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## English-Danish interconnector - marine works begin

English-Danish interconnector project kicks off marine tendering process

**22 Oct 2015**

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National Grid Interconnector Ltd and Energinet.dk have started the process to appoint a marine contractor to carry out sea bed surveys between England and Denmark for their joint Viking Link interconnector project.

The appointment, which is expected to be early next year, marks a major step forward for the proposal to build a 1400 megawatt electricity interconnector between the two countries.

The successful tenderer will carry out geophysical surveys and sampling to pinpoint areas of environmental and archaeological interest and help identify the best route for the marine cables and suitable landing locations.

If granted planning permission, Viking Link will extend for approximately 650km under the North Sea between the western coast of Denmark and the east coast of England in Lincolnshire. It will connect into the National Grid at an existing substation at Bicker Fen and into the Danish electricity network an existing substation site at Revsing.

The interconnector will give Great Britain access to low carbon electricity, reduced energy costs for customers and increased security of national energy supply.

Alan Foster director, European Business Development, National Grid said: "Connecting to Denmark will allow Great Britain to trade with the wider European, Scandinavian and Nordic electricity markets and bring additional sources of renewable energy to Britain from Denmark and its neighbouring countries. This in turn

should have a positive impact on energy prices and increase security of energy supply for our country.”

Energinet.dk’s technical director, Torben Glar Nielsen, said: “It is essential for the effective development of Europe’s energy systems that electricity can move more freely across borders. Countries need to be more closely connected to each other physically.

“Viking Link can provide great socio economic gains, not only in Britain and Denmark, but throughout the north of Europe. We are delighted that the project is steadily moving forward,”

The intention is for the interconnector to be operational by the end of 2022. The timing of this will depend upon obtaining all of the necessary consents and a final investment decision in early 2018.

Viking Link is being developed in cooperation between National Grid Interconnector Limited, a subsidiary of National Grid the English Transmission System Operator and [Energinet.dk](#), the Danish Transmission System Operator.

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Notes for editors

**Notes to Editors:**

National Grid is one of the largest investor-owned energy companies in the world. We own and manage the grids that connect people to the energy they need, from whatever the source. In Britain and the north-eastern states of the US we run systems that deliver gas and electricity to millions of people, businesses and communities.

Energinet.dk is an independent public enterprise owned by the Danish Ministry of Energy, Utilities and Climate. We own and operate Denmark’s main electricity and natural gas grids, helping supply people, businesses and institutions with reliable energy. Through international and market-based solutions, working together across the energy sector’s value chain, we strive to achieve balance in a sustainable energy system with increasing amounts of renewable energy

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### Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

### National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

National Grid undertakes no obligation to update any of the information contained in this release, which speaks only as at the date of this release, unless required by law or regulation.

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