

Emily Fitzpatrick
National Grid Electricity Transmission
4th Floor, Crossgates House
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS15 8ET

Justine Foster
Infrastructure Manager
Planning Services
Lincolnshire County Council
County Offices
Newland
Lincoln LN1 1YL
Tel: 01522 782070
E-Mail: NSIPS@lincolnshire.gov.uk

22 January 2025

Dear Emily

REQUEST FOR A DIRECTION BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER SECTION 35 OF PLANNING ACT (PA) 2008 RELATING TO AC4 PROJECT, A TRANSMISSION REINFORCEMENT PROJECT.

The Council understands that National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) is requesting a direction from the Secretary of State under Section 35 of the Planning Act 2008 for AC4 to be treated as development for which development consent is required.

There are a number of energy related schemes in this locality already in the public domain with others which will emerge shortly, all of which are being promoted as Development Consent Order projects. It would enable these projects to be looked at in a holistic way if they are all to be examined as Development Consent Order (DCO) projects. This would also help the public to engage if they are all determined under the same process as it could prove confusing if some are dealt with as DCO projects and others under the Town and Country Planning Act.

Consequently Lincolnshire County Council is supportive of the AC4 proposal being considered a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, as per the Planning Act 2008. The County Council considers that the proposal would be best considered through the DCO process noting that similar projects have been considered under such legislation.

The County Council looks forward to assisting you with the DCO process where possible, to build on our existing knowledge base in relation to other energy projects which will enable us to respond comprehensively to the AC4 proposals.

Yours sincerely

Justine Foster

**for Neil McBride
Head of Planning**