

Bramford to Twinstead

Summer newsletter



Welcome to our summer newsletter 2014

Brian
Smethurst
Senior Project
Manager



It's now over six months since we wrote to you to explain that we have temporarily put our work on the Bramford to Twinstead Connection project on hold. At the time, we published an updated need case which shows that we still need the new connection and how changes in the timing of new energy sources connecting to our network in East Anglia mean we don't need to build it as soon as originally planned.

We're continuing to work closely with the generators to make sure the new connection is in place when it is needed and we will keep you informed if anything changes.

We promised to stay in touch and, every six months or so, we will publish a short newsletter to update you on our work in the area. In September we will be bringing VEX to local schools. This is an exciting education project and you can read more overleaf about how local students will be able to build their own robots.

I hope you find this newsletter interesting. If you would like further information, you can contact us by letter, phone, email or our website as shown on the back page.



East Anglia is an important region for the UK energy industry

Over the next decade, the country must make the major investment needed to modernise and build the new energy infrastructure the UK requires.

New power stations and offshore wind farms proposed in the region will make a significant contribution to meeting the country's need for green energy.

It is our job to connect people to the energy they use – to heat and light homes and

to power factories, offices, schools and hospitals and the essential services we all rely on.

This puts us at the heart of one of Britain's biggest challenges: how we continue to have secure and affordable energy while meeting ambitious low carbon energy targets and connecting new sources of energy to our communities.



All hands on VEX for school robot scheme

National Grid is bringing an exciting new education programme to local schools.

VEX is a specialist robotics programme designed to bring fun into the classroom – giving students the opportunity to build and create their own robots. Aimed at 14 to 16 year-olds, it has been carefully developed to fit with the national curriculum and is a ‘hands-on’ approach to learning more about science, technology, engineering and maths – known as STEM subjects.

Brian Smethurst said: “We think VEX is an exciting opportunity for National Grid to work with schools to show students just how exciting these subjects can be.

“There is a national shortage of skilled engineers and we hope this programme will encourage young people to consider a career in engineering.”

National Grid will be offering the VEX robotics packages free of charge to selected schools in Suffolk and Essex during the autumn term

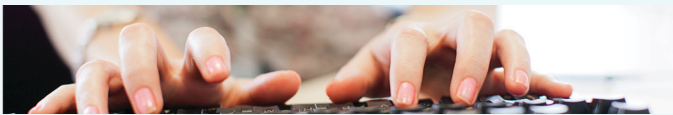
(September to December 2014). A fun competition will be arranged for the end of the term to give the students a chance to show off their creations.

Brian added: “This partnering between National Grid and VEX will help us to develop positive relationships with local schools and communities. It is also a great chance to work closely with young people and bring us a step closer to developing the engineers of our future.”

Staying in touch

In May we met with officers from the local planning authorities along the route of the proposed new connection.

Notes of the meeting have been published on our project website: www.nationalgrid.com/bramford-twinstead.



Connecting with you

National Grid’s online magazine provides news, debate and analysis on the hot topics across National Grid and the energy industry.

This month you can read how National Grid is working with the Government to protect the electricity network from cyber-attack, and what National Grid is doing to tackle gender imbalance in engineering.

To read more and to get involved in the debates surrounding the energy industry, register at: www.nationalgridconnecting.com.

National Grid up for the World Cup

Engineers in National Grid’s control room will be keeping a close eye on the big games to make sure the power system can cope with surges in demand caused by post-match cuppas and half-time loo breaks.

These surges – known as “TV pickups” – happen when a large number of people across Great Britain collectively switch on kettles and lights during a break in programming or after a major event, like a big cup final or the climax of a major soap storyline.

The pickup that followed the heart-breaking penalty shootout in 1990 against West Germany is the biggest that National Grid has ever had to manage. At 2,800 MW it represented the equivalent of over 1.1 million kettles being switched on.

As operator of the electricity transmission system in Great Britain, National Grid manages these surges by lining up power stations in advance, to offer an immediate response when needed.



More information is available from National Grid via the contact details below:



Visit our project website:
www.nationalgrid.com/bramford-twinstead



Call our freephone number:
0800 377 7340



Send an email to:
bramford-twinstead@nationalgrid.com



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