

Harker Energy Enablement

Newsletter 2

December 2024

Welcome to our second Harker Energy Enablement newsletter. Since our last update the project has been progressing well and in this issue we'll provide details of the work we've completed so far and our aims for the coming months, including how we're supporting the local community whilst we're on site.

As a reminder the project consists of three main elements:

- replacing and rebuilding the existing substation by extending onto an adjacent field and reconfiguring the short sections of the overhead lines into the extended substation;
- adding new conductors (the wires between the pylons) onto 8km of existing pylons between Harker substation and the Scottish Border; and
- refurbishing the existing pylons between Harker substation and the Scottish Border by renewing the existing wires and carrying out associated works.



Our progress so far

Substation extension

Since we started on site earlier this year, our efforts have been focused on preparing the site for the building of the substation extension. This has included carrying out surveys and assessments of the land as well as the set-up of the site offices. Work to prepare the ground for the substation build took place, including creating temporary tracks around the site so construction vehicles can move across the area safely.

The site team has also completed the foundations for the substation including using a technique called piling – drilling holes into the ground to create the foundation bases – and is now building the substation structure.

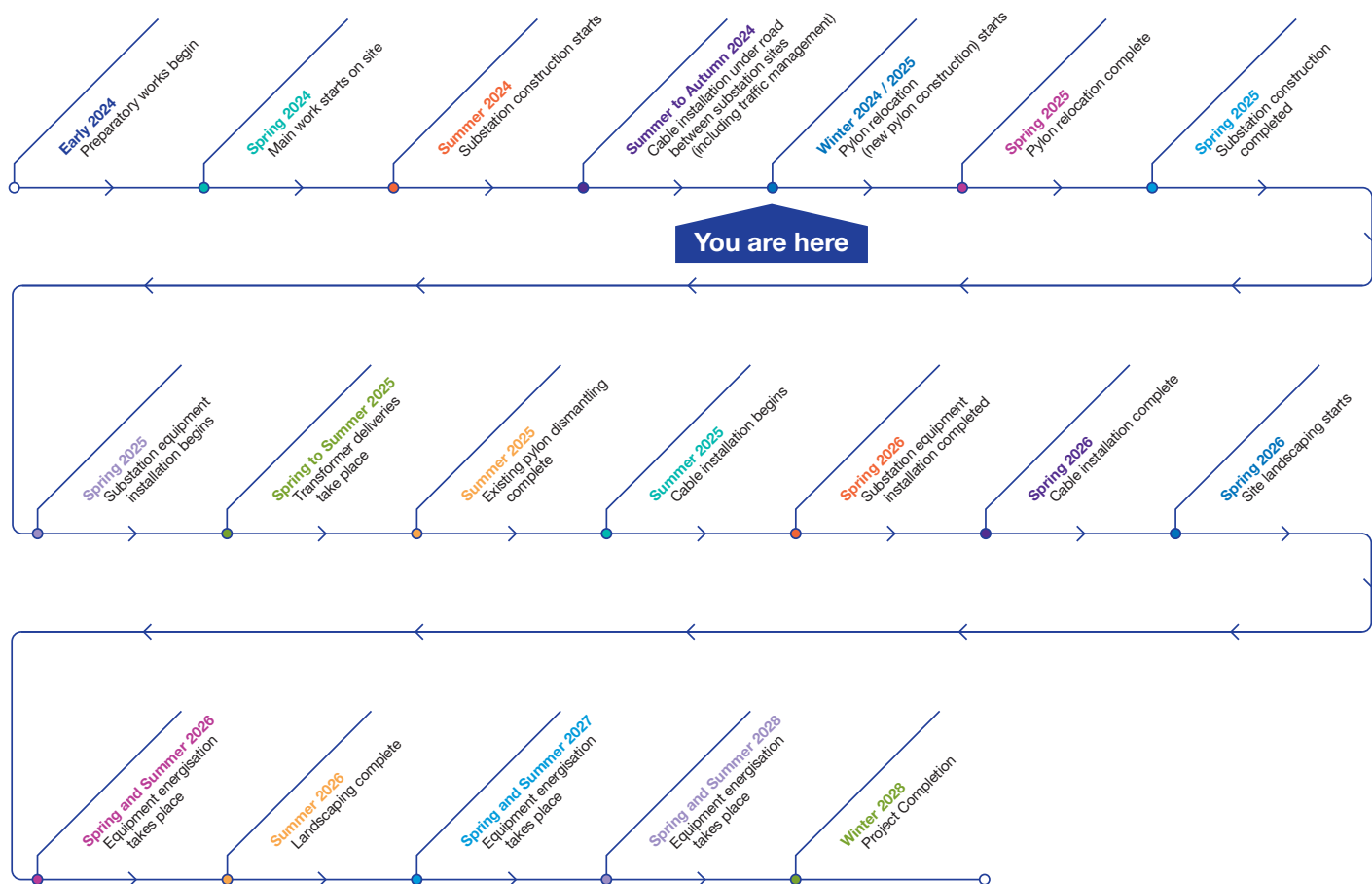
Electricity North West (EWN) has also set up their compound in the north west corner of the site in preparation for their planned works to divert the existing circuit. The process includes the relocation of the existing pylons required to connect into the substation extension. Following the completion of this work in 2025, the pylon which is no longer required will be dismantled.

Overhead lines

We are also preparing for our work to the overhead lines between Harker and the Scottish Border to take place in 2025. This work has included negotiations with landowners regarding access arrangements and some preparatory works.

Please note: the site will be closed from Tuesday 24 December until Thursday 2 January, with no planned work taking place over the festive period. However, there will be a security presence on site throughout this time. If you have any concerns or queries about the site during this period, please contact the site security control room on 01604 098849 or our community relations team who will respond to you as soon as possible.

Timeline



Coming up

Substation

In the first half of 2025 we will be continuing the construction of the substation extension. Later in 2025 we will be creating cable ducts, in which cables will be installed to connect the existing substation to the extension. These cables will be installed under the road between the sites. To carry out this work, we will need to close the road during this time. Further details regarding this road closure will be shared next year, via these updates and on our website, once they are confirmed.

We will also be building the areas for new transformers (large pieces of electrical equipment) to be installed. Delivery of the transformers will take place over the next year, with the first due to be delivered in April 2025. Due to the size of these deliveries, we will be using a slow-moving transporter vehicle to make the deliveries. This will mean there will be some rolling road closures in the area as the vehicles carry the equipment to the substation. We'll notify you once the details of the deliveries, including dates and routes are confirmed.

Overhead lines

Next summer we will be undertaking the main works to add new wires to the existing pylons between Harker substation and the Scottish Border and refurbishing these pylons by renewing the existing wires and carrying out associated works.

These works will include some footpath and partial road closures to ensure the work to remove the existing and install the new wires takes place safely.



Profile

Each issue we'll introduce you to a member of our project team as you can get to know the people behind the site works:

Kevin Harper

Role in the project? Project Manager – Ensuring the construction work is completed; on time, within budget, safely and to the quality required for the new substation to be in service for at least the next 40 years.

How did you become a Project manager? I completed an Apprenticeship to become an electrician, before joining National Grid where I completed a two-year training programme that included a Foundation

Degree and was aimed to teach me the fundamentals of Project Management, and I now have 13 years' experience with the organisation.

What are your hobbies? I have a baby who is just turning one, so when I have time, I enjoy exercising and have a season ticket for Liverpool FC

What have you done to become greener? I drive an electric car and try to eat vegan meals two days a week.



Community news

From the start of 2025 we'll be working with Blackford Primary School to provide a range of activities for the children and support for the school. These will include supporting the school's STEM and Careers weeks in the Spring and we're aiming to organise a visit for some of the children to site later in 2025. We're also planning to donate any spare parts from site which could be used in the school's play area and looking at organising other educational visits as the project progresses. We'll keep you up to date as our work with the school community continues in future newsletters.

The school is also applying for support for a variety of projects via our Community Grant Programme, and we'll let you know as these submissions progress. If there is a local project or group which could benefit from similar assistance, please visit the Community Grant Programme website to find out more - nationalgrid.com/responsibility/community/community-grant-programme

As the project continues, we're aiming to further support local charities and community groups with volunteering opportunities or via our Community Grant Programme. Please contact our Community Relations team, using the details on the back of this newsletter, for further details.



Community engagement

National Grid is committed to engaging with communities at every stage of the project. This will be achieved through various channels:

- **Community Grant Programme** – local community organisations and charities in the area can apply for funding, further details can be found on our website;
- **regular communication** – we will continue to keep you updated on the project through various means including letters, signage, and WhatsApp updates;
- **volunteering** – our project team are keen to deliver hands-on support via volunteer days conducted in the community, and we are actively identifying opportunities to do so; and
- **Outreach Programme** – we will liaise with local schools and groups to identify opportunities for community engagement.

Your questions answered

What are your working hours?

Our normal working hours will be between 7am - 6pm Monday to Friday, and between 8am - 5pm on Saturdays. No work is planned to take place on Sundays. Essential activities that require continuous working will take place occasionally outside of these hours. In this incidence, we will inform affected stakeholders accordingly.

How long will the work take?

The main construction work has now started, and it is due to be completed in 2026. We'll then be on site until 2028 undertaking the connection work and dismantling some of the older equipment on the existing substation site.

How will these works affect me?

You may see additional traffic in and around the substation site. We don't expect any of our work to cause disruption and our contractor will make sure any disturbances from noise are kept to a minimum.



Contact us

Our dedicated community relations team works with local residents, businesses and community groups to ensure our work causes as little disruption as possible. They are also on hand to answer any questions you may have about past, current or future activity. Please do not hesitate to contact a member of the team on:

0800 319 6165
(Monday to Friday, 9am – 5:30pm)

email harker@nationalgrid.com
website: nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/infrastructure-projects/harker-substation

If you would like to sign-up to our WhatsApp updates, please contact us via email, or use the QR code:

You can also write to us using our freepost address:

Freepost GIVEYOURVIEW
(no stamp or further address required)

