Consultation

Eastern Green Link 4 statutory consultation on Early Construction Funding (ECF) and corresponding proposed modification to Special Condition 3.21 of their electricity transmission licence

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Response deadline:	20 December 2026
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We are consulting on our minded-to position on the second Early Construction Funding (ECF2) application submitted jointly by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET) and SP Transmission plc (SPT) for the Eastern Green Link 4 (EGL4) project, under Special Condition 3.21 'Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Re-opener and Price Control Deliverable term (ASTIRt)' of the licensees' electricity transmission licences. EGL4 is a proposed 2GW high-voltage direct current electricity transmission link between Westfield in Fife and the Walpole area in Norfolk.

We would like views from people with an interest in new transmission infrastructure, meeting the net zero challenge, and competition in onshore transmission networks. We particularly welcome responses from consumer groups, stakeholders impacted by the projects, stakeholders with an interest in the costs of electricity transmission infrastructure, and transmission owners.

This document outlines the scope, purpose, and questions of the consultation and how you can get involved. Once the consultation is closed, we will consider all responses.

We want to be transparent in our consultations. We will publish the non-confidential responses we receive alongside a decision on next steps on our website at ofgem.gov.uk/consultations.

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Executive summary

Under NGET's and SPT's electricity transmission licences, Special Condition 3.21 'Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Re-opener and Price Control Deliverable term (ASTIRt)' Part C: Early Construction Funding (ECF)[1], Ofgem can provide Transmission Owners (TOs) with ECF to enable permitted early construction activities that are required to accelerate projects before an ASTI Project Assessment (PA) decision. The permitted early construction activities are[2]:

- Strategic land purchases
- Early enabling works
- Early procurement commitments
- Other activities approved in advance by Ofgem

In September 2026, in line with the ASTI licence framework and guidance, NGET and SPT submitted a second ECF application for EGL4. This follows Ofgem's December 2025 decision on the project's first ECF application and Material Scope Change request[3]. The licensees request additional funding representing 1.5% of the project's total cost as set out in their licences. This would amount to a total of 14.6% when combined with previously granted ECF.

EGL4 is a proposed 2GW high-voltage direct current electricity transmission link between Westfield in Fife and the Walpole area in Norfolk. It comprises converter stations at each end, around 16km of underground cable in Scotland, approximately 529km of marine cable and around 100km of underground cable in England. The project is intended to increase electricity transfer capability, reduce system constraints and facilitate the connection of renewable generation.

As part of our assessment of this ECF application we have undertaken a high-level analysis of the proposed early construction activities to determine whether they are justified and eligible under the licence and ASTI guidance.

Our minded-to position is to approve the full ECF2 request and amend the allowances for EGL4 in Appendix 1 of Special Condition 3.21 in NGET's and SPT's electricity transmission licences. The corresponding values would be reflected in the updated ASTI Confidential Annex. Approval of ECF does not determine the level of efficient

[1] Licences and licence conditions | Ofgem
[2] Decision to modify the special licence conditions in the electricity transmission licences: Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment | Ofgem
[3] Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment: Material Scope Change and Early Construction Funding - EGL3, EGL4 and GWNC | Ofgem

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expenditure ultimately funded; that assessment will be undertaken at Project Assessment.

We will carry out those assessments as part of a full cost assessment, including of early construction costs, at the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment (ASTI) Project Assessment (PA) stage. TOs can ultimately only recover costs considered to be efficient following a Project Assessment.

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1. Introduction

This section details what this consultation is about, context and related documents.

Purpose of this consultation

EGL4 is a proposed 2GW high-voltage direct current electricity transmission link between Westfield in Fife and the Walpole area in Norfolk. This consultation seeks views on Ofgem's minded-to position on the ECF2 application submitted jointly by NGET and SPT, and on the proposed modifications to Appendix 1 of Special Condition 3.21 of their electricity transmission licences to reflect the provision of further ECF for EGL4.

Our consultation questions are:

- **Q1:** Do you agree with our minded-to position to provide ECF for the EGL4 project?
- **Q2:** Do you agree with our proposed modifications to Appendix 1 of Special Condition 3.21 to reflect the provision of ECF for EGL4?

Context and related publications

Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment: Material Scope Change and Early Construction Funding – EGL3, EGL4, and GWNC: Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment: Material Scope Change and Early Construction Funding - EGL3, EGL4 and GWNC | Ofgem

Decision on accelerating onshore electricity transmission investment: Ofgem.gov.uk/publications/decision-accelerating-onshore-electricity-transmission-investment

Decision to modify the special licence conditions in the electricity transmission licences and corresponding Associated Document: Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment, Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance And Submission Requirements Document: Ofgem.gov.uk/publications/decision-modify-special-licence-conditions-electricity-transmission-licences-accelerated-strategic-transmission-investment

Consultation stages

Stage 1 Consultation open: 17 November 2026

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Stage 2 Consultation closes (awaiting decision). Deadline for responses: 20 December 2026

Stage 3 Responses reviewed and published: January 2027

Stage 4 Consultation outcome (decision or policy statement): February 2027

How to respond

We want to hear from anyone interested in this consultation. Please send your response to the person or team named on the front page of this document.

We have asked for your feedback in each of the questions throughout. Please respond to each one as fully as you can.

We will publish non-confidential responses on our website.

Your response, data, and confidentiality

You can ask us to keep your response, or parts of your response, confidential. We will respect this, subject to obligations to disclose information. For example, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, statutory directions, court orders, government regulations, or where you give us explicit permission to disclose. If you do want us to keep your response confidential, please clearly mark this on your response and explain why.

If you wish us to keep part of your response confidential, please clearly mark those parts of your response that you do wish to be kept confidential and those that you do not wish to be kept confidential. Please put the confidential material in a separate appendix to your response. If necessary, we will contact you to discuss which parts of the information in your response should be kept confidential and which can be published. We might ask for reasons why.

If the information you give in your response contains personal data under the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) as retained in domestic law following the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union ("UK GDPR"), the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority will be the data controller for the purposes of GDPR. Ofgem uses the information in responses in performing its statutory functions and in accordance with section 105 of the Utilities Act 2000. Please refer to our Privacy Notice on consultations, see Appendix 4.

If you wish to respond confidentially, we will keep your response confidential, but we will publish the number, but not the names, of confidential responses we receive. We will not link responses to respondents if we publish a summary of responses, and we

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will evaluate each response on its own merits without undermining your right to confidentiality.

How to track the progress of a consultation

1. Find the web page for the call for input you would like to receive updates on.
2. Click ‘Get emails about this page’, enter your email address and click ‘Submit’.
3. You will receive an email to notify you when it has changed status.

A consultation has three stages: ‘Open’, ‘Closed (awaiting decision)’, and ‘Closed (with decision)’.

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2. EGL4 - Early Construction Funding Application Assessment Section heading

This chapter sets out the ECF application and our minded-to position.

Brief description of the project

2.1 EGL4 (NOA code TGDC) is a proposed 2GW high-voltage direct current electricity transmission link between Westfield in Fife, Scotland, and the Walpole area in Norfolk, England. The project is being jointly developed by NGET and SPT under the ASTI framework.

2.2 The project comprises converter stations near Westfield and Walpole, around 16km of underground cable in Scotland, approximately 529km of marine cable between Kinghorn and Anderby Creek, and around 100km of underground cable in England.

2.3 EGL3 and EGL4 share the southern construction corridor and consenting process in England. EGL4 is intended to increase transmission capacity between Scotland and England, reduce network constraints and facilitate the connection and transport of increasing volumes of renewable electricity generation.

2.4 EGL4 forms part of a wider programme of strategic network reinforcements required to support a secure, affordable and decarbonised electricity system. The project will also support delivery of Great Britain's net zero objectives. NESO's Clean Power 2030 report noted that although the project's delivery date is beyond 2030, any acceleration would be beneficial. [4]

2.5 Due to evolving system needs, an increase in customer demand, environmental factors and potential consenting challenges delivering the original Holistic Network Design (HND) recommended by NESO, Ofgem approved a Material Scope Change (MSC)[5] for EGL4 in December 2025. With this approval, Ofgem stated its intention to amend the Confidential Annexes of the respective licences to reflect the updated project forecast cost and set a new Output Delivery Incentive (ODI) target date of 31 August 2034 for the project.

2.6 Ofgem approved EGL4's first ECF request in December 2025. That decision provided 13.2% of the project's forecast cost.[6]

[4] NESO_Clean_Power_2030_Annex 2_Final_v2.pdf
[5] EGL4 Material Scope Change And ECF Decision, December 2025
[6] Ibid.

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ECF application overview

2.7 In May 2026, NGET and SPT applied for a further 1.5% ECF to support activities required before Project Assessment (PA). This would take the total early construction funding allowance to 14.6% of forecast project cost. The Joint Venture (JV) anticipates this allowance to be sufficient to cover required activities up to PA stage which the project currently expects in March 2028. The request covers early procurement commitments, strategic land purchases and early enabling works.

2.8 The application reflects additional requirements that have become sufficiently defined since ECF1, including network modelling and studies, connection works, remaining strategic land interests, environmental and highways mitigation, distribution network connection and diversion works, targeted ground investigations, and fisheries compensation.

2.9 As stated in our ASTI decision[7] and in accordance with Special Condition 3.21.8 of their respective licences, TOs are able to apply for ECF for each of the ASTI projects of up to 20% of each project's forecast cost.

2.10 A full cost analysis of these costs will be conducted as part of the PA to ensure that only efficient costs are recoverable. This ECF review assesses only the eligibility of the proposed activities to be funded under early construction funding in accordance with our ASTI Guidance[8]. The efficiency of the cost of these activities will be tested at PA stage and any costs considered inefficient will be disallowed.

Strategic land purchase

2.11 Strategic land purchase activities requested in this ECF are:

a) **North – onshore cable route servitudes**: Permanent servitudes for Northern Cable Route. Servitudes are required to be paid upfront to ensure the project can progress unhindered and to allow access to the contractors for essential site surveys. The full costs including the compensation will only be paid following the commencement of main construction, which is currently forecast for summer 2028, i.e. after the PA is agreed.

b) **Southern Converter Site Purchase**: the funding will be used to complete the purchase of land, for which initial funding was allowed in ECF1. The JV

[7] Decision on accelerating onshore electricity transmission investment | Ofgem, paragraph 5.28
[8] Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance And Submission Requirements Document.pdf

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considers the project to be sufficiently advanced to complete this purchase; The funding requested will also be used to purchase land that will be required for access

c) **Southern Landfall**: option agreement for land purchase for southern landfall was allowed in ECF1. This would allow EGL3 and EGL4 to use the land to better fulfil biodiversity net gain (BNG) requirements. This is intended to be a shared cost with EGL3, with the values adjusted accordingly at PA stage.

d) **Southern Cable Corridor easements**: Securing early cable corridor easements provides the permanent legal rights necessary to install, operate, maintain, and ultimately replace the onshore HVDC cable system. As the cable corridor is shared with EGL3, the EGL4 project is liable for 50% of this total cost. The land is required to establish temporary access routes and haul roads, prepare construction compounds and working areas, and undertake construction-risk surveys to de-risk the project.

Consumer benefits and protections in place

2.12 The JV has advised that early acquisition and purchase reduce delivery risk, enable construction preparation activities and help avoid future cost escalation or route changes. Given the project's potential to decrease constraint costs and increase the resilience of the energy system, reducing the risk of delays is in the consumer's interest.

2.13 NGET and SPT have implemented several measures to protect consumers, including:

a) the use of option agreements where practicable

b) restricting outright purchases to low-regret circumstances, and

c) maintaining detailed governance over land acquisition decisions, committing funds no earlier than necessary

2.14 In the event that project requirements change, the acquired land may retain residual value through repurposing or resale. We will expect the joint venture to recover as much of the cost as possible to limit consumer exposure to financial loss.

Early enabling works

2.15 Some early enabling works requirements were covered under the allowance of ECF1. Early enabling works activities requested under this ECF2 are:

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a) **South Converter Civils** - Public road improvements, environmental mitigation, & preparatory works ahead of main civils:

b) **DNO Connections and Diversions**

c) **Southern Shared works** - Feasibility and design works, alongside ground investigations:

d) **UXO Activities -** Fishing Compensation[9]: provides compensation and liaison arrangements to facilitate the temporary removal of fishing gear from survey and construction areas, enabling offshore works to proceed safely and efficiently.

Consumer benefits and protections in place

2.16 These activities are intended to support the timely and efficient delivery of EGL4 by reducing key design, construction, procurement and programme risks ahead of main construction.

2.17 They enable critical path activities to progress earlier, improve design maturity, secure access to constrained supply chains, facilitate essential enabling works and resolve site-specific risks before they can affect delivery. This reduces the likelihood of future delays, inefficient working, redesign and cost escalation, helping to ensure that consumers realise the benefits of EGL4 at the earliest practicable opportunity.

2.18 Earlier delivery supports the project's contribution to relieving transmission constraints, reducing network costs and facilitating the connection and transport of renewable generation.

2.19 We note that activities in the early enabling works category are typically non-transferable and non-refundable. We have engaged with NGET and SPT on this extensively to ensure that consumer money is protected as much as possible. For example, we expect the JV to put in place contractual agreements, which allow for phased payments, tied to project progress milestone in order to limit exposure to full contract costs.

2.20 Early enabling works are selected only at a stage where project cancellation risk has materially reduced. While some enabling works (e.g. public road

[9] We note that related activities were considered under the "Other" category in ECF1. However, following our assessment of a similar activity requested in EGL3's second ECF request, we considered it appropriate to move this activity to the "early enabling works" category.

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improvements) cannot be undone, undertaking them later in the development cycle and focusing on activities with enduring value ensures consumer funds are deployed prudently and with a strong likelihood of recoverability.

Early Procurement Commitments

2.21 The JV has requested funding for the procurement of the following items under this ECF2 request:

a) **Converter Platform Civils** – additional funding required due to re-profiling of these costs.

b) **Procuring a Third Party Contractor for Network Models and Studies**: required as the electricity network across Great Britain is increasingly dominated by inverter-based resources (IBRs), leading to greater complexity and dynamic interactions. Comprehensive power system studies are required during the detailed design phase to assess performance under fault and contingency conditions using detailed simulation models. The JV has requested funding to appoint a contractor to carry out such studies and validate against performance compliance. To protect programme delivery, this work must be carried out prior to August 2028 to allow other partners and contractors to complete control system design work.

c) Procuring items with long lead times as part of EGL4's share of the Westfield substation connections wider works: including switchgear bays, design work and protection and control scope.

Consumer benefits and protections in place

2.22 EGL4 interacts with other projects (EGL3 and TKUP) and therefore protecting the delivery schedule is essential to prevent wider impacts across the ASTI portfolio.

2.23 Early procurement of equipment minimises delivery risk by avoiding delays that might otherwise occur if the equipment is not available at the time it is needed.

2.24 Early procurement also helps avoid paying increased prices at a later stage. Prices may otherwise rise in line with inflation/demand or the JV might need to pay more for expediated delivery of the items if this is an option. This means that procuring the items early can provide an additional cost saving for the consumer.

2.25 The network models and studies that the JV seeks to carry out via a third party contractor are required to ensure compliance with system safety regulations and

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therefore must be ready before the project can proceed with further design work. In the event of project cancellation, the studies may carry residual value as they would be assessing the impact of multiple projects within the same area.

3. Our Minded-To Position

This chapter outlines our minded-to position on the ECF application and corresponding proposed licence modification.

Questions

Q1. Do you agree with our minded-to position to provide ECF for the EGL4 project?

Q2. Do you agree with our proposed modification to adjust $ASTIA_t$ in Appendix 1 of SpC 3.21?

3.1 We have engaged with NGET and SPT on this project and we are satisfied that the activities set out in this request are justified and eligible to be funded under SpC 3.21 as early construction funding.

3.2 These activities will help to accelerate the delivery of EGL4, minimise delivery risk and help to reduce the financial burden of future constraint costs to the consumer.

3.3 We are satisfied that NGET and SPT have placed sufficient consumer protections in place to limit the exposure to financial loss in the event of project cancellation.

3.4 Rejecting this ECF request would increase the risk of delivery delay by preventing important early works to proceed as soon as practical. This would ultimately negatively impact consumers because delays to the project would ultimately result in boundary constraint costs.

3.5 We are therefore minded-to approve the request of 1.5%, (amounting to 14.6% in total combined with the previously granted ECF1 funding), of the ASTI licence project value and is well within the 20% threshold set out in the TOs' licences.

3.6 It is Ofgem's view that this strikes a fair balance between protecting the consumer from excessive risk, while still promoting acceleration of the project and providing a safe, clean and stable energy network, which is ultimately in the consumer's interest.

3.7 We expect NGET and SPT to take all reasonable steps to ensure timely and successful delivery of the project and to ensure that consumer risks in every scenario are kept as low as practical. In the event of project cancellation, we would expect the JV to recover as much of the costs as possible – i.e. through land resale or repurposing of activities or materials.

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4. Next steps

This chapter sets out the next steps in our assessment under the ASTI framework.

4.1 This consultation containing our ECF2 minded-to- position and the proposed modifications to Appendix 1 of SpC 3.21 set out in the accompanying document closes on 20 December 2026.

4.2 We aim to publish our ECF decision in January 2027 and, subject to the outcome of the consultation, any respective decision to modify NGET and SPTs' respective licence in accordance with section 11A of the Electricity Act 1989 will be published alongside it

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Send us your feedback

We believe that consultation is at the heart of good policy development. We are keen to receive your comments about this consultation. We would also like to get your answers to these questions:

- Do you have any comments about the quality of this document?
- Do you have any comments about its tone and content?
- Was it easy to read and understand? Or could it have been better written?
- Are its conclusions balanced?
- Did it make reasoned recommendations?
- Do you have any further comments?

Please send your feedback to stakeholders@ofgem.gov.uk.

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Appendix 1. NGET's Special Condition 3.21 Accelerated strategic transmission investment Re-opener and Price Control Deliverable term (ASTIRt)

Special Condition 3.21 Accelerated strategic transmission investment Re-opener and Price Control Deliverable term ($ASTIR_t$)

Introduction

3.21.1 The purpose of this condition is to specify the value of the term $ASTIR_t$ (the accelerated strategic transmission investment Re-opener term). This contributes to the calculation of the Totex Allowance.

3.21.2 The effect of this condition is to:
(a)specify the ASTI Outputs, delivery dates and allowances for the Price Control Deliverable;
(b)establish a Re-opener for the licensee to apply for an adjustment to the ASTI Outputs, delivery dates and allowances in Appendix A and the minimum circuit availability standard after delivery in Appendix B;
(c)provide for an assessment of the Price Control Deliverable; and
(d)establish the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document.

3.21.3 This condition also sets out the process the Authority will follow when making changes to Appendix A as a result of the Re-openers.

Part A: Formula for calculating the accelerated strategic transmission investment Re-opener term ($ASTIR_t$)

3.21.4 The value of ASTIRt is derived in accordance with the following formula:

where:

ASTIAt	means the allowances in Appendix A; and
ASTIRAt	has the value zero unless otherwise directed by the Authority in accordance with Part G.

Part B: ASTI Outputs

3.21.5 The licensee must deliver the ASTI Outputs no later than 12 months after the delivery dates specified in Appendix A.

3.21.6 After the ASTI Output has been delivered it must be operational and available for use by the ISOP for the period specified in Appendix B after application of

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the exclusions set out in Chapter 4 of the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document.

Part C: Early Construction Funding

3.21.7 The licensee may, in respect of any ASTI Output, apply for an Early Construction Funding decision to adjust ASTIAt.

3.21.8 Unless the Authority directs otherwise, the aggregate allowances provided under paragraph 3.21.7 for any ASTI Output may not exceed 20% of the total forecast project cost listed in the ASTI Confidential Annex.

3.21.9 The licensee must notify the Authority in writing of its intention to make an application under 3.21.7 at least eight weeks before making an application, unless the Authority directs otherwise.

3.21.10 A modification under this Part will be made under section 11A of the Act.

Part D: ASTI Project Assessment Decision

3.21.11 The licensee may, in respect of any ASTI, apply for an ASTI Project Assessment Decision and an associated modification of Appendices 1 and 2 to:

(a)specify or amend an ASTI Output, a delivery date and associated allowances; and

(b)specify the minimum circuit availability standard after delivery for the relevant ASTI Output.

3.21.12 Unless the Authority otherwise directs, the licensee may only apply for an ASTI Project Assessment Decision after submission of all material planning consent applications.

3.21.13 A modification under this Part will be made under section 11A of the Act.

Part E: ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event

3.21.14 The licensee may apply for a modification to the ASTI Outputs and allowances in Appendix A where it considers that there has been one or more ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event.

3.21.15 The licensee may only apply under this Part to modify allowances in Appendix A where:

(a) expenditure has been caused to increase or decrease by at least the percentage specified in, or in accordance with, paragraph 3.21.17, calculated before the application of the Totex Incentive Mechanism, relative to the relevant allowance in Appendix A by the event or if there has been more than

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one event:

(b) by each event;

(c) if the Authority has directed that the events in relation to the relevant ASTI Output should count cumulatively towards the percentage threshold,; and

(d) the increase or decrease in expenditure is expected to be efficiently incurred or saved.

3.21.16 The licensee may apply under this Part to modify the ASTI Outputs in Appendix A only where there is a material change to the scope of the relevant ASTI project.

3.21.17 The percentage referred to in paragraph 3.21.15(a) is:

(a)5%; or

(b)for the purpose of the ASTI Output E2DC, 1%; or

(c)for the purpose of ASTI Output E4D3, 0.75%; or

(d)such other percentage as the Authority may specify by direction.

3.21.18 An application under this Part must be made in writing and must:

(a)include detailed supporting evidence that an ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event meeting the requirements set out in paragraphs 3.21.15, or where applicable 3.21.16, has occurred;

(b)set out the modifications requested to the ASTI Outputs or associated allowances in Appendix A;

(c)explain the basis of the calculation for any proposed modification to the allowances in Appendix A, which must be designed to keep, so far as is reasonably practicable, the financial position and performance of the licensee the same as if the ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event had not occurred; and

(d)include a statement from a technical adviser, who is external to and independent from the licensee, whether, considered in the context of the value of the ASTI Output, the proposed modification to the ASTI Output or associated allowances fairly reflects the effects of the ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event.

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3.21.19 The Authority may make a modification under this Part where:

(a)there has been an application under this Part;

(b)there has been an ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event in relation to the relevant ASTI;

(c)the requirements of paragraphs 3.21.14 to 3.21.18, where applicable, have been met; and

(d)the proposed modifications to Appendix A have the effect so far as is reasonably practicable of keeping the financial position and performance of the licensee the same as if the ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event had not occurred.

3.21.20 A modification under this Part will be made under section 11A of the Act.

Part F: Modification of delivery date in Appendix A further to an ASTI ODI Penalty Exemption Period decision or ASTI ODI Target Date decision under Part B of Special Condition 4.7 (Accelerated strategic transmission investment output delivery incentive)

3.21.21 The Authority will modify the delivery dates in Appendix A where it decides under Part B of Special Condition 4.7 (Accelerated strategic transmission investment output delivery incentive) to make a modification to the ASTI ODI Penalty Exemption Period or ASTI ODI Target Date in Appendix 1 of Special Condition 4.7.

3.21.22 A modification under this Part will be made under section 11A of the Act.

Part G: Assessment of the Price Control Deliverable (ASTIRAt)

3.21.23 The Authority will, in accordance with the assessment principles set out in Part A of Special Condition 9.3 (Price Control Deliverable assessment principles and reporting requirements), consider directing a value for ASTIRAt where the licensee has not Fully Delivered an output in Appendix A.

Part H: What process will the Authority follow in making a direction?

3.21.24 Before making a direction under Part G the Authority will publish on the Authority's Website:

(a)the text of the proposed direction;

(b)the reasons for the proposed direction; and

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(c)a period during which representations may be made on the proposed direction, which will be up to 28 days unless the Authority determines that a longer period is appropriate.

3.21.25 A direction in respect of Part G will set out:

(a)the delivery status of the ASTI Output that has not been Fully Delivered;

(b)the value of the ASTIRt term and the Regulatory Years to which that adjustment relates; and

(c)the methodology and data that has been used to decide the delivery status and value of any adjustments to the ASTIRt term.

Part I: Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document

3.21.26 The licensee must comply with the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document.

3.21.27 The Authority will issue and amend the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document by direction.

3.21.28 The Authority will publish the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document on the Authority's Website.

3.21.29 The Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document will make provision about the detailed requirements for Parts C, D, E and F.

3.21.30 The Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document will also make provision about the detailed requirements under Special Condition 3.20 (ASTI Pre-Construction Funding Re-opener, Price Control Deliverable and Use It Or Lose It Adjustment) and Special Condition 4.7 (ASTI output delivery incentive).

3.21.31 Before directing that the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document comes into effect, the Authority will publish on the Authority's Website:

(a)the text of the proposed Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document;

(b)the date on which the Authority intends the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document to come into effect; and

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(c)a period during which representations may be made on the text of the proposed Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document, which will be up to 28 days unless the Authority determines that a longer period is appropriate.

3.21.32 Before directing an amendment to the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document, the Authority will publish on the Authority's Website:

(a)the text of the amended Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document;

(b)the date on which the Authority intends the amended Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document to come into effect;

(c)the reasons for the amendments to the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document; and

(d)a period during which representations may be made on the amendments to the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document, which will be up to 28 days unless the Authority determines that a longer period is appropriate.

Appendix A

ASTI Price Control Deliverable

ASTI Output	**Delivery Date**	**Allowance ($ASTIA_t$, £m)**	**ECF/PA**
New 400 kV double circuit in north East Anglia (NOA Code: AENC)	31 December 2031	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
New 400 kV double circuit in south East Anglia (NOA Code: ATNC)	31 December 2031	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
New 400 kV double circuit between Bramford and Twinstead (NOA Code: BTNO)	31 December 2029	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	

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Consultation Eastern Green Link 4 statutory consultation on Early Construction Funding (ECF) and corresponding proposed modification to Special Condition 3.21 of their electricity transmission licence

ASTI Output	**Delivery Date**	**Allowance ($ASTIA_t$, £m)**	**ECF/PA**
New 400 kV double circuit between Creyke Beck and the south Humber (NOA Code: CGNC)	31 December 2031	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
Eastern subsea HVDC link from Torness to Hawthorn Pit (NOA Code: E2DC) consisting of: *-2GW additional network capacity, subject to 5% margin.* *-176km HVDC marine cable (525kV Cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE) 2000MW capacity)* *-17 km HVDC onshore cable* *-new HVDC Converter station at Hawthorn Pit* *-new HVDC Converter station at Torness* *-new 400kV 20 bay GIS (non SF6) substation at Hawthorn Pit* *- 2 Additional bays at Branxton Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) – non sulphur hexafluoride (SF6) substation* *- Extension of existing Norton substation* *- Protection changes at existing Offerton substation*	31 December 2028	£2,492,205,963	PA
Eastern Scotland to England link: Peterhead to Drax offshore HVDC (NOA Code: E4D3) consisting of: *- 1.8-1.9GW additional network capacity;*	31 December 2030	£4,295,638,278	PA

Internal Use

Consultation Eastern Green Link 4 statutory consultation on Early Construction Funding (ECF) and corresponding proposed modification to Special Condition 3.21 of their electricity transmission licence

ASTI Output	**Delivery Date**	**Allowance (ASTIA$_t$, £m)**	**ECF/PA**
- 436km HVDC marine cable *- 70km onshore cable;* *- new converter station at Wren Hall* *- new converter station at Peterhead;* *- 3 new bays in Peterhead* *-1 new bay in Drax substation* *- Reinforcement of existing substations and infrastructure to support E4D3*			
Eastern Scotland to England 3rd link: Peterhead to West Norfolk offshore HVDC (EGL4) (NOA Code: E4L5)	31 August 2034	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
400 kV upgrade of Brinsworth to Chesterfield double circuit and Chesterfield to High Marnham double circuit. New High Marnham and Chesterfield 400 kV substations (NOA Code: EDEU)	31 December 2029	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
New Chesterfield to Ratcliffe-on-Soar 400 kV double circuit (NOA Code: EDN2)	31 December 2031	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
New 400kV double circuit between South Humber and West Norfolk (NOA Code: GWNC)	31 December 2033	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
Uprate Hackney, Tottenham and Waltham Cross 275 kV to 400 kV (NOA Code: HWUP)	31 December 2028	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
New 400kV substations and relevant 275kV circuits upgrades and new 275kV and 400kV circuits between the existing Norton to Osbaldwick circuits and Monk Fryston (NOA Code: OPN2)	31 December 2028	£368,126,448	PA

Internal Use

Consultation Eastern Green Link 4 statutory consultation on Early Construction Funding (ECF) and corresponding proposed modification to Special Condition 3.21 of their electricity transmission licence

ASTI Output	**Delivery Date**	**Allowance ($ASTIA_t$, £m)**	**ECF/PA**
Pentir to Trawsfynydd cable replacement (NOA Code: PTC1)	31 December 2029	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
North Wales reinforcement (NOA Code: PTNO)	31 December 2030	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
New Offshore HVDC link between Suffolk and Kent option 1 (NOA Code: SCD1)	31 December 2031	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
Eastern subsea HVDC link from East Scotland to West Norfolk () (NOA Code: TGDC)	31 August 2034	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
Tilbury to Grain and Tilbury to Kingsnorth upgrade (NOA Code: TKRE)	31 December 2029	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF

Appendix B

ASTI Output availability standard

ASTI Output	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery** **0-6 months (%)**	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery** **6-12 months (%)**	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery (%)** **12-24 months**
New 400 kV double circuit in north East Anglia (NOA Code: AENC)			
New 400 kV double circuit in south East Anglia (NOA Code: ATNC)			

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ASTI Output	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery** **0-6 months (%)**	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery** **6-12 months (%)**	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery (%)** **12-24 months**
New 400 kV double circuit between Bramford and Twinstead (NOA Code: BTNO)			
New 400 kV double circuit between Creyke Beck and the south Humber (NOA Code: CGNC)			
Eastern subsea HVDC link from Torness to Hawthorn Pit (NOA Code: E2DC)			
Eastern Scotland to England link: Peterhead to Drax offshore HVDC (NOA Code: E4D3)			
Eastern Scotland to England 3rd link: Peterhead to West Norfolk offshore HVDC (EGL4) (NOA Code: E4L5)			
400 kV upgrade of Brinsworth to Chesterfield double			

Internal Use

ASTI Output	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery** **0-6 months (%)**	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery** **6-12 months (%)**	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery (%)** **12-24 months**
circuit and Chesterfield to High Marnham double circuit. New High Marnham and Chesterfield 400 kV substations (NOA Code: EDEU)			
New Chesterfield to Ratcliffe-on-Soar 400 kV double circuit (NOA Code: EDN2)			
New 400kV double circuit between South Humber and West Norfolk (NOA Code: GWNC)			
Uprate Hackney, Tottenham and Waltham Cross 275 kV to 400 kV (NOA Code: HWUP)			
New 400 kV double circuit between the existing Norton to Osbaldwick circuit and Poppleton and relevant 275 kV upgrades (NOA Code: OPN2)			

Internal Use

Consultation Eastern Green Link 4 statutory consultation on Early Construction Funding (ECF) and corresponding proposed modification to Special Condition 3.21 of their electricity transmission licence

ASTI Output	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery** **0-6 months (%)**	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery** **6-12 months (%)**	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery (%)** **12-24 months**
Pentir to Trawsfynydd cable replacement (NOA Code: PTC1)			
North Wales reinforcement (NOA Code: PTNO)			
New Offshore HVDC link between Suffolk and Kent option 1 (NOA Code: SCD1)			
Eastern subsea HVDC link from East Scotland to West Norfolk () (NOA Code: TGDC)			
Tilbury to Grain and Tilbury to Kingsnorth upgrade (NOA Code: TKRE)			

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Appendix 2. SPT's Special Condition 3.21 Accelerated strategic transmission investment Re-opener and Price Control Deliverable term (ASTIRt)

Special Condition 3.21 Accelerated strategic transmission investment Re-opener and Price Control Deliverable term ($ASTIR_t$)

Introduction

3.21.1 The purpose of this condition is to specify the value of the term $ASTIR_t$ (the accelerated strategic transmission investment Re-opener term). This contributes to the calculation of the Totex Allowance.

3.21.2 The effect of this condition is to:

(a)specify the ASTI Outputs, delivery dates and allowances for the Price Control Deliverable;

(b)establish a Re-opener for the licensee to apply for an adjustment to the ASTI Outputs, delivery dates and allowances in Appendix A and the minimum circuit availability standard after delivery in Appendix B;

(c)provide for an assessment of the Price Control Deliverable; and

(d)establish the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document.

3.21.3 This condition also sets out the process the Authority will follow when making changes to Appendix A as a result of the Re-openers.

Part A: Formula for calculating the accelerated strategic transmission investment Re-opener term ($ASTIR_t$)

3.21.4 The value of ASTIRt is derived in accordance with the following formula:

where:

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Consultation Eastern Green Link 4 statutory consultation on Early Construction Funding (ECF) and corresponding proposed modification to Special Condition 3.21 of their electricity transmission licence

ASTIAt	means the allowances in Appendix 1; and
ASTIRAt	has the value zero unless otherwise directed by the Authority in accordance with Part G.

Part B: ASTI Outputs

3.21.5 The licensee must deliver the ASTI Outputs no later than 12 months after the delivery dates specified in Appendix A.

3.21.6 After the ASTI Output has been delivered it must be operational and available for use by the ISOP for the period specified in Appendix B after application of the exclusions set out in Chapter 4 of the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document.

Part C: Early Construction Funding

3.21.7 The licensee may, in respect of any ASTI Output, apply for an Early Construction Funding decision to adjust ASTIAt.

3.21.8 Unless the Authority directs otherwise, the aggregate allowances provided under paragraph 3.21.7 for any ASTI Output may not exceed 20% of the total forecast project cost listed in the ASTI Confidential Annex.

3.21.9 The licensee must notify the Authority in writing of its intention to make an application under 3.21.7 at least eight weeks before making an application, unless the Authority directs otherwise.

3.21.10 A modification under this Part will be made under section 11A of the Act.

Part D: ASTI Project Assessment Decision

3.21.11 The licensee may, in respect of any ASTI, apply for an ASTI Project Assessment Decision and an associated modification of Appendices 1 and 2 to:

(a)specify or amend an ASTI Output, a delivery date and associated allowances; and

(b)specify the minimum circuit availability standard after delivery for the relevant ASTI Output.

3.21.12 Unless the Authority otherwise directs, the licensee may only apply for an ASTI Project Assessment Decision after submission of all material planning consent applications.

3.21.13 A modification under this Part will be made under section 11A of the Act.

Part E: ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event

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3.21.14 The licensee may apply for a modification to the ASTI Outputs and allowances in Appendix A where it considers that there has been one or more ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event.

3.21.15 The licensee may only apply under this Part to modify allowances in Appendix A where:

(a)expenditure has been caused to increase or decrease by at least the percentage specified in, or in accordance with, paragraph 3.21.17, calculated before the application of the Totex Incentive Mechanism, relative to the relevant allowance in Appendix A by the event or if there has been more than one event:

i.by each event;

ii.if the Authority has directed that the events in relation to the relevant ASTI Output should count cumulatively towards the percentage threshold,; and

iii.the increase or decrease in expenditure is expected to be efficiently incurred or saved.

3.21.16 The licensee may apply under this Part to modify the ASTI Outputs in Appendix A only where there is a material change to the scope of the relevant ASTI project.

3.21.17 The percentage referred to in paragraph 3.21.15(a) is:

(a)5%; or

(b)for the purpose of ASTI Output E4D3, 0.75%; or

(c)such other percentage as the Authority may specify by direction.

3.21.18 An application under this Part must be made in writing and must:

(a)include detailed supporting evidence that an ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event meeting the requirements set out in paragraphs 3.21.15, or where applicable 3.21.16, has occurred;

(b)set out the modifications requested to the ASTI Outputs or associated allowances in Appendix A;

(c)explain the basis of the calculation for any proposed modification to the allowances in Appendix A, which must be designed to keep, so far as is reasonably practicable, the financial position and performance of the licensee

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the same as if the ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event had not occurred; and

(d)include a statement from a technical adviser, who is external to and independent from the licensee, whether, considered in the context of the value of the ASTI Output, the proposed modification to the ASTI Output or associated allowances fairly reflects the effects of the ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event.

3.21.19 The Authority may make a modification under this Part where:

(a)there has been an application under this Part;

(b)there has been an ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event in relation to the relevant ASTI;

(c)the requirements of paragraphs 3.21.14 to 3.21.18, where applicable, have been met; and

(d)the proposed modifications to Appendix A have the effect so far as is reasonably practicable of keeping the financial position and performance of the licensee the same as if the ASTI Cost And Output Adjusting Event had not occurred.

3.21.20 A modification under this Part will be made under section 11A of the Act.

Part F: Modification of delivery date in Appendix A further to an ASTI ODI Penalty Exemption Period decision or ASTI ODI Target Date decision under Part B of Special Condition 4.7 (Accelerated strategic transmission investment output delivery incentive)

3.21.21 The Authority will modify the delivery dates in Appendix A where it decides under Part B of Special Condition 4.7 (Accelerated strategic transmission investment output delivery incentive) to make a modification to the ASTI ODI Penalty Exemption Period or ASTI ODI Target Date in Appendix A of Special Condition 4.7.

3.21.22 A modification under this Part will be made under section 11A of the Act.

G: Assessment of the Price Control Deliverable (ASTIRAt)

3.21.23 The Authority will, in accordance with the assessment principles set out in Part A of Special Condition 9.3 (Price Control Deliverable assessment principles and reporting requirements), consider directing a value for ASTIRAt where the licensee has not Fully Delivered an output in Appendix A.

H: What process will the Authority follow in making a direction?

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3.21.24 Before making a direction under Part G the Authority will publish on the Authority's Website:

(a)the text of the proposed direction;

(b)the reasons for the proposed direction; and

(c)a period during which representations may be made on the proposed direction, which will be up to 28 days unless the Authority determines that a longer period is appropriate.

3.21.25 A direction in respect of Part G will set out:

(a)the delivery status of the ASTI Output that has not been Fully Delivered;

(b)the value of the ASTIRt term and the Regulatory Years to which that adjustment relates; and

(c)the methodology and data that has been used to decide the delivery status and value of any adjustments to the ASTIRt term.

Part I: Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document

3.21.26 The licensee must comply with the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document.

3.21.27 The Authority will issue and amend the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document by direction.

3.21.28 The Authority will publish the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document on the Authority's Website.

3.21.29 The Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document will make provision about the detailed requirements for Parts C, D, E and F.

3.21.30 The Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document will also make provision about the detailed requirements under Special Condition 3.20 (ASTI Pre-Construction Funding Re-opener, Price Control Deliverable and Use It Or Lose It Adjustment) and Special Condition 4.7 (ASTI output delivery incentive).

3.21.31 Before directing that the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document comes into effect, the Authority will publish on the Authority's Website:

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(a)the text of the proposed Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document;

(b)the date on which the Authority intends the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document to come into effect; and

(c)a period during which representations may be made on the text of the proposed Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document, which will be up to 28 days unless the Authority determines that a longer period is appropriate.

3.21.32 Before directing an amendment to the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document, the Authority will publish on the Authority's Website:

(a)the text of the amended Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document;

(b)the date on which the Authority intends the amended Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document to come into effect;

(c)the reasons for the amendments to the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document; and

(d)a period during which representations may be made on the amendments to the Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment Guidance and Submissions Requirements Document, which will be up to 28 days unless the Authority determines that a longer period is appropriate.

Appendix A

ASTI Price Control Deliverable

ASTI Output	**Delivery Date**	**Allowance ($ASTIA_t$, £m)**	**ECF/PA**
Denny to Wishaw 400 kV reinforcement (NOA Code: DWNO)	31 December 2029	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF

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ASTI Output	Delivery Date	Allowance ($ASTIA_t$, £m)	ECF/PA
Eastern subsea HVDC link from Torness to Hawthorn Pit (NOA Code: E2DC)	31 December 2028	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	PA
Eastern subsea HVDC Link from east Scotland to south Humber area (NOA Code: TGDC)	31 December 2031	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF
East Coast Onshore 400 kV Phase 2 reinforcement (NOA Code: TKUP)	31 December 2031	Have the values given in the ASTI Confidential Annex.	ECF

Appendix B

ASTI Output availability standard

ASTI Output availability standard

ASTI Output	Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery (%) 0-6 months	Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery (%) 6-12 months	Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery (%) 12-24 months
Denny to Wishaw 400 kV reinforcement (NOA Code: DWNO)			
Eastern subsea HVDC link from Torness to Hawthorn Pit (NOA Code: E2DC)			
Eastern subsea HVDC Link from east Scotland to south Humber area (NOA Code: TGDC)			

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Consultation Eastern Green Link 4 statutory consultation on Early Construction Funding (ECF) and corresponding proposed modification to Special Condition 3.21 of their electricity transmission licence

ASTI Output	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery (%)** **0-6 months**	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery (%)** **6-12 months**	**Minimum circuit availability standard after delivery (%)** **12-24 months**
East Coast Onshore 400 kV Phase 2 reinforcement (NOA Code: TKUP)			

Appendix 3. Privacy policy

Personal data

The following explains your rights and gives you the information you are entitled to under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Note that this section only refers to your personal data (your name address and anything that could be used to identify you personally) not the content of your response to the consultation.

1. The identity of the controller and contact details of our Data Protection Officer

The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority is the controller, (for ease of reference, "Ofgem"). The Data Protection Officer can be contacted at dpo@ofgem.gov.uk

2. Why we are collecting your personal data

Your personal data is being collected as an essential part of the consultation process, so that we can contact you regarding your response and for statistical purposes. We may also use it to contact you about related matters.

3. Our legal basis for processing your personal data

As a public authority, the GDPR makes provision for Ofgem to process personal data as necessary for the effective performance of a task carried out in the public interest. i.e. a consultation.

4. For how long we will keep your personal data, or criteria used to determine the retention period.

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Your personal data will be held for six months after the project is closed.

5. Your rights

The data we are collecting is your personal data, and you have considerable say over what happens to it. You have the right to:

- know how we use your personal data
- access your personal data
- have personal data corrected if it is inaccurate or incomplete
- ask us to delete personal data when we no longer need it
- ask us to restrict how we process your data
- get your data from us and re-use it across other services
- object to certain ways we use your data
- be safeguarded against risks where decisions based on your data are taken entirely automatically
- tell us if we can share your information with 3rd parties
- tell us your preferred frequency, content and format of our communications with you
- to lodge a complaint with the independent Information Commissioner (ICO) if you think we are not handling your data fairly or in accordance with the law. You can contact the ICO at https://ico.org.uk/, or telephone 0303 123 1113.

7. Your personal data will not be sent overseas

8. Your personal data will not be used for any automated decision making.

9. Your personal data will be stored in a secure government IT system.

10. More information For more information on how Ofgem processes your data, click on the link to our "ofgem privacy promise".

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