

Sustainable Design

Electricity Infrastructure

What is Sustainable Design?

Sustainable design is an approach to designing products, buildings, systems, or services that integrates environmental and social factors into design, while also considering economic factors. The goal is to create solutions that are efficient, responsible, and long-lasting.







What do these mean in practice?



Decarbonisation of materials and operations

Nature-based solutions



Climate resilience and adaptation



Social Value & Equity

Circular Economy

Biodiversity Net Gain





Sustainable Network Infrastructure

Embedding across the asset lifecycle

- Sustainable planning and design
 - Thorough geotechnical characterization of the site
 - Optimized alignment selection to minimize excavation needs
 - Value engineering
 - Modular construction approaches
- Manufacture
 - Sustainable materials concrete, steel
 - o Reduction and reuse of materials
 - More efficient processes

- Construction and installation
 - Sustainable installation techniques transport, construction, remediation
 - o Reuse of spoil
 - Nature based solutions instead of (over)engineering
- Operational
 - Applying coatings to existing OHL to increase heat dissipation (improve life)
 - Innovation to reduce need for on-site surveys
- Decommissioning
 - Recycling of recovered components



National Grid Electricity Transmission

Great Grid Partnership

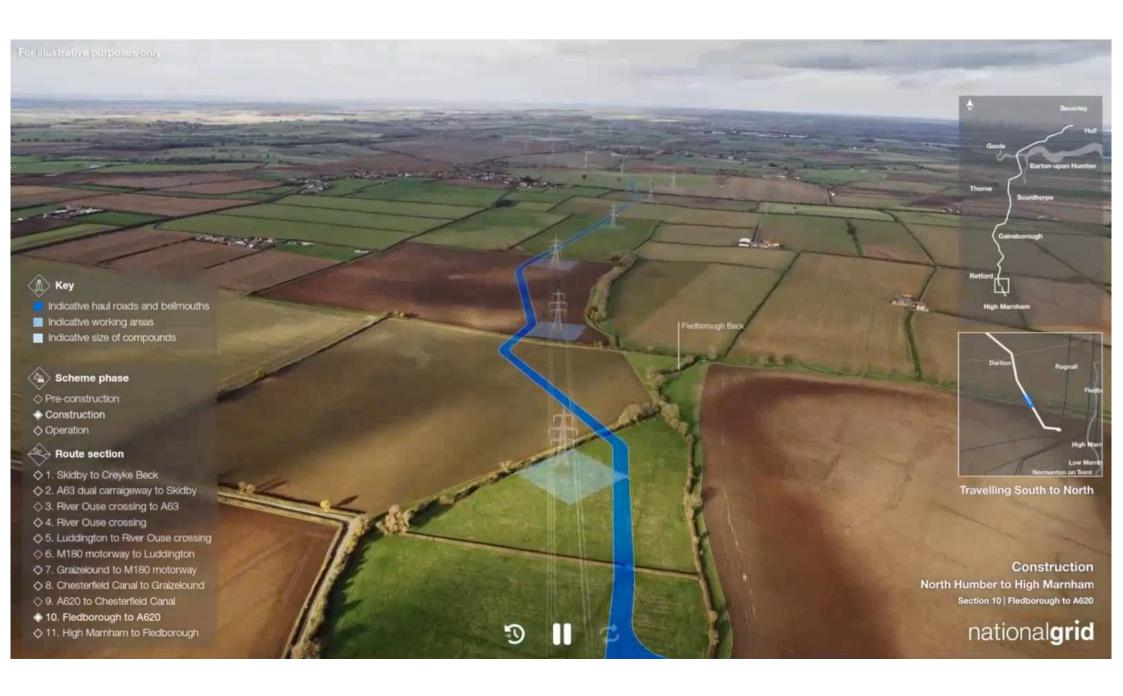
In April 2024, Arup were appointed as one of NGET's two consulting partners to form the Great Grid Partnership. Our role is to provide engineering design, consenting and environmental advice and expertise.

As part of the AECOM Arup JV, the work includes the outline design and planning consents for individual schemes within the programme through DCOs (entailing technical and environmental design and preparation, as well as stakeholder engagement on the plans).

Arup is delivering stakeholder engagement, EIA and consultation services for NGET's biggest DCOs:

- Grimsby to Warpole (ENV, CON, Design)
- Weston Marsh to New Market Harborough (ENV, CON, DES)
- Scottish Borders to Carlisle (ENV, CON, DES)
- Newcastle to Carlisle (ENV, CON, DES)
- Norwich to Tilbury (Detailed Design)
- Tilbury to Grain (Detailed Design)





Nature-based Solutions



Nature-based solutions (NbS) is an umbrella term for interventions that are designed with nature to restore ecosystems, reverse biodiversity loss, manage water and tackle the negative effects of climate change on infrastructure and society.

They tend to be specific to the application and desired outcome. Can fulfil other sustainable design aspects. Can be applied at local or regional level.



Nature-based Solutions

Electricity networks

- Flooding and subsidence mitigation
 - o Rain gardens
 - Watercourse restoration and renaturalisation
 - Regeneration of forested areas and habitats
 - o Bioswales
 - Deep rooted vegetation
 - o Permeable paving
- Benefits:
 - o Improved biodiversity
 - Habitat restoration
 - o CO2 sequestration
 - Reduced pollution



Wet Woodland



Tree Planting



Soil Management



Runoff Attenuation Feature



Peat Management



Floodplain Reconnection



Large Woody Debris



Gully Stuffing



Buffer Strip



Grip Blocking