

All in: National Grid wraps up Richborough Connection consultation

Project team thank hundreds of local people for their feedback on plans

02 Apr 2015

- All feedback received will now be examined and help shape thinking as project proposals are finalised
- Planning application due to be submitted to Planning Inspectorate this autumn

National Grid is working its way through the feedback received during what is likely to be its last public consultation before plans for the Richborough Connection are submitted.

The consultation saw hundreds of people give feedback on National Grid's plans to build a new electricity connection between Richborough and Canterbury.

Project Manager Steve Self said: "I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who took part in the recent consultation."

Over 450 people gave feedback during the consultation period which began on February 10 and ended March 27.

Mr Self added: "We're going through all the comments people made and this feedback will help shape our thinking as we prepare our proposals for submission to the planning inspectorate this autumn.

"We'll continue to keep the local community informed of developments as we move forward with our plans."

The Richborough Connection is needed to join Nemo Link® (an electricity link between Belgium and the UK) to the electricity transmission network. A new electricity connection between Richborough and Canterbury is required to do this and the plans involve building a new overhead line.

For more information on the project go to www.richboroughconnection.co.uk

To contact the project team people can:

- Call Freephone number 0800 157 7878
- Write to FREEPOST RICHBCONNECTION
- Send an email to Richboroughconnection@communitycomms.co.uk

To follow the project on Twitter: @NGRichborough

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

The current proposed route for the Richborough Connection is very similar to the draft route announced in May 2014. It still has the least environmental impact and allows for UK Power Networks' existing line in the same area to be removed. It also still runs further away from homes in Hersden, Upstreet, Sarre and Gore Street than the UK Power Networks line. Additionally it is now also further away from homes in Monkton and Minster than the two existing UK Power Networks lines (including the one to be removed). The revised plans also propose to use low height lattice pylons in the Ash Levels, to minimise the impact on the local area and wildlife.

Typical high-voltage pylon dimensions

Standard lattice - height: around 46 to 50m, **cross arm:** 17.1m, **base** 7.5m square

Low height lattice pylon - height: 35-42m, **cross arm:** 29.2m wide, **base:** 7m square

T-pylon (solid structure) - height: 34m to 39m, **cross arm:** 30.5m, **base:** 2m

Height of existing lower voltage 132kV pylons in the area – approximately 26m

Comparison to a local landmark – Canterbury Cathedral is 72m tall.

Nemo Link Limited

Nemo Link Limited is a joint project between National Grid International Ltd – a separately regulated National Grid company – and the Belgian electricity transmission system operator Elia.

Under the law Nemo Link must be treated the same as any other company applying to connect to the electricity transmission system.

For more information on this project go to www.nemo-link.com

For media information only on Nemo Link® contact:

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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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