

## National Grid launches final scheduled consultation on plans for new electricity connection between Richborough and Canterbury

Existing UK Power Networks line would be removed and the new line would now be further away from homes in Monkton and Minster

**10 Feb 2015**

National Grid has today (10 February) launched the latest and likely last consultation on its Richborough Connection proposals and revealed its detailed plans.

The consultation will run from 10 February 2015 to 27 March 2015 and is likely to be the last chance people will have to help shape plans to join Nemo Link® (an electricity link between Belgium and the UK) to the electricity transmission network before National Grid applies for planning consent in the autumn.

A new electricity connection between Richborough and Canterbury is needed to do this and the plans involve building a new overhead line. Informed by feedback and extensive studies the proposals also recommend using a combination of standard and low height lattice pylons\* (see notes to editors for more information on pylon types), designed to ensure the visual and environmental impact on the local area is minimised.

The proposed route has not significantly changed since the draft route was announced last May. It still has the least environmental impact and allows for UK Power Networks' existing line in the same area to be removed. It will also still run further away from homes in Hersden, Upstreet, Sarre and Gore Street than the UK Power Networks line. Additionally it is now also further away from homes in Monkton and Minster than the two existing UK Power Networks lines (including the one to be removed). The revised plans also propose to use low height lattice pylons in the Ash Levels, to minimise the impact on the local area and wildlife.

National Grid project manager Steve Self said: "In developing this route we continued our studies on the ground and listened to feedback from the local community. We've also considered a wide range of factors including the environment, impact on local people and businesses, technical elements and cost.

"We believe the sensitively designed route and carefully selected pylon types we propose achieve the right balance between the effect of a new overhead line on the local area and the cost on everyone's energy bills."

He added: "Your feedback, on our proposals including route, pylon type and pylon locations, is really important to us and will help us shape our thinking before we apply for planning consent. However, this is likely to be your last chance to influence our proposals before we submit our application in the autumn, so please come and tell us what you think."

People can share their views and find out more about the plans at a series of information events which will be held as follows:

Date	Venue	Time
17 February	Monkton Village Hall, 120 Monkton Street, Ramsgate, CT12 4JT	2pm-9pm
19 February	Chislet Centre, St Mary the Virgin Church, Church Lane, CT3 4DU	2pm-9pm
20 February	Chislet Centre, St Mary the Virgin Church, Church Lane, CT3 4DU	2pm-8pm
28 February	Guildhall, Cattle Market, Sandwich, CT13 9AP	10am-4pm
04 March	Broad Oak Village Hall, 110 Shalloak Road, CT2 0QH	2pm-9pm
05 March	Broad Oak Village Hall, 110 Shalloak Road, CT2 0QH	2pm-8pm

People can also talk to the team at number of public shopping locations in the area as follows:

Date	Venue	Time
10 February	Sainsbury's, Kingsmead Road, CT1 1BW	10am-6pm
13 February	Westwood Cross Shopping Centre, CT10 2BF	10am-6pm
18 February	Asda Canterbury, Sturry Road, Canterbury, CT1 1DG	10am-6pm
03 March	Co-operative Food, Moat Sole Road, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9AL	10am-6pm

Finally, people can find out more about our proposals and have their say by:

- Visiting the project website at [www.richboroughconnection.co.uk](http://www.richboroughconnection.co.uk)
- Visiting the following libraries or council office
- Following us on Twitter: @NGRichborough
- Calling our Freephone number 0800 157 7878
- Writing to our freepost address at FREEPOST RICHBCONNECTION
- Sending an email to [Richboroughconnection@communitycomms.co.uk](mailto:Richboroughconnection@communitycomms.co.uk)

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Notes for editors

\*Typical high-voltage pylon dimensions

Standard lattice - height: around 46 to 50m, cross arm: 17.1m, base 7.5m square

Low height lattice pylon - height: 35-42m, cross arm: 29.2m wide, base: 7m square

T-pylon (solid structure) - height: 34m to 39m, cross arm: 30.5m, base: 2m

Height of existing lower voltage 132kV pylons in the area – approximately 26m

Comparison to a local landmark – Canterbury Cathedral is 72m tall.

Nemo Link Limited

Nemo Link Limited is a joint project between National Grid International Ltd – a separately regulated National Grid company – and the Belgian electricity transmission system operator Elia.

Under the law Nemo Link must be treated the same as any other company applying to connect to the electricity transmission system.

For more information on this project go to [www.nemo-link.com](http://www.nemo-link.com)

For media information only on Nemo Link® contact:

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### 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>

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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