

19 December 2025

Dear Caunton Parish Council

Keeping you informed: West Burton to Ratcliffe-on-Soar Refurbishment Project (‘Project’)

I wanted to let you know that we'll soon start essential work for the refurbishment of the existing 400 kV single circuits between West Burton and Ratcliffe-on-Soar.

The existing infrastructure was built in the 1950s and requires an upgrade to enhance network capacity and resilience between West Burton, High Marnham, Stoke Bardolph and Ratcliffe-on-Soar. This includes upgrading approximately 80 kilometres of the existing high-voltage electricity circuit to improve its capacity to carry secure, cleaner, home-grown energy from more affordable sources and meet increasing energy demand.

Our upgrade will also support a number of National Grid projects including one of our new substation schemes, Chesterfield to High Marnham and Brinsworth to Chesterfield, and contribute towards The Great Grid Upgrade - the largest upgrade of the electricity network in England and Wales for generations.

What work are we doing?

The Project includes works such as the installation of new conductors (wires) and the replacement of the insulators, fixtures and fittings on the pylons, as well as the replacement of existing underground cables at our substations at West Burton and Ratcliffe-on-Soar. We'll lay temporary access tracks and erect scaffolding so construction works can take place. **The refurbishment won't involve the construction of any new pylons, and our work won't disrupt anyone's electricity supply.**

When will our work take place?

We expect to start refurbishment of the first section of the existing circuit between Ratcliffe-on-Soar and Stoke Bardolph in summer 2026, with work on other sections undertaken during 2027. The indicative map attached shows the circuits which form part of the Project. We anticipate the Project works will complete in 2028.

Our contractors will begin vegetation clearance for the Ratcliffe-on-Soar to Stoke Bardolph section around February 2026. They'll work under the watch of an ecologist to ensure clearance is kept to a minimum.

We intend to deliver the Project under our Permitted Development rights. We've instructed our appointed land agent, Ardent Management, to engage with parties whose land may be affected.

We always seek to acquire land rights voluntarily in the first instance, although sometimes this isn't possible. While some of the existing circuits may be secured by the grant of wayleaves, our current policy is that permanent land rights are secured through easements or, if necessary, through a compulsory purchase order, which we'll submit to the Secretary of State for Energy Security & Net Zero in early 2026.

Next steps

We're committed to engaging with communities, landowners, and stakeholders throughout the Project. It's likely we'll need to temporarily close some footpaths and local roads, and introduce some traffic management measures, with the permission of the Local Authority, to

keep our teams and the public safe as we work. We'll let you and the local community know in advance of any closures. We'll also install signage in the area to keep the local community informed.

For more information you can visit our [Project website](#), or if you have any questions about our work, please call our Community Relations team on 0800 073 1047. They're available Monday to Friday from 9am to 5:30pm. Alternatively, you can email box.contactwestburtonoratcliffeonsoar@nationalgrid.com

Yours sincerely



James Leeming
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National Grid Electricity Transmission plc

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Project Map