

# North London Reinforcement (NLR) project – Waltham Cross

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# What is NLR, and why is it needed?



NLR will see the upgrading of two circuits of existing 275 kilovolt (kV) overhead lines to 400 kV between Pelham and Hackney Substations.



There will be associated works to support the upgrade at our existing substations at Stocking Pelham, Waltham Cross, Brimsdown, Tottenham, and Hackney.



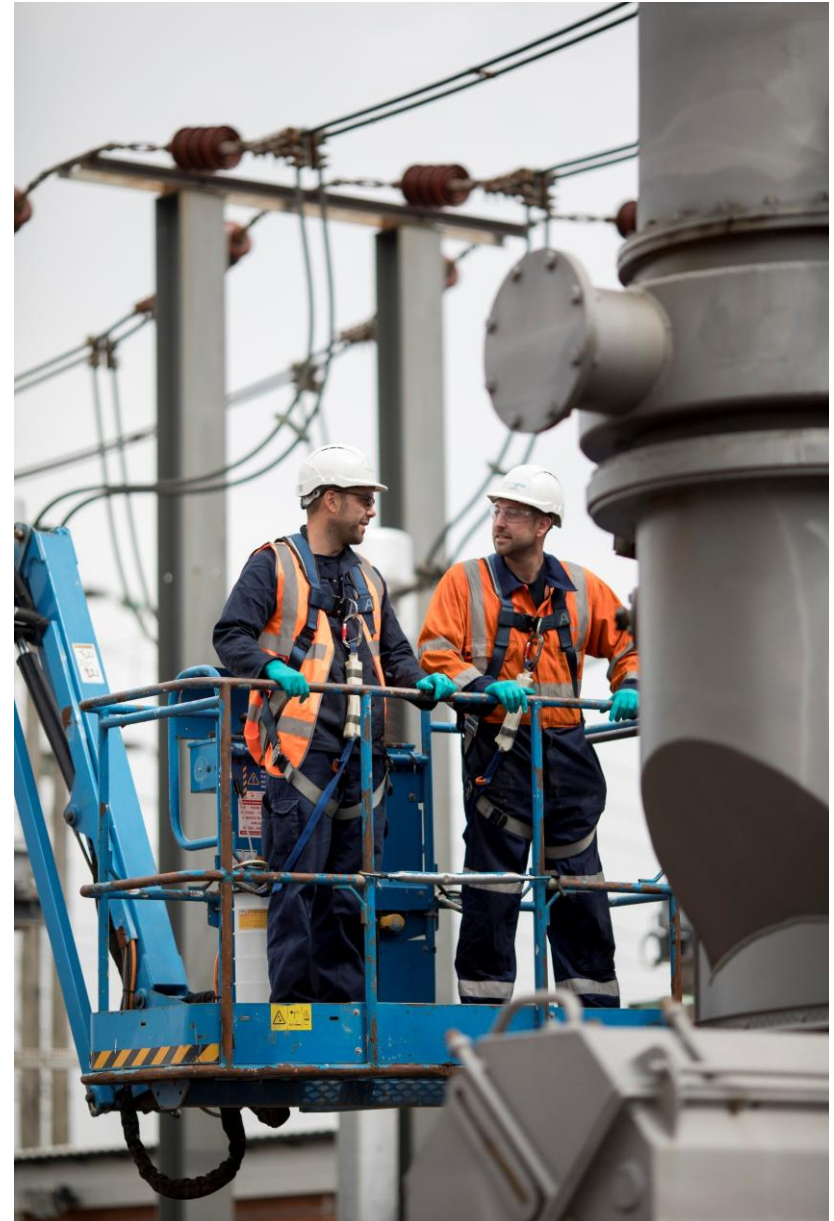
NLR is part of The Great Grid Upgrade. It will:

- Enhance electricity transmission capacity and address future energy demands.
- Ensure London and the surrounding area is connected to new and future renewable energy.
- Avoid current overhead lines being overloaded in the area, which would impact on the reliability of the network and cost of energy.

**By modernising equipment that has been in place for 60+ years, NLR will create a stronger, more resilient network that can transport greater volumes of cleaner, more affordable energy.**

# Indicative timeline

- The Development Consent Order (DCO) for the North London Reinforcement project was approved in **May 2014** by the Secretary of State, before the project was put on hold.
- It was brought forward as part of the Government and Ofgem's Accelerated Strategic Transmission Investment (ASTI) programme due to new targets and increased demand.
- The project launched in **October 2024**, and initial vegetation clearance began in **January 2025**.
- Works will be taking place in phased intervals across the route **from 2026 to 2030**.





# Works in your area

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# Works in Waltham Cross

- **Waltham Cross is a critical hub for NLR**
  - The works support major infrastructure upgrades that will strengthen electricity transmission into London and support long-term energy security.
- **Overview of works**
  - We are upgrading the substation and existing overhead line to enable the system to operate at increased voltage levels.
- **Overhead line upgrades**
  - Higher voltage conductors will be installed.
  - Several existing towers will be replaced or removed.
- **Substation expansion**
  - An extension to house the two new Supergrid Transformers (SGTs) we'll be replacing the existing ones with.



# Waltham Cross ongoing works

- At Waltham Cross, main construction works are expected to begin in **March 2026** and are scheduled to be complete by **2030**.
- **Construction activity to date**
  - Construction of the haul road, site access and site compound has now started.
  - Demolition of existing Supergrid Transformers (SGTs) is underway, alongside vegetation clearance.
  - Operational zones in the former Cornmill Meadows and Fisher's Green Car Park have been established
- **What's happening now**
  - Temporary three-way traffic lights are in place to ensure the safe movement of construction vehicles, park visitors, and pedestrians.
  - People in the surrounding park areas will see construction traffic and contractor presence, to support continued construction of the haul road and site compound.
  - Pothole repair works are being carried out over the next 3-4 weeks.



# Waltham Cross upcoming works

- Piling works will start soon to help form the foundation for the of site, which will host two large laydown areas.
  - One will be located adjacent to the substation and another at Cornmill Meadows car park, serving as key operational zones for construction activity.
- **Additional works**
  - Existing overhead lines to be replaced with higher voltage conductors.
  - Existing tower dismantlement and new tower construction.
  - SGTs to be delivered.

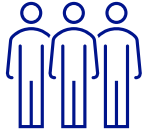


# Stakeholder communications

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# Our commitments to local communities



We will work closely with local communities to minimise the impact of our project, keep people informed of our work and seek opportunities to invest in local community initiatives.



We always plan to complete any work with the minimum of disturbance for people living near to our sites.



We will be sure to inform all stakeholders and the community ahead of any disruption to local areas..



Whilst we do not expect any long-term major disruption caused by NLR, we will liaise closely with all relevant authorities and key stakeholders throughout construction to minimise impacts as much as possible.

# Ongoing construction communications

We are committed to providing timely updates to our stakeholders

- **Website updates** – highlighting significant milestones and project updates. Scan the QR code here to visit our webpage dedicated to Waltham Cross
- **Letters and WhatsApp channel** – detailing potential road closures and other real-time updates to help minimise disruption. Scan the QR code here to join our WhatsApp channel.

## Community relations team contact

- Contact us by email [northlondonreinforcement@nationalgrid.com](mailto:northlondonreinforcement@nationalgrid.com) or phone at 0800 538 5398 (Mon – Fri, 9am - 5pm)
- These channels will be used to respond to any enquiries stakeholders and the community may have.

Visit our website



Join our WhatsApp channel



# Community benefit

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# Investing in your community

- National Grid has a long-standing commitment to the communities we work alongside, and we want to ensure lasting benefits for the people and places that host our infrastructure.
- For the North London Reinforcement project, we expect to deliver a **Community Fund of over £3 million**.
- Shaped by the community, for the community, this fund will be designed to reflect local needs and developed in line with Government guidance.
- We will work with residents, charities, community groups and elected representatives to understand what matters most and how the funding can make a lasting, positive impact.
- Starting in spring, we will begin this work by hosting **community workshops** to listen to local priorities and ideas for the projects and initiatives this funding could support.



# Project legacy



NLR will enhance visual characteristics around some existing substations via the streamlining of existing OHL towers. Additionally, the modernisation of substation transformer units has the potential to reduce noise and pollution impacts.



National Grid has also set a 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) in environmental value target on all construction projects and is aiming to achieve 15% on this project.



We are committed to ensuring social benefits via our [Community Grant Programme](#), which is aimed at community organisations and charities in areas where our work is impacting local people through our operations and construction activities.

# Q&A

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# Thank you

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