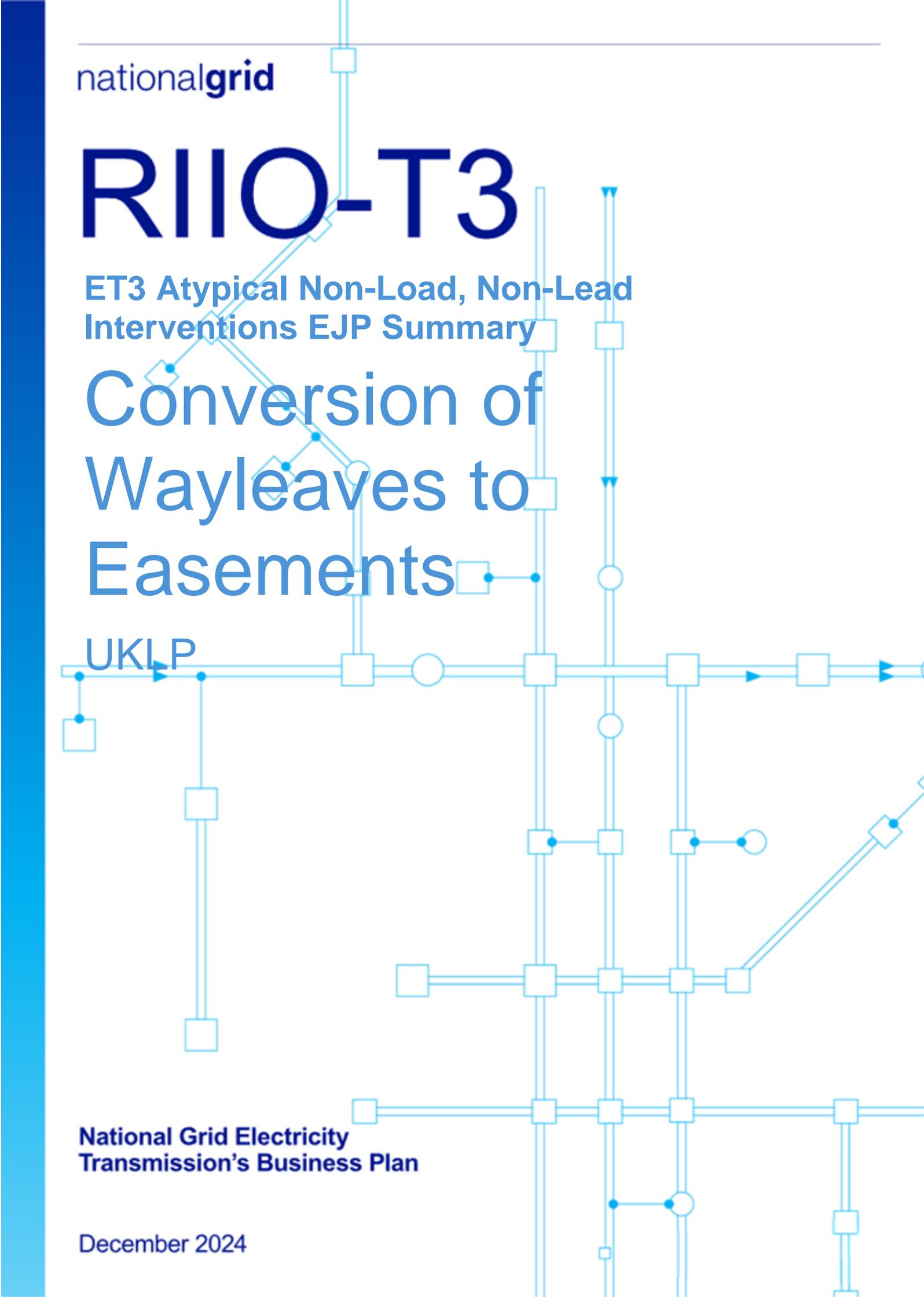


R110-T3

ET3 Atypical Non-Load, Non-Lead Interventions EJP Summary

Conversion of Wayleaves to Easements

UKLP



Conversion of Wayleaves to Easements: Executive Summary

Background

National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) operates the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, which comprises over 7,000 km of overhead lines, around 21,000 pylons, and approximately 700 km of underground cables. This infrastructure is either situated on NGET-owned land or on land subject to Wayleave Agreements or Deeds of Easement. Wayleaves are terminable agreements that carry the risk of access denial, whereas Deeds of Easement grant perpetual access, ensuring greater network resilience. Commencing in the RIIO-T1 period, we transitioned from Wayleaves to Easements, aiming to secure enduring access rights and enhance network stability. This proposal seeks £X million of capital expenditure to continue this transition throughout the RIIO-T3 period.

Drivers for Investment

The primary drivers for this investment are ensuring resilient network access and supporting the Great Grid Upgrade, a significant overhaul of the electricity network aimed at meeting the UK Government's 2030 decarbonisation target. Permanent access to land hosting our infrastructure is crucial for maintaining network safety and reliability. Without such access, the risk to network resilience is heightened, contradicting our ambitions for the RIIO-T3 period. Securing Easements in place of Wayleaves mitigates these risks, allowing for uninterrupted maintenance and supporting the decarbonisation objectives.

Options Considered

Three options were evaluated for X Wayleaves to Easements:

- Option 1: Do Nothing
 - Under this option, we would either defend Wayleave termination claims or negotiate settlements for Wayleave renewal or Easement entry. However, this approach does not proactively address the risk of escalated costs during maintenance works due to access denial.
- Option 2: Proactive Negotiation
 - This option involves proactively negotiating Easements upon X, X, or in advance of X. While it mitigates litigation and relocation costs, it does not fully address future cost escalation risks.
- Option 3: Proactively Seek Easements through Digital Identification
 - The preferred option involves proactively identifying assets without Easements via digital tools and engaging Grantors to X. This approach minimises litigation risks, access denials, and asset relocation costs, aligning with our Land Rights Strategy.

Preferred Solution

Option 3 is the selected solution for the RIIO-T3 period. It proactively targets Grantors X, ensuring essential maintenance can proceed without access issues. This strategy reduces inefficient spend on maintenance project stand-downs, ransom payments, and litigation, while controlling network growth costs and supporting the transition to a decarbonised power system by 2030.

Timeline

The investment is projected to span the entire RIIO-T3 period, with funding allocated as follows:

- £X million across RIIO-T3

Conclusion

This proposal demonstrates the need for £X million investment in X during the RIIO-T3 period to secure permanent land access rights, maintain network resilience, and support decarbonisation targets. By adopting the preferred option of digital identification and proactive engagement with Grantors, we aim to X of existing Wayleaves, ensuring a robust and reliable electricity transmission network for the future.