

National Grid's Viking Link project launches schools programme in Lincolnshire

14 Jan 2020

National Grid has launched a three-year series of educational workshops for school pupils in Lincolnshire. The workshops will be directly linked to the National Curriculum and will feature activities relevant to the construction timeline of a subsea electricity cable - currently being built between the UK and Denmark, known locally as the Viking Link interconnector.

From Monday 13th January 2020, the National Grid project team will visit seven primary (key stage 2) and three senior schools (key stage 3) over a two-week period and will follow up with the same pupils each year up until 2023.

The three-year programme, delivered twice a year, involves workshops that will support development and interest in STEM subjects and careers to encourage and inspire pupils to become the 'next generation of engineers.'

Mike Elmer, Viking Link Project Director for National Grid Ventures said, "It's fantastic that we are able to engage with schools along the route of the project to deliver STEM workshops based on the programme of works used to build the Interconnector.

"This new subsea cable will enable more effective use of renewable energy, access to sustainable electricity generation, improved security of electricity supply and benefit the socio economy of Denmark and the UK. Construction is expected to be completed by end of 2023, and in that time through our three-year engagement programme, we hope to inspire future generations to become the 'engineers of tomorrow' and leave a strong legacy behind."

In the first year of the programme, pupils will learn about the role of National Grid in providing and maintaining the UK's high voltage electricity network and the benefits of electricity interconnection between the UK and Europe.

The Viking Link project, is a joint venture between National Grid Ventures, part of National Grid, and the Danish system operator, Energinet. The 1.4 GW high voltage direct current interconnector will be the longest in the world when completed, stretching 765 kilometres from Lincolnshire to Western Denmark. It will have the capacity to power one and a half million UK homes.

Later in the year, the project team will deliver a second programme to the same set of pupils. This will include a hands-on route planning simulation where pupils will be challenged to find the most cost effective and acceptable route for a section of cable. There will also be a hands-on workshop building structures to span rivers and other obstacles.

In the following years as construction continues, pupils will be taught about the flow of electricity and renewable energy investigating how wind and sun is used to generate electricity. Furthermore, there will be workshops on how to lay down cables, the role of interconnectors and how investing in transformative engineering and

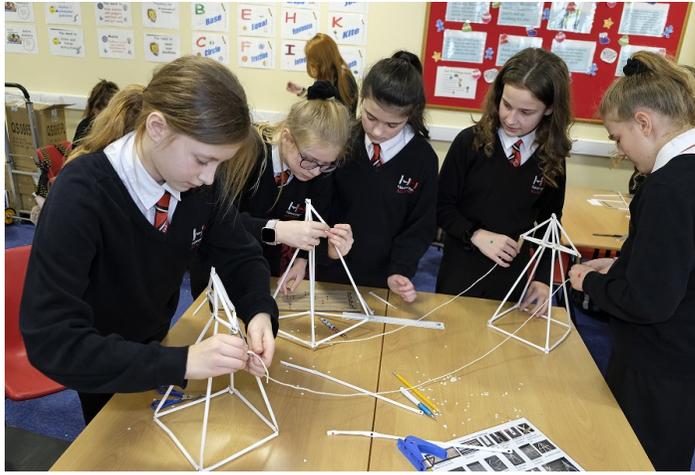
cutting-edge technology will help the country hit its net zero carbon target by 2050.

Viking Link will be National Grid's sixth interconnector to Europe. The company already has three operational interconnectors to France (IFA), the Netherlands (BritNed) and Belgium (Nemo Link). Two further projects are under construction to France (IFA2, operational 2020) and Norway (North Sea Link, operational 2021).

Following the completion of Viking Link, National Grid will have enough interconnector capacity (7.8 gigawatts) to power 8 million homes. By 2030 90% of electricity imported via National Grid's interconnectors will be from zero carbon sources.

For more information on the project visit www.viking-link.com.

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Notes for editors

If local residents have any further questions about the project, they can contact National Grid's Community Relations team on 0800 988 9144 (lines open 9.00am – 5.00pm Monday – Friday), by email at nationalgrid@riverhumberpipeline.com or by free post at FREEPOST NATIONAL GRID, RH PIPELINE PROJECT.

Notes to Editors:

Mon 13 Jan – Haven High Academy, 90-96 Tollfield Road, Boston PE21 9PN

Tues 14 Jan – Fourfields Church of England Primary School, Park Avenue, Sutterton, Boston, PE20 2JN

Wed 5 Jan – Heckington St Andrew's CE Primary School, Howell Rd, Heckington, Sleaford, NG34 9RX

Thurs 16 Jan – Donington Cowley Endowed Primary School, Town Dam Ln, Donington, Spalding, E11 4TR

Fri 17th Jan – King Edward VI Academy, West End, Spilsby, PE23 5EW

Mon 20th Jan – Spilsby Academy Primary School, Woodlands Ave, Spilsby, PE23 5EP

Tues 21st Jan – Sutton-on-Sea Community Primary School Station Road, Sutton-on-Sea, LN12 2HU

Wed 22nd Jan – William Lovell Academy, Main Rd, Stickney, PE22 8AA

Thurs 23rd Jan – Stickney Church of England Primary School, Main Road, Stickney, Boston PE22 8AX and New Leake Primary School, Fodderdyke Bank, New Leake, Boston PE22 8JB

Fri 24th Jan – Toynton-All-Saints Primary School, 53 Main Rd, Toynton All Saints, Spilsby PE23 5AQ

About National Grid Ventures:

National Grid Ventures (NGV) is the competitive, non-regulated division of National Grid plc, one of the largest investor-owned energy companies in the world. NGV operates outside of National Grid's core regulated businesses in the US and UK where it develops, operates and invests in energy projects, technologies and partnerships to accelerate the development of a clean energy future. NGV's diverse portfolio of low carbon and renewable energy businesses across the UK, Europe and US includes sub-sea interconnectors, liquefied natural gas, battery storage, wind and solar power. For more information, visit www.nationalgrid.com/ventures.

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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