

Access

Access to sites and to National Grid apparatus must be provided at all times. This includes temporary structures and spoil heaps over National Grid electricity cables.

Crossing National Grid plant

The placing of heavy construction plant, equipment, materials or the passage of heavy vehicles over National Grid apparatus is prohibited unless specially agreed protective measures (i.e. the construction of reinforced crossing points) have been carried out. This is particularly important where reductions in side support or ground cover are planned.

Working in wayleaves or easements

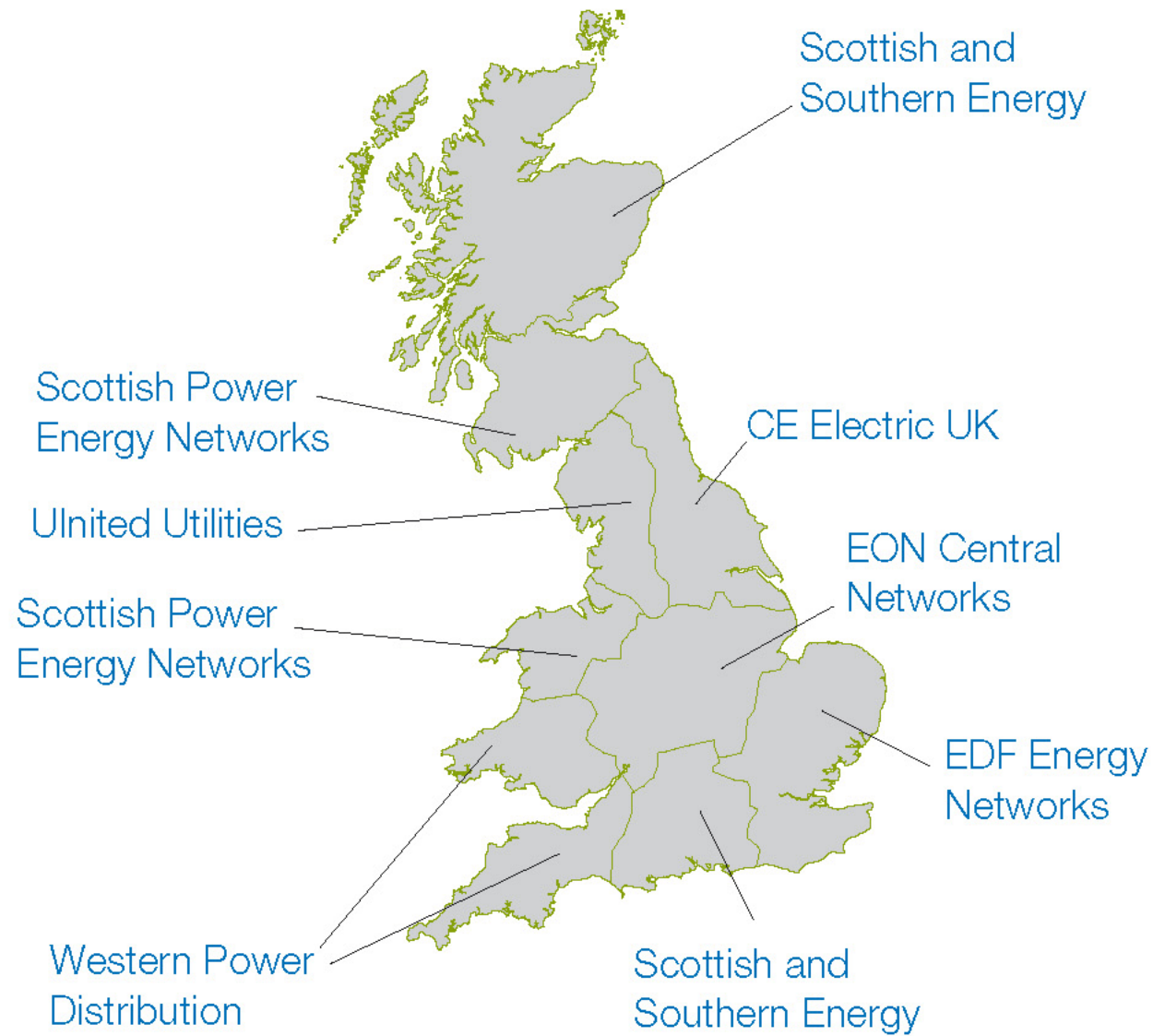
Work should not be undertaken within a National Grid wayleave/easement without the formal written consent of National Grid.

Working in proximity to high voltage cables

Where excavations adjacent to apparatus affect its support, the apparatus must be adequately supported and protected in consultation with and to the satisfaction of National Grid. National Grid high voltage cables and apparatus must not be exposed without prior authority/agreement. If you expose a high voltage cable or cable protection slab with 'Danger HV Cables' on, **stop work** and call: **0800 40 40 90**.

National Grid is a leading international energy infrastructure business – the largest utility in the UK.

Through National Grid Electricity Transmission plc, the company operates the high-voltage electricity transmission network across Great Britain, and owns the network in England and Wales.



National Grid electricity contacts

Plant Protection Team: **0800 688 588**

Regional DNO contact details

Details can be obtained via the Energy Networks association: www.energynetworks.org

Excavating Safely

Avoiding injury at work

Measures to stay safe and avoid damage when working near high voltage electricity cables



The following protective measures must be taken when excavating in the vicinity of National Grid high voltage electricity cables.

Reference should be made to the HSE Guidance Note HSG 47 'Avoiding Danger from Underground Services' and to 'Utilities Guidelines on Positioning and Colour Coding of Apparatus'. (The latter document can be downloaded free of charge at www.njug.org.uk).

To avoid injury to workers you must verify the details given on plans by; use of cable location equipment to trace all underground plant; hand dig trial holes to confirm the precise location of plant; and use suitable paint or markers on the surface to clearly indicate the position of pipes and cables.

You must ensure full colour copies of National Grid plans are issued to the workers carrying out the excavations.

Every possible precaution must be taken to avoid personal injury or damage to National Grid apparatus during the progress of the works. Any costs incurred by National Grid for the repair of direct or consequential damage will be recharged in full.

National Grid reserves the right to divert any affected apparatus if proved necessary during the course of your works: the cost of which will be recharged in full – remember, if in doubt ask.

Minimum Safe Working Distances

Always contact National Grid for electricity plans before carrying out any works.

In the vicinity of electricity National Grid cables:

Please note that all work carried out in the vicinity of National Grid cables will require prior contact with the Plant Protection team on **0800 688 588**.

Trial holes must be dug by hand to determine the exact location of mains and services in advance of mechanical excavating or thrust boring.

Tree planting

If trees or shrubs are to be planted adjacent to our equipment, the selection of the type of tree or shrub and its planting must be considered so that root damage to buried mains or services will be avoided and that damage to trees or shrubs will not be caused by any subsequent excavations for repair and maintenance. Planting schemes should be submitted to National Grid for approval. We reserve the right to remove any tree/bush at any time in the future.

Surface boxes/manholes

Do not bury or move National Grid surface boxes. Access must be maintained both during and after your works. National Grid reserve the right to locate and/or realign any boxes not left in such condition upon completion of your works and at your expense. No manhole cover or other structure is to be built over, around, or under a gas pipe or electricity cable and no work is to be carried out which results in a reduction or increase in cover or protection, without agreement.

In case of an Electrical Emergency

If you expose or contact a high voltage cable or cable protection slab with 'Danger HV Cables' on without the written authority of National Grid, you must take the following actions immediately:

- Stop work and get everyone away from the work area
- ensure other parties (public, etc.) cannot access the area
- if the cable is damaged or leaks a fluid do not attempt to repair or stop it by filling the hole
- report to your supervisor
- assist National Grid, Police or Fire Services as requested.

Stop Do not start work without electricity plans.

Look Carry out a visual survey and use a cable locator.

Listen Follow National Grid instructions.

Mechanical excavations

You **must not** carry out any excavation within 5.0 metres of a high voltage electricity cable without contacting National Grid on:

0800 688 588.

Clearances

High Voltage Cables

You must not dig within 5 metres of a high voltage cable without contacting the Plant Protection team on: **0800 688 588.**

If you dig and find a cable protection slab (normally with danger high voltage cables on) **stop** digging.

