# Energy Projects update Strategic Planning Committee

2 October 2023

Cllr Tom Daly

Cabinet Member with responsibility for Energy and Climate Change



Motion to Full Council, 27 September 2023 Motion from Cllr Daly, seconded by Cllr Whitelock at Full Council 27 September 2023, passed:

- "Offshore and onshore wind, solar, community energy schemes, and microgeneration alongside reduction in energy use and better design provide a better long-term answer to energy security and carbon reduction, rather than Sizewell C
- Council resolves: (a) that should the construction at Sizewell C proceed, we will strongly represent our East Suffolk communities to maximise the benefits and minimise the impacts and that development should only commence once long-term solutions to the issues below have been identified by Sizewell C Ltd in conjunction with all stakeholders
  - water supply, sea defences, coastal dynamics, long term local storage of highly radioactive spent fuel, marine biosphere impacts, satisfactory confirmation of the size of the development site with associated impacts on Minsmere and other precious habitats.
- (b) To write to the SoS with these views and ask government :
  - to carry out a full cost-benefit analysis of options for connecting all electricity generation to users in the UK rather than the current piecemeal approach
  - to mandate a direct community compensation scheme for those directly impacted by hosting the energy infrastructure as a matter of urgency as per their recent consultation in addition to provisions in the DCO process."

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) - Update

		Project	Stage	Status
	New Nuclear	Sizewell C	DCO granted 2022	Consented, judicial Review dismissed by High Court in July 2023. Court of Appeal allowed Judicial Review in September 2023, awaiting further updates.
	Offshore Wind	East Anglia One	DCO granted	Consented, Operational
		East Anglia One North	Pre-application	Consented, judicial Review ongoing
		East Anglia Two	DCO granted	Consented, judicial Review ongoing
		East Anglia Three	DCO granted	Commenced, discharge of requirements ongoing
		Five Estuaries (Galloper extension)	Pre-application	Pre-application, DCO submission expected Q1/Q2 2024
		North Falls (Greater Gabbard extension)	Pre-application	Pre-application, DCO submission expected 2024
	Interconnectors	LionLink	Pre-application	Pre-application, consultation open
		SeaLink	Pre-application	Pre-application, consultation expected in October - December
		Nautilus	Pre-application	Pre-application
	Out of District Network Reinforcements	Bramford to Twinstead	Pre-application	DCO submission accepted in April 2023,
		Norwich to Tilbury	Pre-application	Second public consultation held June - August 2023. DCO submission expected Q4 2023

# Project Updates

#### Sizewell C

Judicial Review (JR) ongoing

- DCO granted July 2022.
- Judicial Review dismissed by the High Court in June 2023. Court of Appeal granted permission to appeal against High Court's refusal to allow a challenge to the DCO, September 2023
- Awaiting update from Court of Appeal

• Discharge of requirements ongoing, pre-commencement works continuing

• Government announced £341m investment to build on existing £870m stake, 29 August 2023

#### East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two

- No awards from Round 5 Contracts for Difference auction for offshore wind projects
- No programme update to share. Discharge of requirements ongoing
- SPR East Anglia Hub strategic meeting with Local Planning Authorities scheduled for November
- Judicial Review ongoing
  - High Court dismissed JR from SASES. Court of Appeal has granted permission to appeal on two grounds of flood risk and cumulative impact. Hearing dates expected soon
  - High Court dismissed JR from SEAS. Appeal ongoing
- Recently consented TCPA application for a temporary compound to serve the Onshore Archaeological Mitigation Works at Harrow Lane, Leiston

Project Updates

#### **SeaLink**

- A proposed new 2 gigawatt subsea high voltage direct current electricity connection, approximately 140 km in length and predominately offshore
- Statutory Consultation planned to take place from 24 October to 18 December 2023, focusing on details of the refined proposals, and providing feedback from the nonstatutory consultation held October-December 2022
- Sea Link | National Grid ET

### North Falls (extension to Greater Gabbard offshore wind farm)

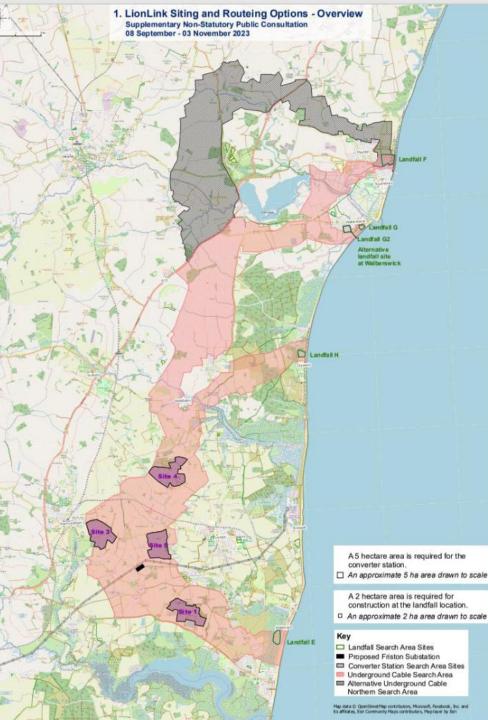
- Third consultation held May July 2023
- ESC response: <u>ESC-response-to-North-Falls-Offshore-Wind-Farm-Statutory-Consultation-Q2-2023.pdf (eastsuffolk.gov.uk)</u>

#### Five Estuaries (extension to Galloper offshore wind farm)

- Statutory consultation held March May 2023
- ESC response: Five Estuaries Offshore Windfarm » East Suffolk Council

#### Norwich to Tilbury – Grid Reinforcement Project

- NGET's proposal to build a new high voltage network reinforcement between Norwich, Bramford, and Tilbury.
- Out of district: no network reinforcements proposed in East Suffolk
- Recent second non-statutory consultation was held. ESC responded: <u>https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Planning/Energy-Projects/Norwich-to-Tilbury/ESC-Response-to-Norwich-Tilbury-Second-Consultation.pdf</u>



## **LionLink Multipurpose Interconnector**

- Proposal for a new electricity link between the UK and the Netherlands, formerly named EuroLink
- Supplementary non-statutory consultation open 8
  September 3 November
- Focus on alternative landfall and onshore cable corridor options. Alternative landfall site at Walberswick and an alternative underground cable corridor to the north of Southwold
- Officers are reviewing the materials and will respond to the consultation
- LionLink consultation materials | National Grid Group
- DCO submission expected Q4 2024

## Looking forward

Contact Information

- The grant of a Development Consent Order (DCO) is not the end of the planning process for NSIPs. Lots of work for officers remaining
  - Discharge of requirements (akin to planning conditions) to be undertaken in accordance with the DCO
  - Working closely with internal and external stakeholders, developers, statutory bodies, and communities
- All responses to project and government consultations are published on the East Suffolk Council website: <u>National infrastructure and energy projects »</u> <u>East Suffolk Council</u>
- ESC continues to engage government, take part in consultations, and engage with developers and communities
  - Responded to operational reforms to the NSIPS consenting process consultation
  - Engaged with community benefits workshop 21 September 2023
- The Energy Projects Team has two designated inboxes for all NSIP queries which is monitored, and the team are happy to help wherever possible
  - Energyprojects@eastsuffolk.gov.uk
  - <u>SizewellC@eastsuffolk.gov.uk</u>