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1. The [Norway interconnector](#) to the north of England, now called the [NSN link](#), emerged in the news in October with the proposal to land it at Blyth in Northumberland. This proposal replaces the previous (2003) suspended proposal to land near Hartlepool, County Durham. The project is for a 711 km 2-circuit HVDC cable with power rating 1,400 MW. "If built, the interconnection could also connect the North Sea [wind farms](#) as well as offshore [oil and gas platforms](#), becoming the backbone of the proposed [North Sea Offshore Grid](#)." National Grid has applied for planning permission for the converter station at Blyth
2. In addition, National Grid lists a [Viking Link](#) to Denmark, though this is at the feasibility stage. National Grid Viking Link Ltd [has applied](#) to Ofgem on 18th September 2014 for an Interconnector Licence, with the terminal at Bicker Fen near King's Lynn. This is a different project from the more immediate [Viking Energy Windfarm link](#) from Shetland to a hub in the Moray Firth.
3. Inquiries are under way in Teesside for the Dogger Bank Teesside offshore wind farm and substation, which would bring 2,400 MW to the Lackenby NG substation.
4. While the above proposals may make use of existing grid, replacing closed generation at Blyth and Teesside, concerns remain about excessive loading of the onshore grid. It would be preferable to see more use of offshore hubs and more development of a North Sea Offshore Grid for bulk north-south transmission.
5. Further to the notes in [news384](#) about the EU Renewables Grid Initiative (RGI), I was invited at short notice to an EU Bestgrid Workshop in Berlin 23 October but am not available at the time. Sessions are scheduled on EMF, German birdlife, British birdlife and marine environment, followed by several sessions on collaboration, community compensation and social responsibility. Our Wales correspondent Andrew Hope has agreed to attend and report back.
6. On 14 October the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee [published](#) the written evidence for its [ongoing inquiry](#) "*The Resilience of Electricity Infrastructure*". The Committee hopes to report by the end of the current parliament. In a complex and uncertain future, it is at least clear that there will be a lot more grid. National Grid is investing some £20 billion over the next decade.
7. Further to last week's AGM, the 2014 Chairman's Report [is attached herewith](#).

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