

Mid Wales Connection Project Consultation Feedback Form

This form is to provide feedback on National Grid's proposed work to connect new wind farms in Mid Wales to the national transmission network. Details of this work are included at the back of this form and accompanying maps show where this work could take place.

National Grid's work:

National Grid would like your feedback on:

- Proposed siting areas for a substation in Powys
- Proposed route corridors (a broad width of land through which a connection could be routed) from this substation to a network connection location in Shropshire

Your feedback:

The feedback you provide will influence the decisions made and will be included as part of our applications to the Infrastructure Planning Commission (the body responsible for making decisions on major infrastructure projects) and relevant local planning authorities. We would welcome your feedback on all of our work, but if there are parts of the project that you feel are more relevant to you and you only want to comment on these, please do so.

Please submit your response online at www.nationalgrid.com/midwalesconnection, post this form in the feedback box at one of our events or send it to: **FREEPOST NATIONAL GRID MID W CONNECTION.**

**This consultation is open from 10th March to 3rd June 2011
Please submit feedback during this time**

Please note: National Grid is not consulting on the need for new wind farms and therefore is not able to respond to any comments that relate specifically to wind generation. Consultations on 132 kV connections are being conducted separately by the organisations responsible for these. Please contact National Grid or visit www.nationalgrid.com/midwalesconnection for details.

About you:

Title:	First Name:	Surname:
Organisation (if applicable):		
Address:		
Postcode:	Country:	
E-mail:		
Event Location:	Date:	

Data Privacy Notice

National Grid is committed to respecting your privacy and to complying with all applicable data protection and privacy laws. We are undertaking this consultation to seek your views on substation location and route corridor options for our proposal to connect wind farms in Mid Wales to the national transmission network. Your information may, for either of these purposes, be disclosed to or shared with the following:

- Other National Grid Group companies;
- Third party service providers, contractors, or advisors who provide services to us; and
- The Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC), and its successor body, and any relevant Local Planning Authority (LPA).

SECTION 1 – SUBSTATION SITING AREAS

National Grid has undertaken studies to identify suitable areas in which the proposed substation in Powys could be located. We are consulting on two potential locations: one near to Cefn Coch and one near to Abermule. Ultimately, only one substation would be built.

We would like your feedback on the substation siting areas we are proposing. These are shown on the map available with this form. Details are also available about the effect each substation could have in these areas.

Q1. Of the different substation siting areas National Grid has identified, which do you think is most appropriate? Please tick one only:

Substation siting area near to Cefn Coch

Substation siting area near to Abermule

I have no preference

Q2. Do you have any comments on the substation siting areas we have identified?

SECTION 2 – ROUTE CORRIDORS

National Grid has undertaken detailed studies to identify the most appropriate route the connection could take from the new substation to the identified network connection point (an existing 400 kV line in Shropshire).

Three potential connection locations have been identified on this existing 400 kV line: one near to Lower Frankton, one near to Wigmarsh, and one near to Walford Heath. From the two substation siting areas we are consulting on to these locations there are a total of 10 potential route corridor options. Ultimately, only one transmission connection would be built.

The route corridor options are shown on the map available with this form. Information is also available about the effect a transmission connection within each route corridor could have in these areas.

When planning a new transmission connection, National Grid considers the options of going overhead or underground. The route corridors we have brought forward for public consultation allow for the connection to be made by overhead lines, underground cables or a combination of the two. Feedback from the consultation will be considered in the decisions made.

Route Corridor Options from Cefn Coch substation siting area

From Cefn Coch there are six route corridor options to the connection locations on the existing 400 kV line: three to the connection near to Lower Frankton and three near to Wigmarsh.

Q3. If the location near to Cefn Coch is selected as the substation siting area, which of the route corridors do you think is most appropriate to connect to:

the location near to Lower Frankton? Please tick one only.

Red North route Red Central route Red South route I have no preference

the location near to Wigmarsh? Please tick one only.

Green North route Green Central route Green South route I have no preference

Q4. Do you have any comments on the route corridors we have identified from Cefn Coch?

Route Corridor Options from Abermule substation siting area

From Abermule there are four route corridor options to the connection locations on the existing 400 kV line: one to the connection near to Lower Frankton, one near to Wigmarsh, and two near to Walford Heath.

Q5. If the location near to Abermule is selected as the substation siting area, which of the route corridors do you think is most appropriate to connect to:

the location near to Lower Frankton? Please tick one only.

Yellow route **I have no preference**

the location near to Wigmarsh? Please tick one only.

Pink route **I have no preference**

the location near to Walford Heath? Please tick one only.

Purple North route **Purple South route** **I have no preference**

Q6. Do you have any comments on the route corridors we have identified from Abermule?

SECTION 3 – IMPORTANT CRITERIA

National Grid considers a wide range of criteria to help identify potential substation siting areas and route corridors, including those listed below.

This section seeks feedback on which criteria are most important to you in deciding the substation site and route corridor that are taken forward to the next phase of consultation.

- A** Avoiding populated areas/proximity to property
- B** Avoiding sensitive areas (such as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and areas of cultural, historical significance)
- C** Minimising visual impact on the landscape (by considering the technology we use and the alignment of connections)
- D** Minimising physical impact on the landscape (from construction work and the long term and short term effects of the connection)
- E** Minimising damage to plant and animal habitats
- F** Minimising the impact of traffic (on the local road network for the duration of the project)
- G** Minimising the effect on the local community and economy (by considering the impact of construction and the potential long term effects of a connection)
- H** Delivering a cost efficient connection to minimise costs to electricity consumers
- I** Delivering an efficient construction project to limit waste and transport needs, and make best use of materials
- J** Minimising greenhouse gas emissions (in the construction phase through choice of materials and construction methods)

Please choose up to three options using the letters listed above. Choosing three will not rule other criteria out, but will help us understand what you consider as priorities.

Q7. For the substation siting areas which of these criteria is most important to you?

Q8. For the route corridors which of these criteria is most important to you?

Q9. Are there other criteria you would like to be used to inform the selection of the substation siting area and route corridor?

SECTION 4 – YOUR VIEWS ON OUR CONSULTATION

National Grid is committed to open consultation and engagement with all those who would like to comment on our proposed work. We would welcome your feedback on your experience of this consultation.

Q10. Has the information presented been useful in helping you make decisions on our proposed work?

Yes No I don't know

Q11. Do you feel National Grid has given you sufficient opportunity to comment on our proposed work?

Yes No I don't know

Q12. Do you have any comments on the consultation process?

Thank you for completing this feedback form. All of the comments we have received will now be analysed and will help inform the decision making process.

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

National Grid owns and operates the high-voltage transmission network in Wales and England. It's our responsibility to transmit electricity to local distribution networks for onward supply to homes and businesses. When new energy generation is built it is our job to connect it to the national electricity network.

Work in Mid Wales

National Grid has been requested to provide a connection for proposed new wind farms in Mid Wales. New 132,000 volt (132 kV) connections would take the power from the wind farms to a proposed new National Grid substation in Powys, which collects the electricity ready for onward transmission. The proposed 132 kV connections are being developed by ScottishPower Energy Networks and SSE Renewables. The substation would then be connected to the national electricity network via a proposed 400,000 volt (400 kV) connection through Powys and Shropshire to be built by National Grid. The connection point is likely to be to an existing 400 kV transmission line between substations at Legacy near Wrexham, and Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

National Grid's work

National Grid will be responsible for building the new substation in Powys and the new 400 kV transmission connection. Only one new National Grid substation in Powys and one 400 kV transmission connection from Powys to Shropshire would be built.

More information is available from National Grid via the contact details below.

Freephone: 0800 019 5325

Email: nationalgrid@midwalesconnection.com

Web: www.nationalgrid.com/midwalesconnection

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