

## Blog – National Grid Land Interest Questionnaire (LIQ)

### Why has this letter been sent to the landowner?

Although the land shown on an enclosed plan might fall outside the proposed construction swathe for the 400 kV Grimsby to Walpole transmission line, the landowner's property is likely within the broader "area of interest" or "land referencing boundary" that National Grid (through Dalcour Maclaren) is using for statutory consultation and potential compulsory acquisition powers under a Development Consent Order (DCO).

### This area of interest includes not only:

Land directly required for towers, substations, or access tracks, but also land that might be needed temporarily (for access, working areas, or construction support); or where landowners may hold easements, rights of way, or drainage rights; or where their proximity to the project means they must be notified and given the chance to participate early in consultation stages or raise objections.

### What does this letter really mean?

This is not an acquisition notice. It's part of the statutory land referencing process, which has two main goals:

- To identify all parties with a legal interest in land, not just ownership, but leases, rights of access, easements, covenants, etc.
- To legally validate National Grid's understanding of who they need to consult or serve notice upon if they apply for powers under the Planning Act 2008.

National Grid is using the Land Interest Questionnaire (LIQ) form to double-check and confirm:

- Whether they've correctly identified the landowner and their interests,
- Whether there are any other people (tenants, rights holders) who also need to be contacted,
- Whether the boundary and nature of rights are correctly recorded.

### What is National Grid trying to achieve?

At this stage, National Grid is likely:

- Building its case for a DCO application,
- Fulfilling its legal obligations under the DCO process (which includes identifying and consulting all land interests),
- Avoiding future delays, if they don't identify someone now, it could cause major issues later,
- Clarifying land use options, even if they don't end up needing the specific land, it's prudent to keep all nearby parcels within scope until detailed designs and environmental assessments are finalised.

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## **Summary:**

The land is not necessarily going to be directly affected by a transmission tower or permanent infrastructure, but might be subject to drainage and service rights and/or because it lies within a buffer zone around the main corridor, the landowner is being consulted to ensure all legal interests are accurately recorded. It's a formal part of groundwork for the DCO application, not necessarily a signal that the land needs to be used.

## **Guidance to the Public Regarding National Grid Letters (Grimsby to Walpole Project)**

If you've received a letter and Land Interest Questionnaire (LIQ) from National Grid (via Dalcour Maclaren), here's what you might need to know:

This does not mean your land will definitely be affected. The letter is part of a wider data-gathering exercise required by law. It may be that your property lies close to the proposed overhead line route, or that you have existing rights (e.g. drainage or access) that are relevant to the project.

You are being asked to confirm or correct the land information National Grid holds. You should review the enclosed map and questionnaire. If the details are correct, confirm them. If not, you should highlight any errors. This helps ensure National Grid consults all relevant parties properly and avoids mistakes later in the process.

You are not being asked to agree to any works at this stage. This is *not* a planning application or compulsory purchase notice. It is a pre-application stage in support of a future Development Consent Order (DCO), which is a formal process for large infrastructure projects.

You can respond online, by post, or by email. Instructions are provided in the letter. If you need help completing the form, you can contact Dalcour Maclaren directly using the phone number or email provided.

If you're unsure about your legal rights or land ownership details, you should seek professional advice. The Parish Council is not able to offer legal advice, but local land agents or solicitors can help if you are concerned about rights, easements, or potential land impacts.

You can stay involved. Visit National Grid's project website (provided in the letter) to stay informed about public consultations, planning stages, and how you can have your say as the scheme develops.

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