Green fingered engineering volunteers support Coventry community project

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A team from National Grid has taken time out from managing and delivering new electricity infrastructure projects to support a country park in Coventry.

Volunteers from National Grid joined the Heritage Lottery Fund’s Henry Ford Living Landscape Project, which involves a project to plant a mile of hedgerows in Warwickshire Country Council’s Ryton Pools Country Park. On Friday morning 98 volunteers from national grid helped plant some of the 9000 trees due to be planted in the next three years.

Volunteers help to plant trees and restore wildlife, nature habitats and geography throughout Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull to encourage local awareness, appreciation and participation in all aspects of nature conservation and the environment.

Aaron Mace, Senior Project Manager for Electricity Distribution at National Grid said: “Supporting community projects allows us to meet local people and give something practical to improve both the wider environment and biodiversity in the park – it’s great to build relationships and do something positive.”

Ben Cosham, Country Ranger at Ryton Pools Country Park said: "The newly planted trees look fantastic and we really appreciate the support provided by National Grid. We planted 1200 trees during the morning which would have taken the team on site almost a week to do without their support!" National Grid volunteers can see volunteer days to allow them to switch from their normal roles in offices or work sites and use their skills and experience to deliver work that benefits the community.

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Notes for Editors:

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National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the power 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 network comprises approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,900 kilometres (1,200 miles) of underground cable and 543 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 7,600 kilometres (4,720 miles) of high- and medium-pressure pipelines and 1,500 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain’s System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transmitted safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2012, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standards 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 new benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised energy system.

- Other UK activities include trading in wholesale energy markets outside of our core regulated business, including interconnector, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Properties 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 challenges and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at https://www.nationalgrid.com/en/services

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