

New 318 tonne transformer delivered substation in Kent

New 318 tonne transformer being delivered this weekend to Sellindge substation to help keep lights on in Kent and beyond

19 May 2017

- 318 tonne electricity transformer travelling from Dover to Sellindge on 87 metre plus vehicle overnight on Sunday 28 May
- **Delivery will travel at a maximum speed of 12 mph**
- Transformer will help ensure people remain connected to safe and reliable electricity supplies

A house-sized electricity transformer will be heading from the Port of Dover to National Grid's Sellindge substation with a police escort.

At midnight on Sunday 28 May the transformer will leave the Port of Dover aboard a specialist delivery vehicle which is over 87 metres long. The transformer is expected to arrive at the Sellindge electricity substation at 7am on Monday 29 May.

Flanked by outriders from Kent Police the transformer will exit the Port of Dover at Union Street and will travel along the A20 to the Alkham Valley Road Junction (A260 – Canterbury Road). It will then continue along the A259 (Churchill Avenue) to access the M20 at junction 13.

It will exit the M20 at junction 9 and re-join it to travel back to junction 10. This is due to a weight restriction at this junction. The load will then leave the M20 at junction 10, travelling along the A20 and Church Lane before reaching Sellindge substation.

The A20 will be closed temporarily from Dover to the A260 exit. The road will be closed from 10pm on Sunday 28 May until 4am on Monday 29 May. A signed diversion route will be put in place.

Throughout its journey the vehicle will travel at approximately 12 miles an hour. It's so big that it needs two trucks, one at the back and one at the front, to propel it.

National Grid project engineer Alex Lloyd, said: "It's our job to connect people to the energy they use and this delivery is part of that process."

"Once operational the transformer will change the voltage of electricity so it can be transported along local power lines and delivered to homes, businesses and community facilities."

He added: "We'll do all we can to make sure this delivery goes as smoothly as possible. If people could please avoid parking on the route – particularly on narrow areas – it will ensure we get the transformer from the Port of Dover to Sellindge substation as quickly and efficiently as possible."

If people have any questions or concerns about the delivery they can call 0800 731 1231 or email info@communityrelations.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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