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National Grid has school fizzing with excitement

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To mark British Science Week (6-15 March), the North Sea Link project team took over Cambois Primary School in Northumberland to help pupils learn more about renewable energy.

The North Sea Link Interconnector project, a joint venture between National Grid and Statnett, organised a fun-filled event to help educate students aged 3 to 11 years about key science topics.

The day-long workshop, hosted by Bionic Becca from Mad Science, included activities such as a combustion demonstration, pedal generated energy and the use of mini electricity generators. Pupils also learnt more about the €2 billion subsea interconnector and how it will connect the UK with Norway, allowing the two countries to actively share green energy.

North Sea Link communications and stakeholder manager, Sallyanne Barson, said: "The event was a huge success and it was great to see pupils enjoying the Mad Science activities. It's important that students learn about green energy and the importance of science as in the future they'll play a crucial role in sustainability, especially as 21,000 new energy recruits are needed in the North East over the coming years.

"As we're in the midst of such a huge project, this felt like a great opportunity for us to celebrate science with students who are local to our interconnector site."

The team also hoped the event would spark interest in future energy sector careers as recent research by National Grid* revealed that the UK needs to fill 400,000 energy jobs if it is to meet its 2050 net zero emissions target.

The North Sea Link project team is overseeing the construction and delivery of the world's largest subsea interconnector. It has worked in partnership with Cambois Primary School since the project began construction in 2015.

Head teacher Marianne Allan said: "We're delighted that North Sea Link could help us celebrate British Science Week by organising such a great event. The activities were tailored to suit all ages so there was something for everyone.

"The pupils were very engaged and Bionic Becca delivered a fantastic range of activities which sparked interest and conversations about renewable energy throughout the school.

The North Sea Link Interconnector is a joint venture between National Grid and Norwegian system operator, Statnett. Once operational in 2021, the 1.4-gigawatt electricity interconnector will allow the UK to import enough clean energy to power up to 2.4 million homes.

For more information on the project visit www.northsealink.com.

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Photo Caption: (L-R) Mad Science's Bionic Becca, pupils from Cambois Primary School with head teacher Marianne Allan and North Sea Link's Sallyanne Barson

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Notes for editors

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- 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.
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- 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>

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