

The Great Grid Upgrade

Norwich to Tilbury

Project update

February 2026

nationalgrid

National Grid is proposing to build a new electricity transmission link between Norwich and Tilbury to deliver secure, cleaner, and more affordable energy from where it's generated to where it's needed.

Examination begins for the Norwich to Tilbury Project

In August 2025, we submitted our application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build and operate the new Norwich to Tilbury line. It was accepted for examination in September.

An independent panel of experts will now consider our application in detail, looking at earlier consultation feedback alongside evidence submitted during hearings. This part of the process can take up to six months.

The preliminary hearing is taking place on Tuesday 10 February 2026, with the initial open floor hearings and issue specific hearings taking place over the course of the week. The dates, times and agendas for the first week of hearings have been published by the Planning Inspectorate.

The examination provides an opportunity for the Examining Authority to ask for further information, seek clarification and explore whether additional commitments are needed. This means feedback can still influence how the Project is assessed before a recommendation is made to the Secretary of State.



Hearings

The hearings are a key part of the DCO planning process and provide an open and transparent way for communities, landowners, local authorities and other interested parties to continue sharing feedback on the Norwich to Tilbury project.

The open hearings will cover a wide range of subjects, including both localised issues and wider considerations such as the need case for Norwich to Tilbury, the alternatives considered and potential mitigation. Some sessions will focus on specific locations, while others will look at technical or environmental matters such as landscape, ecology, construction and local impact.

How to take part

Anyone who has registered as an interested party can take part, either by speaking at hearings or by submitting written representations. Those who have registered can attend the hearings in person or via Microsoft Teams.

Details of the upcoming hearings, including agendas and instructions on how to attend, can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's [website](#). You can also register for updates from the Planning Inspectorate [here](#).

