 2026.**
- ❑ ESC are currently reviewing the consultation materials, engaging with elected ward members and local communities, and compiling a response to National Grid Ventures. Public information exhibitions will be held by National Grid Ventures, with details available at [LionLink About | National Grid](#).

This consultation allows statutory consultees and any other interested parties to provide expert advice and concerns regarding the project to help shape the application before it is formally submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, including the publication of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). The PEIR is a key document that provides an early, preliminary assessment of the likely significant environmental impacts of the proposed project, as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process.

What's happening next?

The Planning Inspectorate's project page can be [found here](#). DCO submission to the Planning Inspectorate expected in late 2026 [LionLink About | National Grid Group](#)

LionLink - Update

National Grid Ventures

Landfall site

The proposed landfall site is where the proposed offshore HVDC cables connect to the proposed underground HVDC cables. NGV would use Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD), a trenchless crossing technique, to bring cables onshore and avoid disruption to Walberswick Beach.

Underground HVDC cables

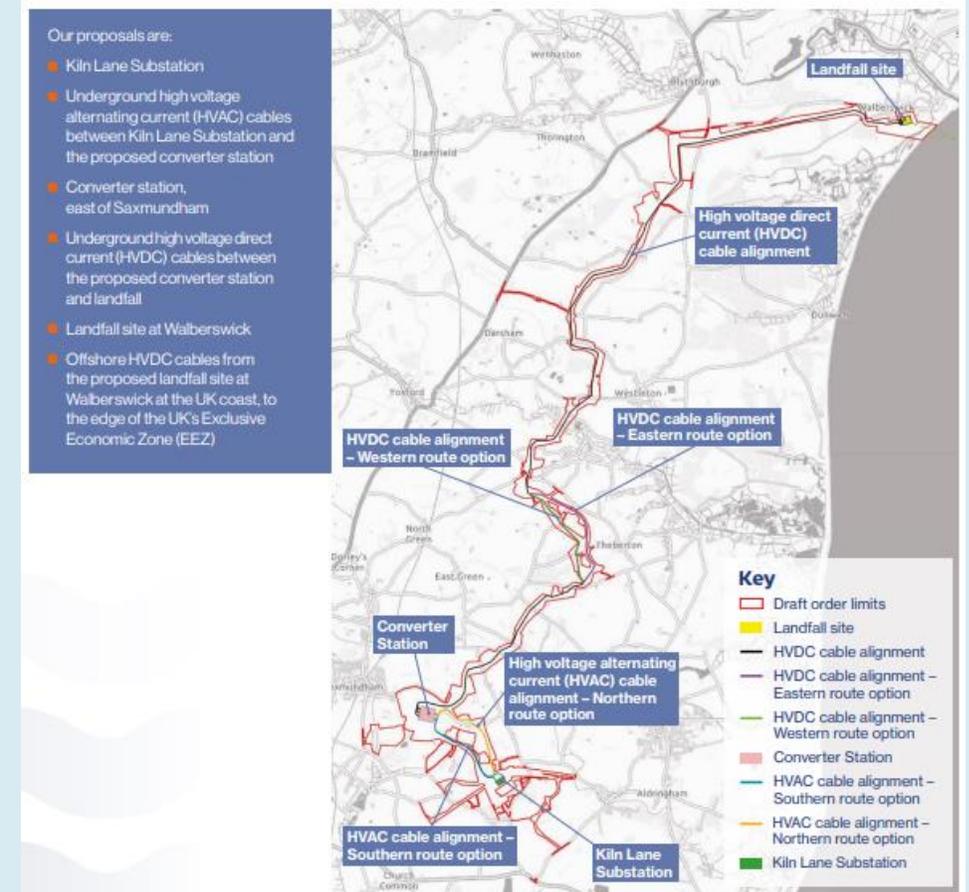
The proposed underground HVDC cables would run approximately 20 km from the proposed landfall site at Walberswick to the proposed converter station, east of Saxmundham.

Underground HVAC cables

From the proposed converter station, two route options for the underground HVAC cables to connect to Kiln Lane Substation remain at this stage.

Converter station

The proposed converter station would change electricity from the direct current (DC) used to transmit across long distances to alternating current (AC), to enable electricity to be supplied to homes and businesses. The proposed converter station site is located east of Saxmundham and south of the B1119 Saxmundham Road, adjacent to Sea Link's proposed converter station. The proposed converter station would house several buildings up to 26 metres high and would have a footprint of up to 8.1 hectares



East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two

ScottishPower Renewables



What are they?

- These are **two offshore wind farms**, part of the East Anglia Hub and were jointly consented in March 2022.

More details on the projects can be found [here](#).

East Anglia ONE North

Could power the equivalent of almost **900,000** homes each year

Up to **67** wind turbines

203km² windfarm area

Up to **900** Megawatts



East Anglia TWO

Could power the equivalent of around **950,000** homes each year

Up to **75** wind turbines

218km² windfarm area

Up to **960** Megawatts



What's happening now?

- The East Anglia TWO and East Anglia ONE North offshore wind farm projects are progressing with the discharge of requirements attached to the DCO consents.
- During Q1 2026, ESC are discharging the DCO requirements for both projects associated with the 'substations stage'.
- Enabling works at the substation site and along the onshore cable route are currently ongoing**, in preparation for the main works at these sites.

Norwich to Tilbury

National Grid Electricity Transmission

What is it?

- ❑ The Project proposes to reinforce the high voltage (400 kV) electricity transmission network between Norwich Main down to Tilbury in Essex.
- ❑ Involves new overhead power lines (400kV) and new substation works at Norwich Main (Norfolk), Bramford (Suffolk), Lawford, Tendring (Essex) and Tilbury (Essex).

What's happening now?

- ❑ The DCO examination formally started in early February with the preliminary meeting, open floor hearings and Issues Specific Hearing 1 being held across 4 days.
- ❑ ESC will be monitoring these hearings, noting we submitted a Relevant Representation; however, we defer to the host authorities as the project is located entirely outside of the ESC district.

More details can be found on the [PINS website here](#).

The Great Grid Upgrade

Norwich to Tilbury

