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## Wired for pounds: National Grid's £600,000 cash boost for Macmillan Cancer Support

National Grid Hinckley staff help raise £600,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support

29 Feb 2016

- **Cash helping cancer patients heat their homes**
- **Hinckley staff celebrate smashing half a million pounds fundraising target**

Big-hearted employees at National Grid's offices in Hinckley are celebrating after helping the company to raise a whopping £600,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

A two-year partnership between the two organisations saw staff smash their half a million pounds fundraising target to support those living with cancer and their families. The company generously matched every penny raised by employees in 2015.

The cash is being used to pay for 3,121 emergency fuel grants to help cancer patients who are struggling to heat their homes. During 2014 Macmillan provided 29 fuel grants in Leicestershire.

Hinckley employees will celebrate the astonishing achievement on Wednesday (2 March).

Over the last 24 months National Grid employees have thrown themselves into a host of fundraising activities. In Hinckley, a fun day at Leicester Road football club netted £4,000, while head-shaving, a sponsored pylon-climb, and a soap-box derby saw the money roll in.

Hinckley bakers helped National Grid serve up a generous £89,000 slice of cash in Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning. Meanwhile 207 people across the company took part in over 40 different physical fitness challenges, including the BUPA 10k run and the formidable Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge, clocking up £212,000.

A number of Hinckley staff were singled out for special recognition. Plucky Rebecca Reece raised £614 after taking a 100 mile per hour zip wire ride, 500 feet in the air, through Snowdonia. Big-hearted Jo Callington picked up a team achievement award after teaming up with colleagues from Leicester and Norwich to organise fundraising events between East Midlands and East Anglian employees.

Some 10 staff across Hinckley earned a pat on the back for their efforts in organising fundraising events and encouraging colleagues, including Communications and Engagement Specialist Tanya Hutchinson, who has organised the celebration across the site.

Chris Train, National Grid's Director of Gas Distribution, has championed the Macmillan partnership at National Grid. He said: "I am incredibly proud of our employees. No-one should face cancer alone and through this magnificent achievement our employees have shown that we are a company that cares.

"Thanks to their tireless fundraising efforts, people living with cancer and their families will receive the vital support they need. All the money raised will be used for Macmillan's emergency fuel grants, which means those living with cancer can keep warm without worrying about heating bills."

Describing the partnership with National Grid as one of Macmillan's 'shining stars', Alix Wooding, Head of Corporate Partnerships at Macmillan, said : "We would like to thank National Grid and all its employees for their enduring support and for helping us make sure no-one has to face cancer alone.

"Nearly one in five people living with cancer turn the heating off, even though they feel cold because they're worried about paying their bills. Over the last two years National Grid and Macmillan have worked together to help change this.

"Being warm is a fundamental part of the recovery process and the impact of our work funding heating grants is immediate, profound and long lasting. The money National Grid have raised will make such a big difference to people affected by cancer."

- Ends -

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Notes for editors

#### National Grid's top Macmillan fundraisers

- World's Biggest Coffee Morning - £89,000 (events held in 2014 and 2015)
- Ben Nevis Moonlight climb 2014- £40,000
- Yorkshire Three Peaks challenge 2015 - £40,000
- Sponsored pylon climb - £24,000
- Sponsored headshave - £16,000
- Donations of left-over sums on staff payment cards -£15,500
- Three Peaks Challenge - £9,000
- Hadrian's Wall sponsored walk- £9,000
- London-Paris bike ride(Grain LNG team) - £8,000
- The 500km Big Ride - £7,500 (£15,000 split between Macmillan & Cancer Research – check split)
- BUPA 10k run - £6,000

#### About Macmillan Cancer Support

When you have cancer, you don't just worry about what will happen to your body, you worry about what will happen to your life. Whether it's concerns about who you can talk to, planning for the extra costs or what to do about work, at Macmillan we understand how a cancer diagnosis can take over everything.

That's why we're here. We provide support that helps people take back control of their lives. But right now, we can't reach everyone who needs us. We need your help to make sure that people affected by cancer get the support they need to face the toughest fight of their life. No one should face cancer alone, and with your support no one will.

## 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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