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National Grid reaches halfway point with information events

National Grid is halfway through a series of information events on plans to connect new generation into 'the grid' in Cumbria and Lancashire

06 Oct 2015

National Grid is halfway through its programme of information events that are being held to show people how plans are shaping up for a new connection to link new sources of electricity, including the proposed new nuclear power station at Moorside, into 'the grid' in Cumbria and Lancashire.

The company is encouraging people to come along to meet the North West Coast Connections project team and see the progress made since the company announced its chosen route for the new connections in June. A list of the remaining events is below.

Robert Powell, Project Manager, says: "These events are allowing us to continue the dialogue we started with communities during our consultation back in autumn 2014.

"At our events we're sharing the work we've done so far, including our work with landowners, Electricity North West and other key groups to start to develop the initial design for the new connection. Over the coming months, we expect to further refine the design of the connection ahead of carrying out formal consultation next year."

The proposed new power station at Moorside will be connected at two points on the existing National Grid network to ensure security of supply. National Grid's chosen route corridor runs from Harker substation near Carlisle, largely following the path of existing low voltage power lines around the Cumbrian coast to Moorside. It then heads from Moorside to the Furness peninsula where it goes under Morecambe Bay to emerge at Middleton substation near Heysham, in Lancashire.

The company is keen to involve community groups in the development of its plans for the new connection. Organisations interested in arranging for a briefing on the project are asked to get in touch with the community relations team by calling freephone 0800 876 6990.

National Grid aims to submit an application for consent to build the new connection to the Planning Inspectorate in 2017. A decision will then be made by the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy and Climate Change. If consent is granted, construction work is expected to start in 2019. National Grid is required to provide NuGen, the developer of the proposed nuclear power station, with the first phase of the connection into its transmission network by 2024.

People can register their details on the North West Coast Connections website to make sure they get updates on the project and are informed when the community events in the autumn are taking place: www.northwestcoastconnections.com

For further information about the project, please contact the project team direct using any of the following methods:

Freephone: 0800 876 6990

Email: nationalgrid@northwestcoastconnections.com

Freepost: Freepost NG NWCC

People wishing to be notified of the outcome of the recent consultation and the option being taken forward are asked to register their details on the North West Coast Connections website:

www.northwestcoastconnections.com People registering their details will also be sent updates on the project and information on further engagement opportunities.

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- **Freephone:** 0800 876 6990
- **Email:** nationalgrid@northwestcoastconnections.com
- **Freepost:** FREEPOST NG NWCC

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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.

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