

[Home / Press Releases /](#)

Transformer set for delivery in Lancashire

Transformer set for delivery to keep the electricity flowing in Lancashire

05 May 2016

- 170 tonne transformer set for delivery by river and road
- Will be transported from Preston Marina to National Grid's substation in Padiham on **Sunday 8 May**
- The new bit of kit will help keep the lights on in Lancashire

A massive bit of kit, roughly the size of a house, will be taking to the road this weekend. It's destination is National Grid's substation in Padiham, and once installed, it will help keep the lights on in Lancashire.

The transformer, which weighs in at 170 tonnes and will be transported on a heavy load vehicle measuring 113 meters long, has travelled from South Korea where it was manufactured, to Preston Marina and is now ready to begin the last leg of its journey by road on **Sunday 8th May 2016**.

National Grid will be using a slow-moving transporter vehicle under police escort to move the transformer. The operation will be supported by a specialist haulage transport team. The delivery may mean some short delays on local roads and the company apologises for any temporary inconvenience this may cause.

The transformer is being delivered by ship to Preston Marina. From there, it will be loaded to the transporter and will travel from Preston Marina along the M65 Eastbound and exit at Junction 7. It will then travel down the A678 and turn right on to Blackburn Road to enter in to Shuttleworth Mead Business Park to reach the Padiham substation. The journey is expected to take around four hours.

National Grid has worked with Highways England, Local Police and Lancashire County Council to agree the route to the site and keep disruption to a minimum. The size of the transformer will limit the speed of the transporter vehicle to between 10 and 20 miles per hour.

For safety reasons, when travelling along narrow roads, a rolling road block will be used by the local police. This will mean that other drivers will need to give way or stop for a short period before continuing their journeys once the load has passed.

Masud Ahmed, National Grid Project Manager said: "We are delivering an essential bit of kit to Padiham substation. Installing the new transformer is an important part of National Grid's investment in the UK's network to ensure we continue to provide a secure and reliable electricity supply for future generations."

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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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- > [Press Releases](#)
- > [Media contacts](#)

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- > [Our business](#)
- > [Electricity](#)
- > [Gas](#)
- > [Operating responsibly](#)
- > [Investor factsheets](#)
- > [Presentations and webcasts](#)
- > [Annual reports](#)
- > [Biographies](#)

United States

- > [Our business](#)
- > [Operating responsibly](#)
- > [Investor factsheets](#)
- > [Presentations and webcasts](#)
- > [Annual reports](#)
- > [Biographies](#)