

Essential work on pylon in Ashton on Mersey

National Grid engineers will be carrying out work to protect a pylon threatened by riverbank erosion in Ashton on Mersey.

26 Feb 2016

National Grid will be starting essential maintenance work in the Banky Lane area of Ashton-on-Mersey next week.

Work is needed on a pylon that is close to the River Mersey. The pylon is part of a line built in the late 1960s. Since it was built the River Mersey has eroded its banks and is now encroaching towards the pylon. National Grid will be strengthening the river bank to protect the land around the tower from future erosion.

Project Engineer, David Woodcock, said, "This is a precautionary measure to protect the pylon and the line from any future problems. It is a complex piece of engineering that we expect will take until the end of October."

Electricity supplies will not be affected by the work.

In order to get the machinery to the pylon an access route needs to be created using part of the Trans Pennine Trail. This means the Trans Pennine Trail will be closed between the sewerage works on Banky Lane and just before the River Mersey footbridge. During working hours part of the tarmac path of the trail between the footbridge and the start of the diversion will be supervised by staff. This part of the trail is expected to be closed between 14 March and the end of October.

A diversion route is being created and this will be clearly sign posted. The diversion route will run east down Banky Lane, past the rugby club and through Banky Meadows. A stone surface will be laid to upgrade the existing footpath that re-joins the Trans Pennine Trail just before the River Mersey footbridge. This will be left in place after the work is finished.

Anyone with questions about the work or the path closure can call our community relations team on 0800 819 9071 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday. There is an answerphone service outside of these hours.

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

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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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