

# National Grid continues to spread the word about connections project

## News Release

---

02 February 2015

- **National Grid continues briefings on NWCC project**
- **Work ongoing to analyse feedback received during consultation**
- **Consultation report to be published in the coming months**

**National Grid is continuing to spread the word about its plans to connect new sources of electricity into 'the grid' in Cumbria and Lancashire while, behind the scenes, work is done to analyse feedback from the recent public consultation exercise.**

The company has briefed the West Lakes University of the Third Age (U3A) on plans to connect the proposed new nuclear power station, Moorside, near Sellafield in West Cumbria into the existing electricity transmission system and to export power generated by other energy projects in the North West.

Robert Powell, Project Manager said: "We're continuing to talk to local groups and organisations about our proposals, even though the first phase of our public consultation on the project is complete.

"We are keen to help local groups to understand the importance of the North West Coast Connections project and to work with us in continuing to develop our proposals so they can help us shape our plans."

National Grid is working to analyse all the comments received during the 12 week consultation exercise held in autumn last year. In the coming months, the company plans to publish a report on the consultation findings and to indicate which option it will be taking forward for further development.

The company received over 1,200 responses to the consultation on the options it presented for making new connections into the electricity transmission network. This includes 70 responses from local authorities and parish councils and 80 responses from a wide range of other bodies including the Lake District National Park, Friends of the Lake District, Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency.

Mr. Powell added: "The information provided will help us decide which of the options we have consulted on is taken forward for further development. The feedback will also help us review and refine that option. All the feedback we've received during consultation will be published on our project website although the names of the individuals and organisations that provided the feedback will not be disclosed.

"We expect to carry out further public consultation in 2016. This will focus on the route we select for the new connections, the technology we propose to use to make the connections and its positioning along the route, and the mitigation we can use to reduce the impact of our work in specific locations.

“In the meantime, we’ll continue to work with local authorities and other bodies to develop our plans. We also anticipate setting up localised working groups so we can work more directly with communities to look in more detail at the different factors to be taken into account as we finalise the route for the new connections.”

National Grid is also starting to conduct a wide range of surveys to gather information on birds and wildlife and the environment. The company has started to identify and contact the owners of the land along the routes being considered to discuss getting access to carry out this work.

The company will be seeking to submit an application for consent to build the new connections to the Planning Inspectorate in 2017. A decision will then be made by the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy and Climate Change. If consent is granted, construction work will start. NuGen has asked National Grid to provide the first phase of the connection into its transmission network by 2024.

People wishing to be notified of the outcome of the recent consultation and the option being taken forward are asked to register their details on the North West Coast Connections website: [www.northwestcoastconnections.com](http://www.northwestcoastconnections.com) People registering their details will also be sent updates on the project and information on further engagement opportunities.

For further information about the project please contact the project team direct using any of the following methods:

- **Freephone:** 0800 876 6990
- **Email:** [nationalgrid@northwestcoastconnections.com](mailto:nationalgrid@northwestcoastconnections.com)
- **Freepost:** FREEPOST NG NWCC

#### **PICTURE CAPTION:**

Press release 1 - **National Grid updates West Lakes U3A on the North West Coast Connections project.**

Press release image 2 – **West Lakes U3A hosts National Grid briefing.**

**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Milton Haworth

**ENDS**

#### **Contact for media information only:**

Jane Taylor

National Grid Media Relations

07785 220647

[jane.e.taylor@nationalgrid.com](mailto:jane.e.taylor@nationalgrid.com)

**Out of hours duty press officer:** 0845 366 6769

#### **Photos:**

For photos relating to this news release please visit the National Grid photo stream

For more information, please visit our website: [www.nationalgridmedia.com](http://www.nationalgridmedia.com)

## NOTES TO EDITORS

### **National Grid**

National Grid is one of the largest investor-owned energy companies in the world. We own and manage the grids that connect people to the energy they need, from whatever the source. In Britain and the north-eastern states of the US we run systems that deliver gas and electricity to millions of people, businesses and communities.

In Britain, we run the gas and electricity systems that our society is built on, delivering gas and electricity across the country. In the North Eastern US, we connect more than seven million gas and electric customers to vital energy sources, essential for our modern lifestyles.

#### **National Grid in the UK:**

- We own the high-voltage electricity transmission network in England and Wales, operating it across Great Britain.
- We own and operate the high pressure gas transmission system in Britain.
- Our gas distribution business delivers gas to 11 million homes and businesses.
- We also own a number of related businesses including LNG importation, land remediation and metering.
- National Grid manages the National Gas Emergency Service free phone line on behalf of the industry - 0800 111 999 (all calls are recorded and may be monitored).
- Our portfolio of other businesses is mainly concerned with infrastructure provision and related services where we can exploit our core skills and assets to create value. These businesses operate in areas such as Metering, Grain LNG Import, Interconnectors and Property. National Grid Carbon Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of National Grid and it undertakes Carbon Capture Storage related activities on behalf of National Grid.

#### **National Grid in the US:**

- In the northeast US, we connect more than seven million gas and electric customers to vital energy sources, essential for our modern lifestyles.
- National Grid delivers electricity to approximately 3.3 million customers in Massachusetts, New York and Rhode Island. It is the largest distributor of natural gas in northeastern U.S., serving approximately 3.4 million customers in New York, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island.



[Follow us on Twitter](#)



[Watch us on You Tube](#)



[Friend us on Facebook](#)



[Find our photos on Flickr](#)

