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National Grid gets consent for new substation near Market Harborough

National Grid to build new substation and access road to support Network Rail's project to upgrade Midland Main Line

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National Grid receives planning consent for new electricity substation & access road

- **National Grid receives planning approval for new electricity substation and access road in Braybrooke**
- **Main construction work scheduled to start around May 2019 and complete around December 2020**
- **Work supports Network Rail's upgrade of the Midland Main Line**

National Grid has received planning approval to build a new electricity substation and access road in Braybrooke parish.

Kettering Borough Council has granted consent for the electricity substation and part of the access road. Harborough District Council has given its approval for the remainder of the access road.

The substation will provide electricity supplies to a proposed new trackside feeder station which Network Rail will build as part of its plans to upgrade the Midland Main Line. The permanent 1.6km long access road from Kettering Road, off the A6, will keep construction and operational traffic away from Braybrooke and Market Harborough where people live and the roads are narrow.

Luke Sewell, project engineer at National Grid, said: "Now we've received planning permission we've started to develop plans for the construction phase of work. We expect to appoint a contractor around November 2018 and carry out archaeology surveys between November 2018 and May 2019. This is so we can examine and record any features of archaeological interest on the site. Main construction work is scheduled to start around May 2019 and complete around December 2020. We've written to local residents and businesses to update them on our progress and we'll continue to do so."

The Midland Main Line is undergoing the largest upgrade since it was completed in 1870. Upgrades to the line include track realignment, station remodelling, capacity works, bridge reconstructions and signalling improvements. In addition, the line from Bedford via Kettering to Corby will be electrified by December 2019 – enabling faster, more efficient trains to operate on the route and a quieter, cleaner environment for lineside neighbours.

The new substation is one of two new supply points along the railway. The first at Charlton in London is underway. The second at Braybrooke will support the introduction of electrified train services from December 2020.

Anyone who'd like more information about the substation and access road should contact National Grid's Community Relations team on 0800 073 1047. They're available daily from 7am and 7pm. Alternatively they can email braybrookequery@jbp.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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