The Great Grid Upgrade

Grimsby to Walpole

nationalgrid

Our proposals

Grimsby to Walpole will strengthen the electricity network, transporting home-grown power to homes and businesses across the country, unlocking investment in local infrastructure, and helping ensure long-term energy security for generations to come.

Our proposals include:

- approximately 140 km of new 400 kV overhead transmission line
- two new 400 kV Lincolnshire Connection substations south-west of Mablethorpe, Lincolnshire Connection Substation A and Lincolnshire Connection Substation B
- a new 400 kV Walpole B Substation in proximity to the existing Walpole Substation
- other required works, including:
  - temporary access roads, highway improvements, construction work compounds, and ancillary works
  - utility diversions and drainage works
  - mitigation and enhancement of the environment to deliver overall biodiversity net gain
- a new 400 kV Grimsby West Substation to be built in the vicinity of the existing 400 kV substation in North East Lincolnshire, with the existing substation being decommissioned in all, or part
- up to two new 400 kV substations in the vicinity of Spalding Tee-Point, Weston Marsh Substation A and Weston Marsh Substation B
- replacement of short sections of existing 400 kV overhead line and local changes to the lower voltage distribution network, facilitating the construction of the new overhead line and substations.

What has changed since the last consultation?

Feedback from our Stage 1 consultation, along with environmental and technical assessments, has been used to refine our proposals. We are now consulting on a more detailed design, including a proposed overhead line route and substation locations.

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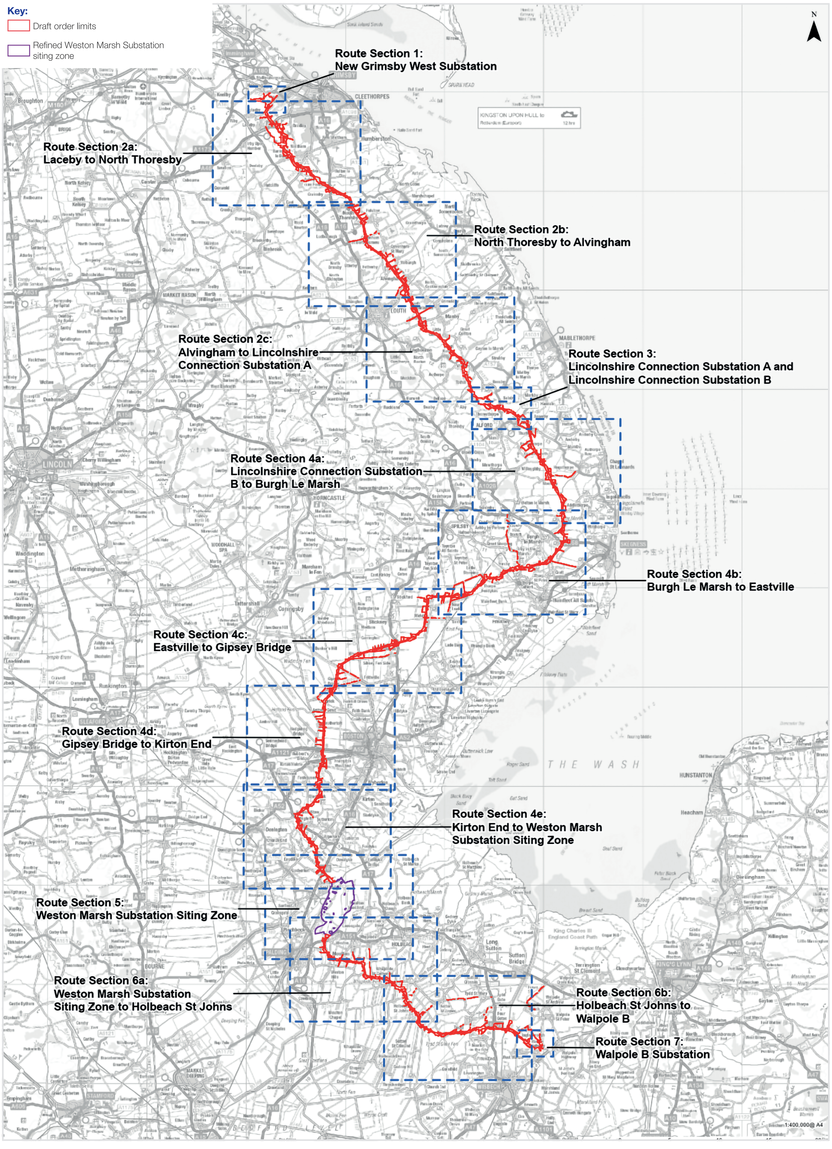
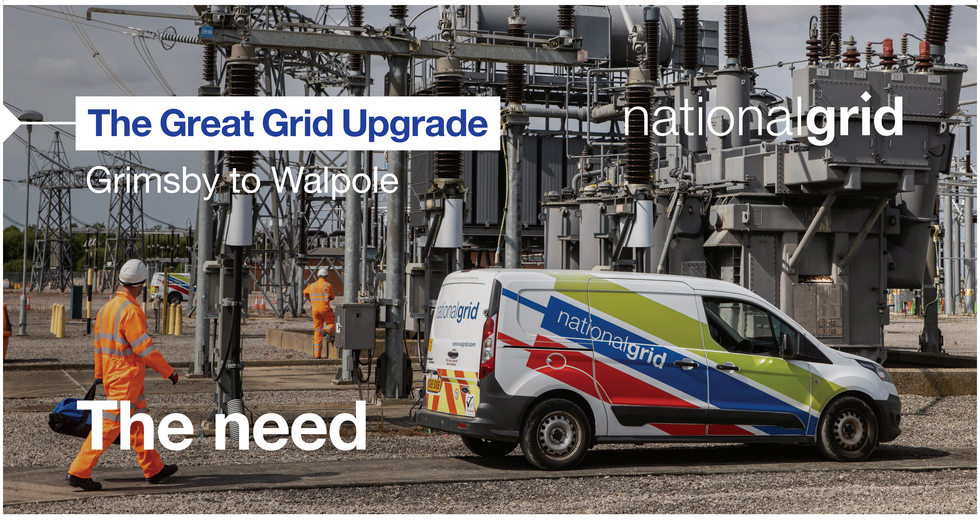
Project map

For our Stage 2 consultation, the proposed route has been split into seven Route sections and subsections to clearly distinguish between substation and overhead line locations.





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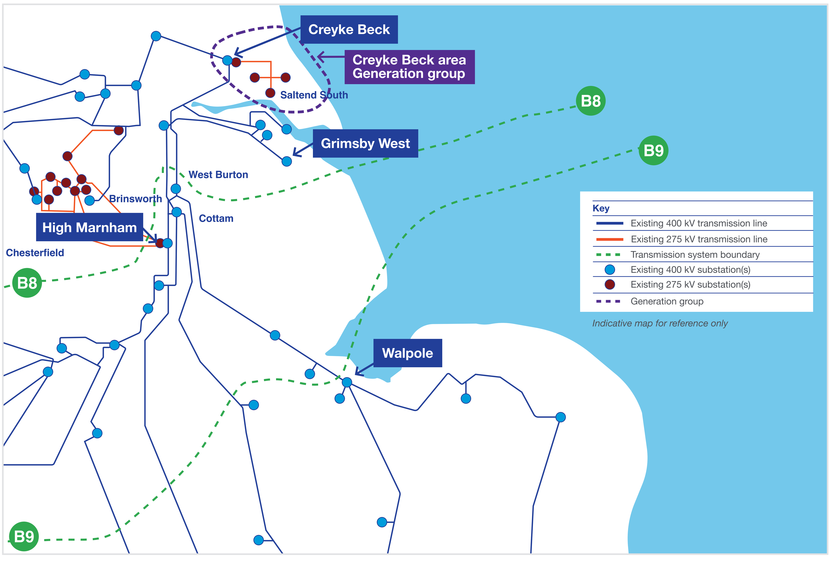
The need

Grimsby to Walpole would play an important role in building a more secure and resilient future energy system by reliably transporting electricity across the country.

The way we use and generate electricity is changing, with an increase in demand for electricity and more of it now produced from wind and solar, rather than fossil fuels. To deliver more home-grown clean power to where it is needed and increase our energy security, we must also upgrade the transmission system – 'the grid'.



Map showing the B8 and B9 transmission boundaries

The network today

The current network in this area was built in the 1960s, to connect inland coal-fired power stations. It wasn't designed for today's needs.

This project will help to connect our homes, businesses and public services to sources of home-grown renewable energy which can lower our electricity bills and make our country more energy secure.

Without this upgrade, the system could become overloaded, risking power cuts and delays to new energy projects. This project will make sure the electricity system stays reliable, now and in the future.

Why does the network in this region need upgrading?

- Small-scale change isn't enough
- Demand for energy is rising
- How we generate electricity is changing
- We need to meet net zero targets

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Construction

Should consent for Grimsby to Walpole be granted, we would expect construction to start in 2029, with the Project becoming fully operational in 2033.

The construction phase would involve a range of temporary activities, including:

- Working areas for construction
- Site offices and storage
- Crossing points across watercourses
- Construction vehicular accesses and haul roads
- Temporary diversions of public rights of way

Managing and mitigating effects

Feedback from all stages of consultation, along with outputs from our ongoing technical and environmental assessments, will help us further refine our proposals as we prepare our development consent order application.

We use best practice environmental impact assessment techniques to assess the possible effects of our work and identify opportunities for mitigation measures, including the delivery of biodiversity net gain.

Protecting the environment

Our environmental and technical assessments consider the potential effects on local communities and the environment during periods of construction, such as traffic, noise, dust, and impacts from other projects.

Through this work, we are identifying mitigation measures to avoid, reduce, or mitigate these potential impacts.

Biodiversity net gain

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) ensures that the environment is left in a better state after construction than it was before the work started.

We have committed to achieving a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gain for new major projects and are collaborating with regional and local partners to identify BNG opportunities.