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New transformer being delivered by road to National Grid substation outside Bristol

The new transformer will be delivered to the substation to help keep electricity flowing to homes across the region and beyond

14 Jul 2017

- **New equipment to be transported on Sunday morning, 30 July 2017 to substation near Iron Acton**
- **Large, slow-moving vehicle with police escort may cause disruption on local road network**
- **Equipment required to upgrade existing infrastructure at Iron Acton Substation**

On Sunday 30 July National Grid will transport new transformers to replace old equipment at Iron Acton substation, South Gloucestershire.

The transformer, a piece of equipment needed to change the voltage of electricity before it's transmitted through the power network, will begin its journey from Avonmouth Port in Bristol on 30 July at 9.00. It will travel to Iron Acton substation, where we estimate an arrival time of between 15.00 and 15.30.

A special, heavy haulage lorry will transport the transformers. The lorry will be 57 metres long by 5 metres wide and weigh 231 tonnes. Due to the size and weight, the lorry will travel between 10 and 15 miles per hour. A police escort and special haulage team will accompany the lorry to ensure the safety of the public and our team. The police escort will also be there to manage traffic and to halt traffic for a short time at certain places, such as when the lorry needs to straddle two road lanes, turn or travel along narrow roads.

Due to the size of the lorry, it must take an indirect route to Iron Acton substation to avoid hazards, such as weak bridges and narrow turning points.

The lorry will leave Avonmouth docks via the M49. It will then head east on the M4 before joining the M5 northbound. The lorry then travels to Junction 13 before returning southbound, where it will exit onto the B4509 at Junction 14.

Finally, the lorry passes through the villages of Cromhall, Bagstone and Rangeworthy, and then follows the B4059 until it reaches Latteridge village, close to its final destination.

Project Engineer at National Grid, Paul Taunton, said: "We've worked closely with our delivery partners, Allelys Heavy Haulage Ltd, to plan a safe delivery route and to keep disruption to a minimum. But there are likely to be some delays on the Sunday morning on the motorway and on smaller, narrow roads close to the substation.

"I'd like to thank people for their patience in advance of our work. By letting people know in advance, we hope that people will be able to plan their journeys on the 30 July to avoid any disruption.

"Our last delivery to Iron Acton substation was successful with little disruption to roads in the area, and we expect the same this time. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please contact our Community Relations team on 0800 073 1047. They are available seven days a week 7.00 – 19.00.

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>

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