



UK Government

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2 October 2026

Dear REDACTED,

**LIONLINK INTERCONNECTOR: REQUEST TO VARY THE SECTION 35 DIRECTION
DATED 23 AUGUST 2022 (PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE: EN020033)
("THE DIRECTION")**

I am writing on behalf of the Secretary of State in response to your letter dated 22 September 2026 requesting a variation to the Direction issued under section 35 of the Planning Act 2008 on 23 August 2022 in respect of LionLink.

The Secretary of State has considered the information provided, including the change in the project's name from EuroLink to LionLink and the updates to the proposed infrastructure, export capacity, regulatory position and policy context.

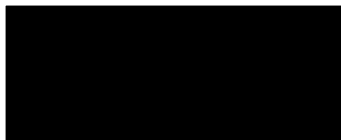
The change in name does not alter the identity or nature of the project. Although the proposed export capacity has increased from up to 1.8GW to up to 2GW, this does not alter the physical nature of the development. Similarly, the revised approach to the substation does not materially alter the project described in the existing Direction.

On this basis, the Secretary of State concludes that these changes are not sufficiently substantive to warrant varying the existing Direction or its conclusion that the project is of national significance.

Consequently, the Secretary of State considers that it is not necessary to vary the existing Direction of 23 August as the updates for this proposed development remain within the scope of that Direction.

This confirmation relates solely to the status of the project under section 35 of the Planning Act 2008 and does not prejudice the Secretary of State's consideration of any future application for development consent on its planning merits, having regard to all relevant material considerations.

Yours sincerely,



Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery & Innovation
Department for Energy Security & Net Zero