#### Strategic Infrastructure

Network Expansion and the impact on Networks, Suppliers and Utilities

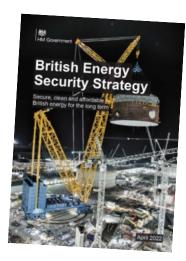
Nathan Farrell-Jones CEng MIET Technical Manager – Offshore Engineering

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### **The Great Grid Upgrade**

- In December 2022 Ofgem published their intentions for the ASTI framework.
- ASTI is the regulatory framework which facilitates deliver of 26 projects of strategic importance.
- The projects are identified in the 'HND' Pathway to 2030 report.
- National Grid are delivering 17 of those projects
- More projects to follow!

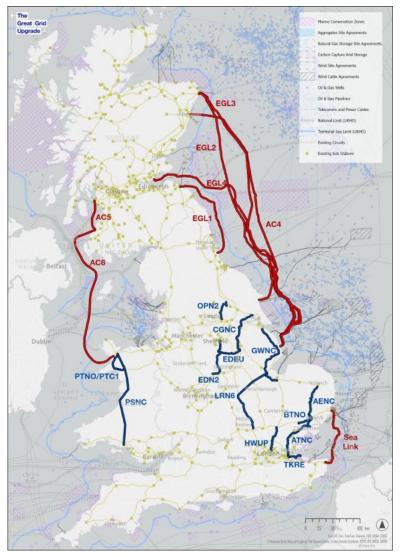








### Great Grid Upgrade Project Map (incl provisional)



#### **Back to the future!**

In July 2023, the British Supergrid system turned seventy years old.

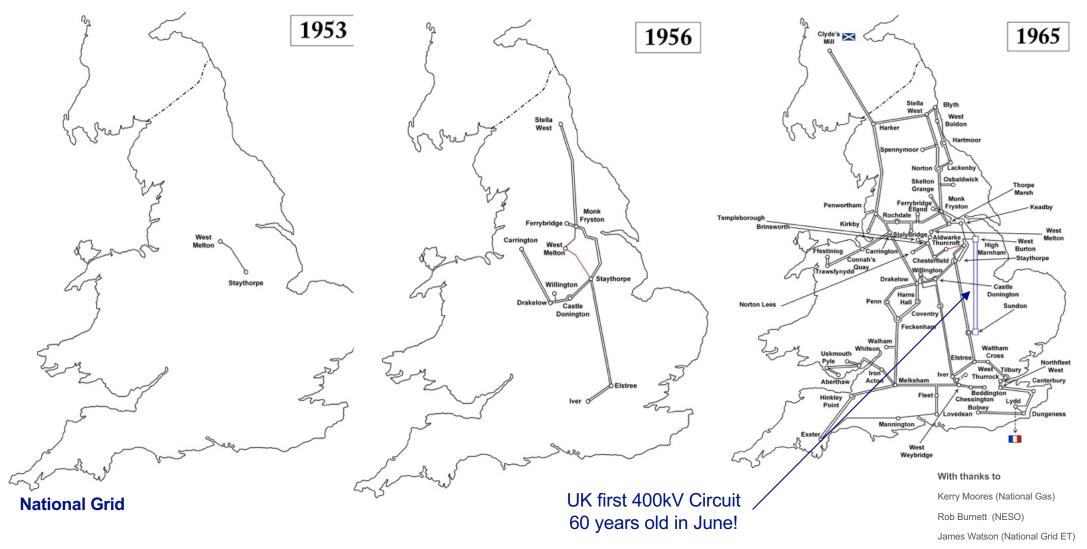
The scale of ambition back in the 1950's was profound.

Design decisions were bold and brave.

The achievement remains an inspiration



#### **Supergrid Construction (1953-1958)**



#### **Holistic Network Design**

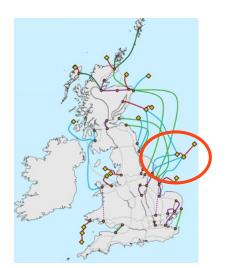
NGESO released the HND in July 2022. It sought to establish the optimum transmission network topology with reference to the following objectives:

- Minimise Cost to consumers
- Maximise Deliverability and operability
- Minimise Impact on the environment
- Minimise Impact on local communities



#### **Holistic Network Design Follow Up**

- HND Follow Up Exercise was published in March 2024 as part of the 'Beyond 2030' Document.
- It included some changes, largely driven by the cost of offshore equipment, lead times and realising other opportunities to increase capacity.







## **Offshore Platforms**

#### 1.4 GW – Sofia (RWE)





**National Grid** 

#### **Tennet 2GW Platform**





## **Challenges with delivering the Great Grid Upgrade**

| Delivery                                    | Technology & Engineering                       |
|---|--|
| <b>Consenting &amp; Planning Permission</b> | Quality  |
| Securing System Outages for construction    | New production lines / factories / vendors     |
| Supply of Equipment                         | Unproven technologies, new generation products |
| Land Shortage                               | Extreme Short Circuit Levels                   |
| Landfall shortage                           | Harmonic Performance                           |
| Supply of Skills                            | System Interaction                             |
| Vessel shortage                             | Security Classifications                       |

## How are National Grid Delivering the Great Grid Upgrade

- 1. Established dedicated business unit "Strategic Infrastructure" (SI) in April 2023
- 2. SI now has 1300+ NG Employees and actively recruiting
- 3. SI divided into Onshore and Offshore Project Delivery

#### **Onshore Projects**

'Conventional' Transmission Assets 'Enterprise' Delivery with 7 Partners

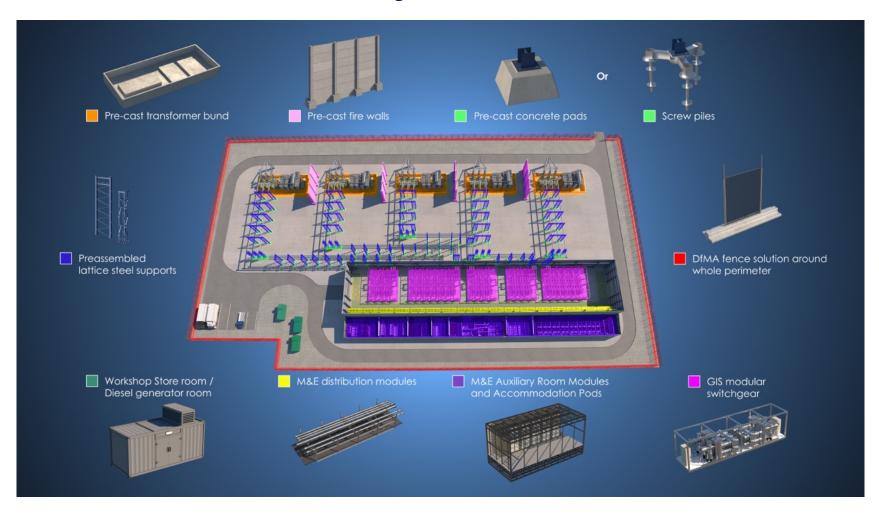
#### **Offshore Projects**

HVDC Converters & Subsea Cables & associated Connection Works Classic Delivery Model

### **Onshore Projects – Equipment Volumes**

| Project   | SGTs | Shunt<br>Reactor | Quad<br>Booster | AIS Bays | GIS Bays | AC Cable<br>(route km) | AC Cable<br>(material<br>km) | Conductor<br>(route km) | Conductor<br>(material<br>km) | Steel<br>Towers |
|-----------|------|------------------|-----------------|----------|----------|------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| AENC/ATNC | 2    | 12               | -               | 27       | 17       | 21                     | 378                          | 159                     | 2862                          | 510             |
| BPRE      | -    | -                | -               | -        | -        | -                      |                              | 99                      | 891                           | -               |
| CGNC      | -    | -                | -               | -        | -        | -                      | -                            | 90                      | 1620                          | 270             |
| CMN3      | -    | 2                | -               | 2        | -        | 10                     | 120                          | 30                      | 540                           | 100             |
| EDEU      | 6    | -                | -               | 30       | 18       | Tbc                    | 2                            | 1                       | 10                            | 20              |
| EDN2      | -    | -                | -               | -        | -        | -                      | -                            | 62                      | 1116                          | 200             |
| Friston   | -    | -                | -               | 4        | 16       | -                      | -                            | 0.35                    | 6.3                           | 2               |
| FSU1      | 4    | 4                | -               | 14       | -        | 0.2                    | 2.4                          | 84                      | 1512                          | 198             |
| GWNC      | 10   | -                | -               | 117      | -        | -                      | -                            | 140                     | 2520                          | 441             |
| LRN#      | -    | -                | 2               | 20       | -        | -                      | -                            | 113                     | 2034                          | 171             |
| PSNC      | 10   | 2                | -               | 59       | 2        | 42.5                   | 510                          | 385.5                   | 6939                          | 1300            |
| PTNO/PTC1 | 1    | 1                | -               | 4        | -        | 6                      | 72                           | 16                      | 96                            | 2               |
| TKRE      | -    | -                | -               | -        | -        | -                      | -                            | 27                      | 486                           | 2               |
| WRRE/SCRE | -    | -                | -               | -        | -        | 1                      | 6                            | 94                      | 564                           | -               |
| Totals    | 33   | 21               | 2               | 277      | 53       | 82.7                   | 1090                         | 1300                    | 21196                         | 3216            |

### **Standardisation – Onshore Projects**



# **Offshore Projects - 525kV 2GW HVDC Portfolio**



| Project  | Joint<br>Venture | HVDC<br>Route<br>Length<br>(approx) | In-<br>Service | Status         |
|--|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| EGL1 – Torness to<br>Hawthorn Pit                          | NGET & SPT       | 196                                 | 2029           | In Delivery    |
| EGL2 – Peterhead<br>to Drax                                | NGET &<br>SSEN   | 502                                 | 2029           | In Delivery    |
| EGL3 – Peterhead<br>to Walpole                             | NGET &<br>SSEN   | 554                                 | 2033           | In tender      |
| EGL4 – Westfield<br>to Walpole                             | NGET & SPT       | 391                                 | 2033           | In tender      |
| Sea Link – Friston<br>to Minster                           | NGET only        | 126                                 | 2030           | In tender      |
| AC4  | ТВС              | ТВС                                 | ТВС            | In Development |
| AC5&6<br>(Hunterston to<br>North Wales Multi-<br>Terminal) | TBC              | TBC                                 | TBC            | In Development |

# Eastern Green Link 1 & 2 project spotlight

|                             | Eastern Green Link 1   | Eastern Green Link 2                          |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Route                       | Torness to Hawthorn Pit  | Peterhead to Drax                             |  |  |
| Route Length (km)           | 196km (174 marine)   | 502 (436 marine)                              |  |  |
| <b>Converter Contractor</b> | GE Vernova & Metlen  | Hitachi Energy & BAM Nuttall                  |  |  |
| <b>Converter Details</b>    | 525kV 2GW Rigid Bipole, Modular Multi-level Topology                                 |   |  |  |
| Cable Contractor            | Prysmian Powerlink   | Prysmian Powerlink                            |  |  |
| HVDC Cable details          | 525kV XLPE in bundled lay (1 cable per pole)   |   |  |  |
| In Service                  | 2029   | 2029  |  |  |
| <b>Connection Works</b>     | 10 bay SF6-free GIS with<br>additional 10 bay expandability,<br>OHL voltage uprating | Single SF6-free GIS bay, OHL & Cable uprating |  |  |
| l Grid                      | EG11 EASTERN<br>GREEN LINK   | Eastern<br>Green Link 2                       |  |  |





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