

Trucks of the Trade: National Grid give students and residents lowdown on cycle and pedestrian safety

Students and local residents in Southall offered chance to see things from a truck driver's point of view

16 Sep 2015

- Community safety event held by National Grid at Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College
- Visitors offered new perspective on road safety with chance to sit in an HGV cab
- Event staffed by volunteers from National Grid team who are working to prepare Southall Gas Holder site for redevelopment

Students and local residents gained a new perspective on road safety by sitting in the cab of a lorry.

National Grid hosted a special event to promote cycle and pedestrian safety at Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College, which is next to the soon to be redeveloped Southall Gas Holder site.

Over 120 students and locals attended the event, held earlier this month, with some taking the opportunity to view the world from the cab of a lorry and the visibility challenges this poses.

Nadia Dew, Land Regeneration Manager from National Grid said: "We decided to run the event after some residents asked us about the large vehicles which are visiting our former gasworks while we're preparing it for redevelopment.

"Our contractor Coleman & Co provided one of the MAN trucks being used at the site which meant we could give visitors a driver's eye view of things and explain how people can stay safe."

She added: "We're pleased so many people came along and hope that they left reassured that safety at our site is taken very seriously."

Advice for pedestrians when crossing roads and cyclists:

- Don't listen to music or use your mobile
- Show your intentions to others around you
- Make eye contact with drivers to let them know you have seen them
- When cycling indicate left and right turns using your arms to signal your direction
- Never cross the road directly in front or behind of an HGV
- Think carefully before filtering along the nearside of HGVs at traffic lights as this is the most dangerous position for cyclists

HGV vehicle movements to and from the site in The Straight, have been restricted to between 9:30am and 3pm to reduce the impact on commuters and local residents.

National Grid's work to prepare the former gasworks for redevelopment will include removing the disused large gasholders. Changes in technology mean that the gasholders are no longer needed for gas storage so they can be removed enabling the land to be freed up for exciting redevelopment opportunities.

For more information on the work call 0800 319 6186 (Between 9am and 5.30pm on weekdays), email NationalGrid@SouthallGasholders.com, write to National Grid Southall, RTLA-GHRX-SSXA, Local Dialogue, 77a Tradescant Road, London, SW8 1XJ or visit <http://www.southallgasholders.com/>

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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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