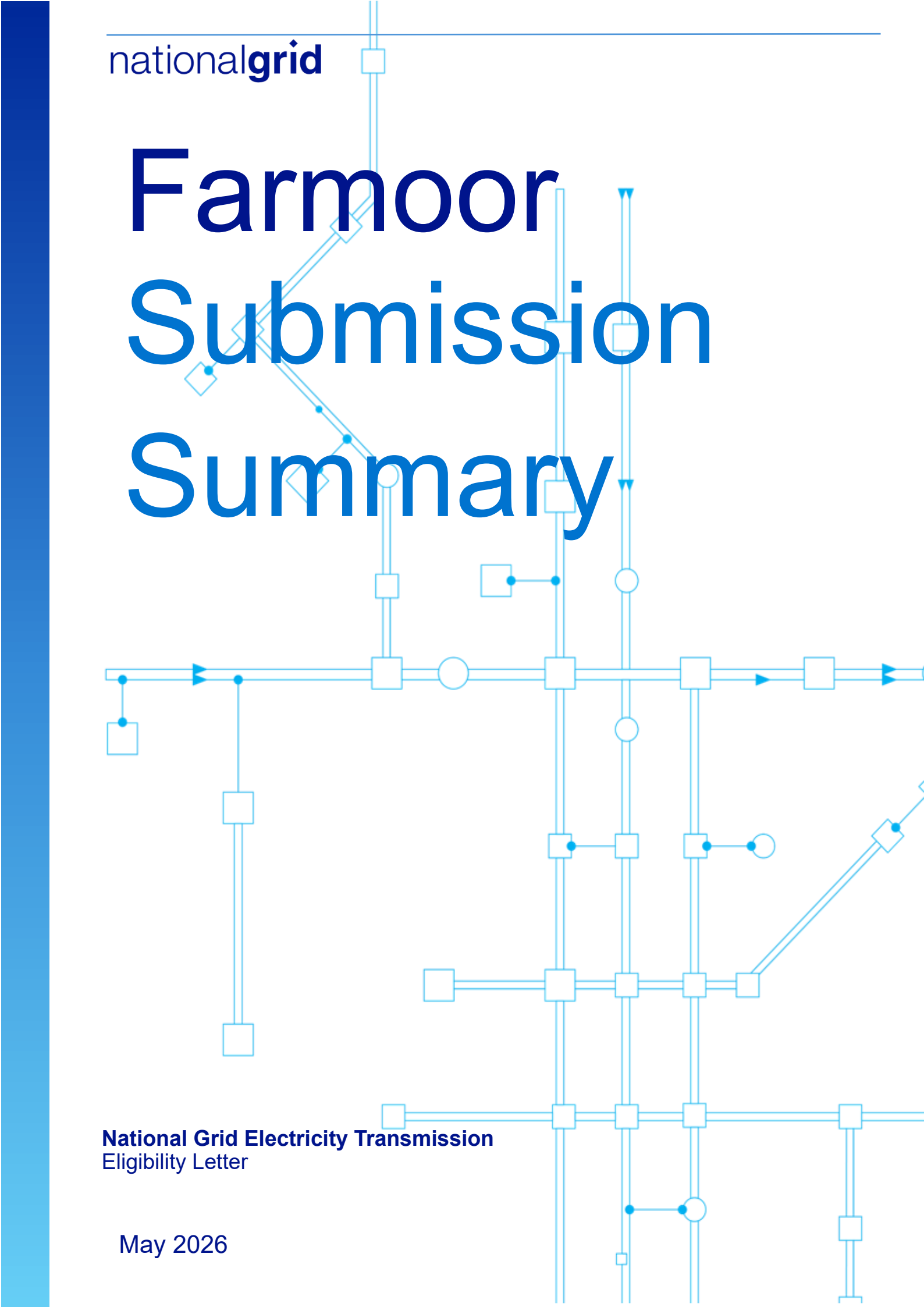


# Farmoor Submission Summary

**National Grid Electricity Transmission**  
Eligibility Letter

May 2026



## T3 – Farmoor 400kV

### Executive Summary

#### Background

Farmoor 400kV is a proposed new 11 bay, SF<sub>6</sub> free 400kV GIS substation in Oxfordshire to be connected via a double circuit turn-in from the Cowley–Minety–Walham 400kV overhead line. This Track 2 Eligibility Letter, submitted under Special Licence Condition 3.18 (Load Re-Opener and Price Control Deliverable), seeks Ofgem’s approval of project eligibility, confirmation of the preferred solution and re-opener track, and approval of Pre Construction Funding (PCF) under Special Condition 3.15.

The investment is load-driven, triggered by a need to connect customers to the National Electricity Transmission System. Without this investment, NGET would be unable to meet its statutory duties to provide connection offers.

#### Investment Drivers

**Customer connections:** Requirement to connect customers requiring 400kV transmission access.

#### Options

A structured, multi-factor optioneering process was undertaken. Strategic options considered included:

- Option A - do nothing,
- Option B - market-based solutions,
- Option C - non-transmission/whole-system solutions,
- Option D - use of existing assets and
- Option E - a new substation.

Options A–C were rejected as they cannot deliver compliant physical connections. Option D (use of existing assets) was rejected due to physical constraints. A new substation (Option E) was progressed.

Two design options were shortlisted at the preferred site:

- Option E-5: a new 11-bay, 400kV AIS substation.
- Option E-6: a new 11-bay, 400kV SF<sub>6</sub>-free GIS substation.

In selecting our preferred solution, we have balanced a range of considerations including economic, deliverability, consenting and local stakeholder impacts.

#### Preferred Solution

Option E-6: a new 11-bay, 400kV SF<sub>6</sub>-free GIS substation.

##### **Key benefits of the preferred solution:**

- Smaller footprint and size mitigating visual impact and land take.
- SF<sub>6</sub>-free technology, significantly reducing operational emissions.
- Lower cost.
- Highest consumer value, providing the best NPV of shortlisted options.
- Future-proofed.

The project is planned for delivery in 2031, subject to planning consent and regulatory approvals.