Big delivery: Cottage sized transformer on the move in Bristol and Wiltshire

Big load on the road this Sunday

04 Feb 2016

- Massive electricity transformer will begin first leg of journey to its new home this Sunday
- Residents are asked to avoid parking on the A420 between Deanery Road Roundabout and the A46, near Pennsylvania, Gloucestershire
- The transformer will play a vital part in ensuring the region keeps on enjoying safe and reliable electricity supplies

A massive electricity transformer will be taking to the highway this Sunday (7 February) as it starts a two leg journey to its new home at Minety Substation, Wiltshire.

The size of a small cottage, the transformer will be transported from Avonmouth Docks to a storage facility on a special 60m long trailer with a police escort, travelling mostly via the M5 and M4.

Due to a weight restriction at the Hambrook Viaduct, the trailer will need to leave the M4, travel around Bristol on the A4174 before joining the A420 at Deanery Road Roundabout.

It will leave the A420 and join the A46, heading back to the M4 to continue its journey to a storage yard located near to junction 18, before resuming its journey next Sunday (February 14).

The journey has been planned for a Sunday to avoid the busiest traffic times. It is due to leave Avonmouth Docks at approximately 10am, arriving by the mid-afternoon. To ensure the transformer can complete its journey people are asked to avoid parking on the A420 between Deanery Road Roundabout and the A46, near Pennsylvania.

Electricity transformers play a vital role in helping to deliver energy to homes and businesses.

National Grid Project Engineer, Peter Hancock explained: “This is an essential delivery to replace an existing transformer.

“Once installed, it will play a vital role in helping ensure people across the region keep on enjoying safe and reliable electricity supplies.”

He added: “We’ve carefully planned this delivery to ensure it has as little impact as possible on road users and the community.

“To ensure the delivery can happen we’re asking people not to park on the A420 between Deanery Road Roundabout and the A46 near Pennsylvania.”

The route the transformer will follow is:

Leave Avonmouth Dock and travel northbound on the M5. Join the M4 and travel southbound. Leave the M4 at Junction 19 and join the M32. Leave the M32 at Junction 1 and join the A4174 traveling east around Bristol. Join the A420 at Deanery Road Roundabout. Travel eastbound to the A46. Travel northbound on the A46 arriving at the storage yard near junction 18 of the M4.

Online Map: http://bit.ly/1PWbVM7

Details of the second leg of the transformer’s journey will be announced next week.

For more information about the delivery call 0207 036 3520 or 07917 130 573. You can also email NationalGrid@TransformerMoves.Com

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

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.