Round two: National Grid IFA2 Ltd announces dates for next series of consultation events

Five consultation events on new interconnector plans announced

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- Five consultation events will be held across the area
- Updated plans for a new high voltage link between France and England will be on show
- Chance to discuss proposals and give feedback

People will be able to see updated plans for a proposed high voltage electricity link between England and France and give feedback at events being held this month.

National Grid IFA2 Ltd has announced a second series of consultation events showcasing revised plans for an electricity interconnector between Hampshire in England and Normandy in France.

Made up of undersea cables running between the two countries the interconnector would be joined to a converter station at both sides. This would enable the electricity to be transmitted between the countries, helping to boost the security, affordability and sustainability of energy supplies to both countries.

Over 400 people attended National Grid IFA2 Ltd's first round of public consultations on its developing plans for a converter station at Daedalus Airfield and associated cable routes. Since then the IFA2 team has considered the feedback it got, met local stakeholders and revised its plans.

The public will now get to see these updated plans, discuss them with the project team and give their views.

Morris Bray from the IFA2 project said: “We were pleased to see so many people come to the first exhibitions – it was great to discuss our plans with them and hear their feedback.”

“This time we’ll be sharing details of the proposed building including size, landscaping and health and safety measures, construction and what we’re doing to make sure our project fits in with the local environment and is compatible with the rest of Daedalus airfield.”

He added: “After this second stage of consultation, we’ll review and consider the feedback we got before submitting an outline planning application to Fareham Borough Council later this year.”

Events will take place at the following times and places:

- Wednesday 16 March, 3.30pm – 7.30pm – Stubbington Baptist Church, Cuckoo Lane, Stubbington PO14 3TA
- Thursday 17 March, 3.30 pm – 7.30pm – Peel Common Church Hall , 68 Newgate Lane, Fareham PO14 1BE
- Friday 18 March, 1.00pm – 4.00pm – CEMAST, 1 Meteor Way, Broom Way, Fareham, Lee-on-the-Solent PO13 9FU
- Saturday 19 March, 2.30pm – 6.30pm – St Mary Hook with Warsash, 109 Church Rd, Warsash, Hampshire SO31 9GF
- Sunday 20 March, 2.30pm – 6.30pm – St Faith’s Parish Centre, Victoria Square, Lee-on-the-Solent, PO13 9NF

IFA 2 would be the second interconnector to France and will be capable of exchanging 1000MW of power between Britain and France.

For more information, call the project team on 0800 0194 576, email on info@ifa2interconnector.com or visit the website – www.ifa2interconnector.com

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

Consultation Results

A full report on the feedback received can be found here - http://www.ifa2interconnector.com/downloads/

Interconnectors

To meet rising energy demands, National Grid is increasingly looking to join the UK's electricity transmission system to other countries' networks via interconnectors. Links with France, known as IFA (Interconnexion France Angleterre), and the Netherlands, known as BritNed, have already been developed.

National Grid IFA2 Ltd is the holder of an interconnector licence and is the company that National Grid Interconnectors Limited has formed to develop and bring forward the IFA2 project. We are legally separate from other companies within National Grid. This is enforced by the energy regulator Ofgem.

National Grid IFA2 Ltd is a separate legal entity to National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET). NGET is a separate company responsible for the works to connect the interconnector project to the existing national grid; by law the grid connection works must be kept separate from the interconnector and one company cannot develop both.

For the purposes of connecting to the existing electricity network, National Grid IFA2 Ltd is a customer of NGET and National Grid IFA2 Ltd can only connect in accordance with a connection offer made by NGET. National Grid IFA2 Ltd does not get preferential treatment.

Reseau de Transport d'Electricite (RTE) is the French network owner and operator and RTE will be National Grid IFA2 Ltd's partner on this project. RTE will have responsibility for the French elements of the project.

What is an interconnector?

IFA2 will be an electricity interconnector. This is a connection between the electricity transmission systems of different countries.

An interconnector allows countries to exchange power, helping to ensure safe, secure and affordable energy supplies. For IFA2 the connection will be made via high voltage subsea cables, passing through French and British waters. In simple terms, an interconnector is made up of two converter stations – one in each country – connected by cables. Great Britain is an island so we must use high voltage subsea cables.

Our electricity transmission system operates independently from continental Europe. An interconnector needs converter stations and substations to make it possible to connect these independent transmission systems.

A converter station converts electricity between Alternating Current (AC) and Direct Current (DC). AC is used in each country's transmission system, while DC is used for sending electricity along the high voltage subsea cables.

A substation is a point of connection to the national electricity network. National Grid Electricity Transmission plc is a separate company, with responsibility for work to connect to the existing national electricity network.

About National Grid

National Grid is one of the largest investor-owned energy companies in the world and was named Responsible Business of the Year 2014 by Business in the Community. This accolade acknowledges all of our efforts in getting involve with the things that really matter to us and to society. We own and manage the grids that connect people to the energy they need, from whatever the source. In Britain and the north-eastern states of the US we run systems that deliver gas and electricity to millions of people, businesses and communities.

In Britain, we run the gas and electricity systems that our society is built on, delivering gas and electricity across the country. In the North Eastern US, we connect more than seven million gas and electric customers to vital energy sources, essential for our modern lifestyles.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own the high-voltage electricity transmission network in England and Wales, operating it across Great Britain
- We own and operate the high pressure gas transmission system in Britain
- Our gas distribution business delivers gas to 10.9 million homes and businesses
- We also own a number of related businesses including LNG importation, land remediation and metering
- National Grid manages the National Gas Emergency Service free phone line on behalf of the industry - 0800 111 999 (all calls are recorded and may be monitored).
- Our portfolio of other businesses is mainly concerned with infrastructure provision and related services where we can exploit our core skills and assets to create value. These businesses operate in areas such as Metering, Grain LNG Import, Interconnectors and Property. National Grid Carbon Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of National Grid. It undertakes Carbon Capture Storage related activities on behalf of National Grid.

National Grid in the US:

- National Grid delivers electricity to approximately 3.5 million customers in New England and upstate New York
- We own 3.8 gigawatts of contracted electricity generation, providing power to over one million LIPA customers
- We are the largest distributor of natural gas in north-eastern U.S., serving approximately 3.6 million customers in New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at www.nationalgridconnecting.com

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.

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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- Press Releases
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- Our business
- Electricity
- Gas
- Operating responsibly
- Investor factsheets
- Presentations and webcasts
- Annual reports
- Biographies

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- Our business
- Operating responsibly
- Investor factsheets
- Presentations and webcasts
- Annual reports
- Biographies