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Future Energy Scenarios 2015

National Grid Publishes Glimpses into the Energy Future

15 Jul 2015

National Grid today (15/7/15) published its 2015 Future Energy Scenarios (FES) report which gives an insight into what the country's energy future might look like out to 2030, based on four different scenarios.

The scenarios take into account differing policy and economic landscapes, and consider the impact they might have upon energy supply and demand. They are designed to help government, consumers and other stakeholders make informed decisions about energy policy and infrastructure investment.

Roisin Quinn, National Grid's Head of Energy Strategy and Policy, said:

"The energy industry is changing rapidly and at National Grid, we are right at the heart of that change. We haven't got a crystal ball, but our scenarios offer a glimpse into the future, using our unique insight into the trends shaping the energy landscape.

"Over the past year we have worked with over 230 organisations and the feedback we received is vital to help us produce a range of clear and credible scenarios. Thanks to widespread stakeholder engagement and an array of expertise, we have been able to produce the most accessible and detailed FES report, that we hope the industry and others will find interesting and helpful."

The four scenarios considered in the report are:

- **Consumer Power:** A world of relative wealth, fast-paced R&D and consumer spending. Innovation is focused on meeting the needs of consumers who are focused on improving their quality of life
- **Gone Green:** A world where green ambition is not restrained by financial limitations. New technologies are introduced and embraced, enabling all carbon and renewable targets to be met
- **No Progression:** A world focused on achieving security of supply at the lowest possible cost. Low economic growth and little innovation means traditional sources of gas and electricity dominate
- **Slow Progression:** A world where slower economic growth restricts market conditions. Available money is spent focusing on low-cost long-term solutions to achieve environmental targets, albeit later than the target dates

In putting together this year's report National Grid has consulted the widest group of academics, researchers, industry groups and businesses of any previous FES report to produce the most comprehensive set of scenarios yet.

As well as painting a picture of high level demand, supply and changes affecting the energy industry, the report also include some interesting facts:

- **Smart meters:** In Gone Green 27 million smart meters could be installed by 2035
- **Light bulbs:** By 2020, 458 million compact fluorescent bulbs CFL light bulbs could be in use in Great Britain
- **Solar:** By 2021, the amount of solar PV installed could quadruple to 18GW (gigawatts)
- **Cars:** By 2035, one in six cars could be electric
- **Gas:** By 2035 gas starts to replace diesel as a fuel for HGV vehicles owing to economics and lower emissions

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Notes for editors

Download and read the full document on the National Grid Future Energy Scenarios website: <http://www2.nationalgrid.com/uk/industry-information/future-of-energy/future-energy-scenarios/>

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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