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Help with plans which could see sections of Snowdonia power line buried

People are invited to help develop plans which could see lines in the national park put underground

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Local people invited to help develop plans which could see section of Snowdonia overhead power line buried

- Local people invited to help develop proposals which could see section of overhead electricity line taken down and replaced with underground cable
- National Grid working closely with the Snowdonia National Park Authority and others on the project
- Public information events are due to be held in Penrhyndeudraeth

Local residents are being invited to help develop plans which could see a section of overhead line in the Snowdonia National Park removed and replaced with electric power lines buried underground.

The work is part of National Grid's Visual Impact Provision (VIP) project*, a major initiative to reduce the visual impact of existing high voltage power lines in protected areas across England and Wales.

In November 2014, a section of power line near the village of Penrhyndeudraeth was first identified by an independent study as having a major landscape and visual impact.

National Grid has since been working with local organisations including the Snowdonia National Park Authority, Gwynedd Council and Natural Resources Wales to investigate burying the cables.

Local people can come and find out how the plans are shaping up and give feedback at two events being held as follows:

Date: Thursday 14 July

Time: 2.00pm – 8.00pm

Venue: Snowdonia National Park Authority HQ, National Park Offices, Penrhyndeudraeth, Gwynedd, LL48 6LF

Date: Saturday 16 July

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Venue: Holy Trinity Church Hall, Church Place, Penrhyndeudraeth, Gwynedd, LL48 6LG

Members of National Grid's project team will be available to answer questions and discuss the project in more detail.

Jonathan Cawley, Director of Planning & Land Management, Snowdonia National Park Authority said: "We very much welcome National Grid's role in considering these pylons for undergrounding. The Dwyryd Estuary is already a very special environment and the potential to underground the pylons across it will significantly enhance its natural beauty. These two events will help National Grid gauge the views of local people about the project."

Hector Pearson, National Grid VIP Project Manager said: "We're considering potential route corridor options where we feel we could bury the power cables, enabling us to take down some existing pylons.

"We are looking at a range of options and listening to the advice from local experts. We're keen to share these plans with the local community and to find out what they think about them."

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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

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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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