

New transformer to be delivered to Sellindge substation in Kent

A new transformer is to be delivered to Sellindge substation in Kent to keep electricity flowing to homes across the county and beyond.

29 Dec 2017

- Transformer to be delivered to Sellindge substation
- **318 tonne piece of equipment will keep electricity flowing across the South East and beyond**
- **Delivery carefully planned to keep traffic moving and hotline set up for enquiries**

A big load will take to the road at approximately 9pm on Saturday 6 January 2018 as National Grid moves a transformer from the Port of Dover. It is expected to arrive at Sellindge substation by 7am on Sunday 7 January. To keep disruption to a minimum, we're moving it overnight.

The equipment which weighs in at 318 tonnes will be installed at the substation to help National Grid continue to deliver electricity to homes and businesses across the South East and beyond.

Most of National Grid's substations were built between the 1950s and 1970s and equipment such as transformers need to be replaced and maintained to keep them working efficiently. New transformers are also installed to connect new sources of generation or when demand for electricity is growing.

Phil Billington, National Grid Project Engineer said: "Our network operates smoothly, safely and efficiently over 99.9999% of the time – a statistic we're very proud of. Millions of people rely on us to supply their electricity without interruption, day in, day out and so it's important that we keep our substations and the equipment in them working efficiently."

The transformer will be carried on a special transporter measuring 87 metres long and 5.8 metres wide. It's so big that it needs two trucks, one at the back and one at the front, to propel it. It will travel at around 12 miles an hour and will take the following route:

It will exit the Port of Dover at Union Street and will travel along the A20 to the Alkham Valley Road junction (A260 – Canterbury Road). It will then continue along the A259 (Churchill Avenue) to access the M20 at junction 13.

It will exit the M20 at junction 9 and re-join it to travel back to junction 10. This is due to a weight restriction at this junction. The load will then leave the M20 at junction 10, travelling along the A20 and Church Lane before reaching the Sellindge electricity converter station.

If people have questions about the delivery, they can ring the National Grid hotline on 0800 731 1231 between 9am and 5.30pm or email info@communityrelations.co.uk.

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

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>

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