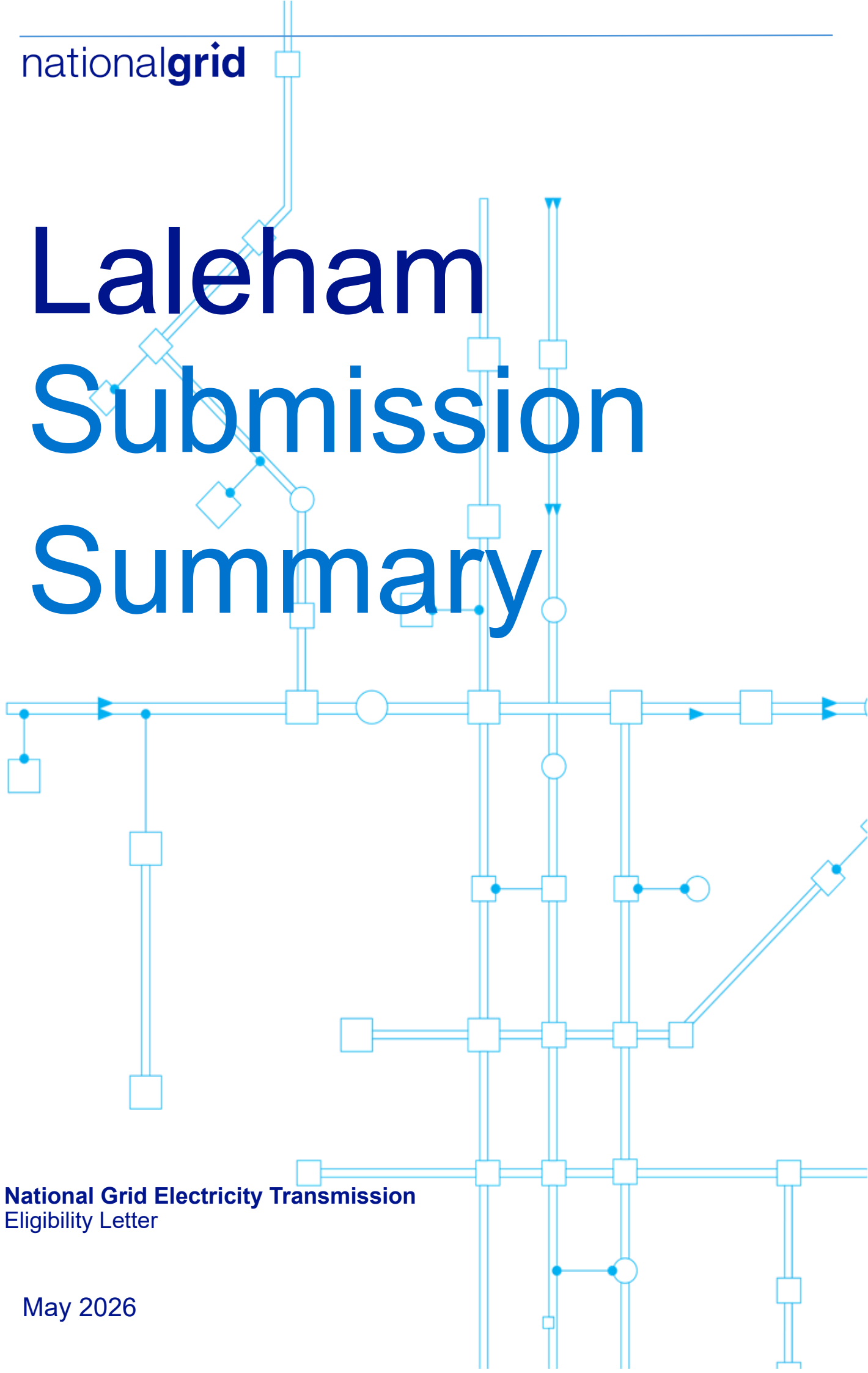


# Laleham Submission Summary

**National Grid Electricity Transmission**  
Eligibility Letter

May 2026



## T3 – Laleham 132kV Extension

### Executive Summary

#### Background

Laleham is a RIIO-ET3 load-driven reinforcement project to extend the existing 132kV substation through a new non-SF6 GIS hall. The investment is intended to enable contracted data centre and BESS connections in West London while increasing capacity and operability at a constrained transmission node.

The submission is a Track 2 Load Re-opener Eligibility Letter and seeks confirmation of eligibility, pre-construction funding and approval of the needs case and preferred solution. This investment is a near-term reinforcement within the wider West London context, where rapid demand growth and SQSS requirements require timely action while longer-term regional strategy continues to develop.

#### Investment Drivers

The investment has two principal drivers:

- Customer connections
- SQSS compliance: contracted demand now exceeds the capability of the existing SGT arrangement, requiring transformer replacement/uprating and 132kV reinforcement to resolve pre- and post-fault overloads.

#### Options

NGET considered strategic options including do nothing, market-based solutions, whole-system/DNO solutions, reuse or extension of existing assets and new build. Options that could not meet contractual obligations or introduced disproportionate land, consenting, stakeholder, environmental or cost risk were discounted.

The shortlisted options were:

- Option D-2: Extend Laleham via new 132kV GIS hall.
- Option E-1: New 132kV AIS substation in golf course.
- Option E-2: New 400/132kV AIS substation(s).
- Option E-3: New 400kV AIS substation and extend existing 132kV GIS substation.

Option D-2 was selected because it has the highest NPV of the shortlisted options and the strongest overall balance of consumer value, deliverability, environmental performance and programme certainty.

#### Preferred Solution

The preferred solution is Option D-2: Extend Laleham via a new 132kV GIS hall.

- The scope extends the existing 132kV GIS substation into a new building with a new busbar section and associated connection works.
- The solution includes a 132kV GIS double busbar extension and uprating/replacement of SGTs
- It delivers the required customer connections and maintains SQSS compliance while remaining within NGET's existing operational boundary.

- It avoids additional land take, Green Belt development and major planning processes relative to new-build alternatives.

Although the new-build options offer potential longer-term strategic capacity, this Load Reopener funding request submission concludes that their higher cost, land requirement and consenting/programme risk do not outweigh the immediate need to connect customers and maintain SQSS compliance.