The Great Grid Upgrade

Chesterfield to Willington

nationalgrid

The need for Chesterfield to Willington

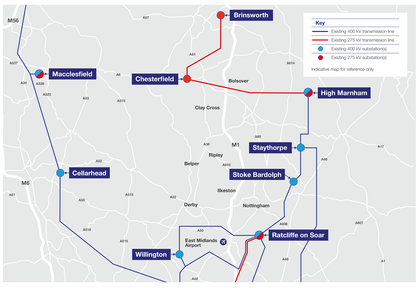
The Chesterfield to Willington project will reinforce the electricity transmission network and help to provide increased capacity between the North and the Midlands.

Like much of the high voltage electricity transmission network across the country, the transmission network was largely built in the 1960s, with little or no transmission infrastructure constructed in some areas. It was designed to connect the inland coal-fired power stations in the North and Midland areas of England, with changes occurring in the later parts of the century to connect gas-fired power stations in the Humber region.

Demand for electricity is expected to rise as the way we power our homes, businesses and transport changes. As the nation moves towards net zero, the fossil fuels that once powered our economy will be replaced with sources of low-carbon electricity.

Forecast growth in offshore wind to meet the UK Government's targets of connecting 50 GW by 2030, as well as increasing power flows to and from European power grids, will put pressure on the existing network. As such, reinforcement of the network in the Midlands region has been identified as necessary to secure the operation of the transmission system and ensure reliable, economic long-term supply.

The Chesterfield to Willington project will support the UK's net zero targets by adding capacity to accommodate increasing power flows of energy. This energy is generated mostly from from offshore wind in Scotland and North East England, to areas of demand south to the Midlands and beyond. By reinforcing the network in the centre of the country, the project will facilitate the connection of more renewable and low carbon electricity, to allow clean green energy to be carried around the network.



Existing transmission system in the East Midlands region

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