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04 May 2020

National Grid has worked with x-ray imaging equipment provider Fujifilm to release 67 high specification laptops, which have been converted to home reporting workstations by Fujifilm for NHS radiologists across England and Wales.

There is currently unprecedented demand on radiologists as a result of the additional chest x-ray examinations being carried out as part of the diagnostic process for Covid-19. These workstations enable radiologists to review patients' x-rays and make urgent diagnoses from the safety and isolation of their homes, both protecting themselves at this critical time and saving lives.

George Anderson, Head of IT Service Management at National Grid said: "Across the UK, people and businesses like National Grid are rallying around the NHS to support it through the mammoth task of managing Covid-19. We're glad to be able to help and support in any way we can".

Adrian Waller, General Manager of Fujifilm Medical Systems UK said: "We are incredibly grateful to National Grid and to our partners at Dell Technologies for finding this solution to an urgent need for home reporting workstations for the NHS. With supply chains disrupted the number of these high specification workstations available is currently restricted, and we are delighted that National Grid have allowed us to procure their stock."

Dr.Sally Bolt, Consultant Radiologist and one of the Clinical Directors at Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board said: "Once the scale of the Coronavirus pandemic became clear, as a health board we very quickly focused on implementing the most effective ways of working as clinical radiologists. As a clinical body, we identified that we needed to make changes to how we worked. Prior to COVID-19, most of the team were based onsite at one of our three acute hospitals. We needed to change this and introduce home working for the majority. To enable this, we would need to utilise Fujifilm's home reporting solution, available to only a small number of the team prior to the pandemic. Since the workstations have been deployed, most radiologists within our health board are now set up to work from home meaning we can support our clinical colleagues by delivering a hot reporting chest x-ray service 7 days a week. We are hugely grateful to National Grid for kindly releasing these workstations."

The laptop release follows a £500,000 donation from National Grid to support key appeals from the National Emergencies Trust (NET) and the Trussell Trust, which supports the UK's largest network of food banks and £100,000 donation to the University Hospitals Birmingham (UHB) Trust Charity as part of the launch of its £1m campaign to raise funds in support of patients and staff impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

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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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