

Drivers urged to take care during cabling work on A540 at Ness, Wirral

National Grid is starting work to lay a high voltage electricity cable along a 2km section of the A540 on the Wirral. Drivers and cyclists are urged to take special care.

11 Aug 2015

Drivers urged to take care during cable laying work on A540

- **National Grid urges drivers and cyclists to take special care as work starts on the A540**
- **Company laying high voltage underground cable along 2 km of the dual carriageway through Ness**
- **One lane will be closed and work expected to take three months to complete**

Drivers are being asked to take special care on the A540 Chester High Road when work gets underway to lay an underground electricity cable as part of the Western Link project.

The cable is being laid in the inside lane of the Chester-bound dual carriageway between the junctions with Damhead Lane and Mudhouse Lane. Rolling roadworks will see one short section of the inside lane closed at a time as the work progresses, but there will be a period where the lane is closed along the whole 2 km stretch toward the end of the three months. This will allow the cable to be pulled through special ducts being laid in trenches in the road surface to receive it.

A 40mph speed limit will be introduced during the work for the safety of motorists, cyclists and engineers.

Peter Roper, Senior Project Manager said: "Safety has been at the forefront of our minds during the planning of this part of the Western Link project. The A540 is a vital link between communities on the Wirral and the main motorway network and we will carry out our work in a way which will keep traffic moving and keep people safe at

the same time.”

He added: “One of our concerns is for the safety of cyclists. We’ll only be closing 250 to 300 metre sections of the inside lane at a time while we dig a trench to take the cable duct. When we do need to close the whole two kilometres to pull the cable through the ducts, we’ll allow cyclists to use the inside lane, within the safety of our coned-off area.”

People will still be able to reach homes and businesses along the A540 and bus stops and bus services won’t be affected. There will be short periods of time when access to Hadlow Road, and making U-turns at the traffic lights by Gordale Garden and Home Centre, won’t be possible. Signs will be in place and the Western Link website (www.westernhvdclink.co.uk) will be updated to let people know when these parts of the work are planned.

Peter added: “We’ve worked closely with Cheshire West and Chester Council to agree our working arrangements. We appreciate that the A540 is a main route across the south of the Wirral peninsula, and so we’re working seven days a week to complete this phase of our work as quickly as we can. We apologise for any inconvenience caused in the meantime.

“We would ask everyone using this section of road over the next few months to have patience, and to take particular care around cyclists and when approaching bus stops.”

Notice of the work on the A540, and any road closures needed for cable installation across the Wirral peninsula, are posted on the Western Link website www.westernhvdclink.co.uk. If people have any queries about the project, they can contact the Community Relations Team by emailing westernlink@communityrelations.co.uk or calling 0800 021 7878.

Contact for media information only

Share this page



Notes for editors

The £1 billion Western Link project is a joint venture between National Grid and ScottishPower Transmission. When complete, it will bring renewable energy from Scotland to homes and businesses in England and Wales and help the UK meet its carbon reduction targets.

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.

Quicklinks

In Media

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

Useful National Grid information

United Kingdom

- > [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](#)