

# Neilston Greener Grid Park S36 Application Underground Cable - Construction Method Statement

| То:      | Energy Consents Unit | Company:      | Statkraft UK Ltd |
|----------|----------------------|---------------|------------------|
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## Introduction

TNEI Services Ltd (TNEI) has been commissioned by Statkraft UK Ltd (Statkraft) (the Applicant) to undertake the preparation and submission of a Section 36 application associated with the Neilston Greener Grid Park (GGP), which was granted Planning Permission on appeal on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 (Appeal reference: PPA-350-2047 - Renfrewshire Council planning application reference: 21/0034/PP). The Applicant is looking to increase the capacity of the consented Neilston GGP above 50 MW (the Proposed Development) and therefore is seeking Section 36 consent from the Scottish Ministers at the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) and associated deemed Planning Permission under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended.

### Overview of the Proposed Development

The description of the development is as follows:

'Formation of an up to 750 MW Battery Storage Facility, comprising up to 88 battery storage container blocks and associated infrastructure, storage containers, welfare, diesel generators, CCTV and lighting columns and associated access, internal access roads, hard and soft landscaping, SuDS Basin, perimeter fence and underground grid connection cable.'

#### Site Location

The Site is located on land at either side of Glennifer Road, Paisley, part of which is adjacent to the Neilston Substation. The battery component is located to the south of Glennifer Road, with the cable route extending

northwest across the highway and into the Neilston Substation. The Site's approximate grid reference is E 245060, N 659853.

#### **Outline Construction Method Statement**

The purpose of this Outline Construction Method Statement (OCMS) is to provide information in relation to the construction methods envisaged to be used to install the cable route between the batteries and the Neilston Substation, as shown by the indicative cable route on Drawing 15957-025 R7. Importantly, this method statement is subject to detailed engineering design and further pre-construction survey work.

Although it is envisaged that installation works would be carried out concurrently with the main Site construction works, this Statement concerns the cable laying works specifically, and not the construction of the main Site.

Ground conditions and environmental considerations, such as root protection areas, will determine exactly where the below ground cable will be sited but it will be within the Proposed Development boundary as shown in Drawing 15957/025 R7.

This document has been prepared within the context of the statements and assumptions identified below:

- 1. The Principal Designer and Contractor are to take into consideration topographical survey data and any relevant legislation affecting the works, including bird nest protection.
- 2. An ecological survey of the cable route has been carried out. Any mitigation measures required from the findings of the study will be put in place, including a pre-construction ecological walkover, as necessary.
- 3. A survey of all buried services would be carried out along the proposed cable route prior to any detailed design taking place.
- 4. Construction works would be undertaken in accordance with any current legislation / standards and best construction practices. A full construction phase Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) would be developed by the Principal Contractor for the cable route installation works.
- 5. Construction facilities, such as the welfare cabin, equipment store, and the refuelling area, would be provided within the construction compound for the wider Site works.
- 6. The direction of the cable laying works would be determined by the Principal Designer, in coordination with the Principal Contractor, taking into account all other works taking place concurrently within the wider Site.
- 7. The Principal Contractor would need to have a Safe System of Work (SSoW) developed for working with buried utilities and the works would fully comply with the New Roads and Street Works Act (NRSWA) 1991, revised in 2012.

#### Cable Route – Method of Construction

The method of construction is set out below:

- Any trees that would need to be removed prior to the commencement of any excavation works would be identified as per the Landscape Strategy Report. Any tree removal would be carried out by competent contractors to relevant industry guidance. Before these works can commence, an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) will survey the trees for any active nests. These works should not be permitted to commence until the ECoW has indicated it is clear to do so.
- 2. The Principal Contractor is to set out the line and level of the cable route, which will have been fully scanned for buried services, in line with HSG47.
- 3. An adequately sized excavator is to be deployed to dig a trench along the line, and to the level and width set by the Principal Designer. The trench is to be stepped or battered to ensure stability, as

required. Where the trench needs to be left open, then adequate fencing / barriers are to be put in place.

- 4. In areas where there is existing turf, care should be taken to remove the turf in manageable sections, storing them ready for reinstatement once the works are complete.
- 5. The topsoil and subsoil would be stored separately and at a safe distance from the trench.
- 6. The trench is to be dug to a depth of at least 1200 mm.
- 7. The trench will be adequately signed posted, using 'Caution: Open Excavation' warning signs.
- 8. When installing the cable, a Cement Bound Sand (CBS) surround is to be placed along the cable route. The additional ducts, such as the fibre optic cable, XLPE cable, and DTS, are to be laid at the same time as the CBS surround.
- 9. Once the CBS surround is cured, warning covers and tapes will be laid over the CBS surround and the trench backfilled.
- 10. Backfill will be laid in no more than 300 mm thick layers and compacted.
- 11. When backfilled to within 150 mm 200 mm of the existing ground level, the reinstated soil is to be overlaid by the previously removed topsoil and turf, as applicable.
- 12. A temporary road closure permit will need to be obtained for the road crossing. All reinstatement works will fully comply with the New Roads and Street Works Act (NRSWA) 1991, revised in 2012.

#### **Document Control**

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