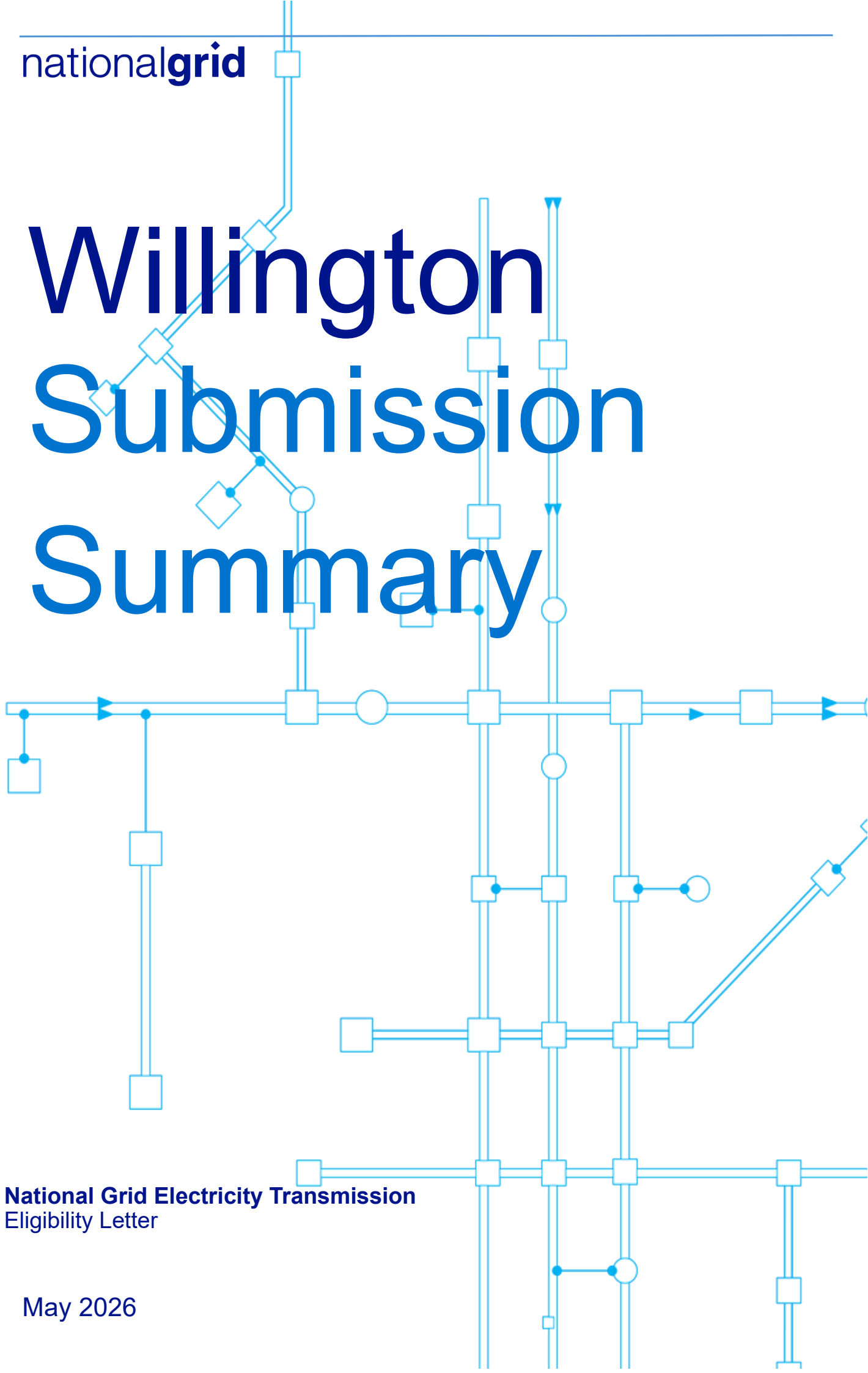


Wellington Submission Summary

National Grid Electricity Transmission
Eligibility Letter

May 2026



T3 – Willington 132kV Connection Assets

Executive Summary

Background

Willington is a RIIO-ET3 load-driven connection-assets project required to support the DNO's rebuild of the Willington 132kV substation. Due to the rebuild, NGET must transfer its existing 400/132kV SGT connections into the DNO's new 132kV substation arrangement.

The project is also a critical enabling dependency for the EDN2 Chesterfield–Willington AST1 scheme and the planned Willington 400kV extension, because transferring the existing SGT connections helps release space and reduce interface constraints around the site.

Investment Drivers

The investment is driven by the need to provide NGET connection assets for the DNO's rebuilt 132kV substation:

- DNO's Willington 132kV rebuild is required to address ageing infrastructure, fault-level and capacity constraints, resilience needs and new customer connections.
- NGET is required to transfer and reconnect SGT1, SGT2, SGT6 and SGT7 into the new DNO-owned 132kV substation while preserving provision for a future SGT5 connection.

Options

NGET considered strategic options including do nothing, market-based, whole-system, reuse of existing cables and new-build connection assets. The detailed shortlist focused on cable routing and bay arrangements for transferring the existing SGT circuits into the DNO's rebuilt 132kV substation.

The shortlisted options were:

- Option E-4: Northern SGT6 routing and re-use of existing SGT7 trough.
- Option E-6: Southern/eastern SGT6/SGT7 routing and re-use of existing SGT7 trough.

Option E-6 was selected because it better meets the investment need by removing cable crossings, enabling more direct routing, reusing existing infrastructure and avoiding northern land/fence extension requirements.

Preferred Solution

The preferred solution is Option E-6: Southern/eastern SGT6/SGT7 routing and re-use of the existing SGT7 trough.

- The scope delivers new cable connections between the existing Willington 400/132kV SGTs and the corresponding new SGT bays in DNO's rebuilt 132kV AIS substation.
- The preferred bay arrangement is SGT6–SGT7–SGT1–SGT2 and preserves provision for a future SGT5 teed-off connection.
- The option avoids cable crossings, reuses the existing SGT7 trough, avoids the protected greenfield area and avoids the need for a northern fence extension or additional land purchase.

- The solution is PASE compliant as a variant option

Although the NPV difference between E-6 and E-4 is marginal, NGET concludes that E-6 provides a stronger overall consumer-value case through lower delivery complexity, reduced civils, lower consenting risk and better constructability.