

Energising the arts: National Grid and All Change initiative sparks creative talent in Islington

- National Grid and All Change work together on unique community art project at substation site

28 Oct 2014

- Energy themed poetry and designs for construction site hoardings were created by local people and professional artists
- Site will be connected to National Grid's London Power Tunnels project

The creative arts and science have come together in a unique collaboration between energy company National Grid and Islington based charity All Change

The two organisations have officially launched a project which has created artistic and poetic designs for the construction site hoardings at National Grid's Highbury substation site on Seven Sisters Road, Islington.

Local professional artists, All Change have delivered 12 creative workshops with community groups based near to the construction site, including Montem Primary School, Arsenal in the Community Homework Club, Inspire! (A group for young mums), Wordsay (teenage music and arts group), Cypriot and Kurdish Women's Welfare Group and the Alsen Day Centre (older people), which have inspired the final energy themed hoarding designs.

The project has also supported young local resident, Alistair Kalama, who has been employed as a trainee support worker for the duration of the project, assisting with the outreach and supporting the community workshops.

National Grid plays a vital role in connecting people to their energy supplies and the new substation it's building on Seven Sisters Road will play a vital role in meeting the increasing electricity demands of Londoners

The substation will be connected to the £1 billion London Power Tunnels project, which involves the construction of a 32km electricity superhighway deep below London's busy streets. Due to be complete and operational in 2018, the tunnel will transport power supplies across the capital.

Speaking at the launch event Dave Luetchford, Head of Cable Tunnels for National Grid said:

"It's our job to connect people to the energy they use and this is what we're doing projects like London Power Tunnels and the new Highbury substation.

"However, it's also very important to us to connect on a personal level with the communities where we work. That's why this partnership project with All Change has been so worthwhile and we hope that local residents enjoy viewing the hoarding art for many years to come."

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About our site on Seven Sisters Road

In late 2013 National Grid received planning consent from Islington Council to redevelop the site at 107-129 Seven Sisters Road. The development will include:

- An electricity substation
- Four new retail units along Seven Sisters Road
- 44 residential units of which 22 will be affordable housing

The development aims to meet the highest environmental and sustainable standards and will include the use of recycled materials and a green roof. We're also going to re-use the heat produced by the electricity transformers in the substation to provide heat to the residential development and nearby Montem School.

About London Power Tunnels

In London we are using more electricity each year as the capital grows in size. To meet this challenge, National Grid started a seven-year project in February 2011, to rewire the capital via deep underground tunnels.

In total 32km of tunnels are being built between 20m and 60m deep below the road network, which will carry high voltage (400kV) electricity cables and connect existing substations at Hackney, St John's Wood, Willesden and Wimbledon.

In addition to the new substation at Seven Sisters Road, a new substation is also being built at Kensal Green. By putting the cables in deep underground tunnels we will reduce disruption to the local area as we are able to lay the cables and carry out maintenance work without digging up London's roads.

www.londonpowertunnels.co.uk

National Grid is one of the largest investor-owned energy companies in the world and has been named Responsible Business of the Year 2014 by Business in the Community. 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.

In Britain, we run the gas and electricity systems that our society is built on, delivering gas and electricity across the country. In the North Eastern US, we connect more than seven million gas and electric customers to vital energy sources, essential for our modern lifestyles.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own the high-voltage electricity transmission network in England and Wales, operating it across Great Britain
- We own and operate the high pressure gas transmission system in Britain
- Our gas distribution business delivers gas to 10.9 million homes and businesses
- We also own a number of related businesses including LNG importation, land remediation and metering
- National Grid manages the National Gas Emergency Service free phone line on behalf of the industry - 0800 111 999 (all calls are recorded and may be monitored).
- Our portfolio of other businesses is mainly concerned with infrastructure provision and related services where we can exploit our core skills and assets to create value. These businesses operate in areas such as Metering, Grain LNG Import, Interconnectors and Property. National Grid Carbon Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of National Grid. It undertakes Carbon Capture Storage related activities on behalf of National Grid.

National Grid in the US:

- National Grid delivers electricity to approximately 3.4 million customers in New England and upstate New York

- We own 3.8 gigawatts of contracted electricity generation, providing power to over one million LIPA customers
- We are the largest distributor of natural gas in north-eastern U.S., serving approximately 3.5 million customers in New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at www.nationalgridconnecting.com

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Notes for editors

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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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