National Grid has announced that the refurbishment of the 18km long overhead line that runs from Macclesfield substation to Bredbury has been re-scheduled for 2019.

Work on the scheme was due to be completed this autumn but power to the line had to be switched back on following damage to an underground cable in the Stockport area.

The damage was caused by a contractor who was not employed by National Grid.

The complexity of that repair coupled with moving into the winter months has resulted in the programme change.

Ryan Hatcher, project manager, said: "In order to keep local electricity supplies secure we have taken the decision to re-schedule the work. This will allow the damaged cable to be repaired and will avoid the need for us to work on the line during winter months when demand for electricity is at its peak and when daylight working hours are greatly reduced."
“We have carried out assessments on the condition of the line to ensure that we are able to safely reschedule the work for a later date. In rescheduling the work, we will work closely with Cheshire East Council to minimise disruption where we can.

“We are sorry we have had to change our plans and thank local residents and businesses for bearing with us.”

Contractor Balfour Beatty will now start to demobilise from site over the next six weeks with the planned painting programme being completed during this time.

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.