

## News Release

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# National Grid prepares for final consultation events but still wants views on new connections

**04 November 2014**

- **Final event takes place on 8 November in Dalston, Cumbria**
- **People can still take part in consultation on the North West Coast Connections project online**
- **Consultation concludes on 28 November 2014**

National Grid's final public consultation event takes place in Dalston, Cumbria on Saturday, 8 November but people still have time to share their views on plans to connect new sources of electricity generation into 'the grid' in Cumbria and Lancashire.

Robert Powell, Project Manager, North West Coast Connections project said: "We've had a fantastic turn-out at the events we've held so far with over 1,000 people coming along. We'll be taking time to reflect on all the feedback we've received once we've concluded this stage of consultation.

"If people haven't been able to get along to one of our events, it's not too late. You can still share your views with us by registering on our website to take part in consultation online before the Friday, 28 November deadline. We can also post information out to people to help them give us their feedback on the project."

"We want to gather the views of as many people as possible. All the comments we receive will be vital in helping us shape our plans for the project.

"We've got a difficult balance to strike. We need to keep the lights on and bills low while at the same time, treading as lightly as possible on the unique landscapes and environments of Cumbria and Lancashire. We want people to help us decide how to manage these competing demands. We promise to listen and to learn from what people tell us so we can then develop the project in a way which strikes the best possible balance."

Over a five year period, National Grid has been working with local authorities in Lancashire and Cumbria, key groups and individuals on the possible routes for connecting the proposed new power generation. All the consultation responses National Grid receives will be used to help decide whether it progresses with its 'emerging preference'. This is to build a complete connection with routes going both:

- onshore north from Moorside to a point on the existing network at Harker, near Carlisle
- and:**
- onshore south from Moorside across the Barrow Peninsula and through a tunnel under Morecambe Bay which would come up near Heysham in Lancashire to connect into the existing network.

This will effectively create a 'power ring' around the NW coast which would give Moorside a secure connection into the grid and also allow other new generators to link into the electricity network in the future. There is potential for the onshore parts of the routes to follow the path of existing lower voltage power lines operated by Electricity North West. Where this happens, it is possible that some of these lines could be removed and replaced with higher voltage lines that follow the same path.

National Grid is seeking views on alternative routes coming south from Moorside that go offshore through the Irish Sea to the south or overland around the South Lakes and into North Lancashire. However the company has not prioritised these options for consultation as it believes that specific environmental and technical challenges associated with both of them make it less likely that they would be taken forward.

People are encouraged to register their details on the North West Coast Connections project website if they wish to take part in consultation online and to also ensure they get regular updates on the project: [www.northwestcoastconnections.com](http://www.northwestcoastconnections.com).

For any other enquiries, 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

## ENDS

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### 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

### NWCC Consultation Event Programme

A schedule of the consultation events still to take place, including details of the dates and venues, is listed below.

1. **Wednesday 05 November – 1:30pm-8pm – Drigg**  
Drigg & Carleton Parish Hall, Drigg, Holmrook, Cumbria, CA19 1XF
2. **Thursday 06 November – 1pm-8pm – Bootle**  
Bootle Village Hall, Bootle Station, Cumbria, LA19 5UY
3. **Friday 07 November – 1pm-8pm – Broughton-in-Furness**  
Broughton Victory Hall, Station Road, Broughton-in-Furness, Cumbria, LA20 6HN
4. **Saturday 08 November – 10am-3:30pm – Dalston**  
Victory Hall, The Green, Dalston, Cumbria, CA5 7QB

## **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.



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