

National Grid to refurbish power line running through Merseyside and Lancashire

National Grid is to spend over £9m on a project to refurbish electricity pylons on a line running from Kirkby on Merseyside to Preston in Lancashire.

13 Apr 2018

- Engineers to start work on £9.32m project to paint and repair steelwork on pylons on power lines running from Penwortham to Kirkby
- Significant investment which will help keep the lights on, maintaining National Grid's outstanding record for reliability of supply
- Work planned to take around eight months to complete, with no interruption to supplies

National Grid has started work on a £9.32m project to refurbish the high voltage power line running from Penwortham to Kirkby. Engineers will be painting and replacing some steelwork on 102 pylons on a 35km section of line between April and November. Electricity supplies will continue uninterrupted during the work.

The power line which supplies electricity across West Lancashire was built in 1958. The planned work will make sure that it continues to work safely, efficiently and economically for future years.

Martin Bretherton, National Grid Project Engineer, said: "Our highly skilled engineers will be working to make sure that this power line operates efficiently for many years to come. We are proud of the fact that our network of lines delivers electricity safely and efficiently, day in, day out, to millions of people across the country."

The overhead line runs north from Kirkby substation to the east of Ormskirk and Burscough, the west of Croston and Longton before reaching the substation west of Penwortham. The line runs mainly in rural areas and site teams will be working during daylight hours.

Before engineers begin their work on the line, people may see temporary roads and track ways created across fields, some tree and vegetation clearance, traffic management signs and during the work members of the team climbing the pylons.

For more information local residents can call National Grid's Community Relations Team on 0800 8199 071 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday with an answerphone services outside of these times.

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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