

Electricity
Transmission

Going underground

Transforming the landscape on
Roundway Hill

National Grid Visual Impact Provision (VIP)
in the North Wessex Downs National Landscape

Community Liaison Group meeting

18 May 2026

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Housekeeping

Toilets

Fire safety

- Emergency exits
- No fire drills expected

Questions

Phones - silent



Community Liaison Group



Wiltshire Council

BROMHAM VILLAGE



National Grid



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01

Welcome

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Agenda

-
- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 01 | Welcome, housekeeping & agenda |
| 02 | Project recap |
| 03 | Construction update |
| 04 | In the community |
| 05 | VIP project update and Landscape Enhancement Initiative |
| 06 | Any questions
AOB |
| 07 | Finish and depart |
-

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02

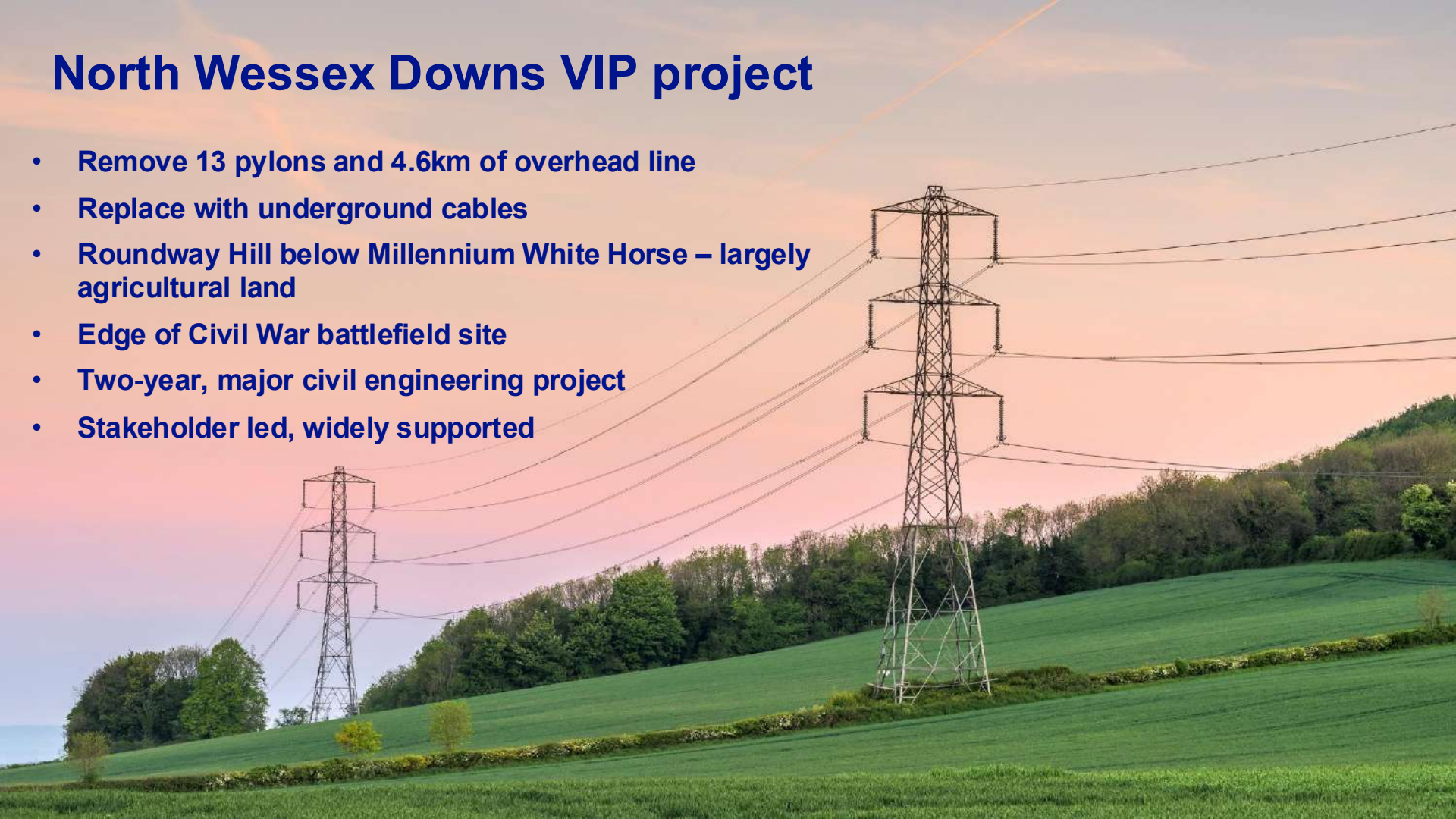
Project recap

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North Wessex Downs VIP project

- Remove 13 pylons and 4.6km of overhead line
- Replace with underground cables
- Roundway Hill below Millennium White Horse – largely agricultural land
- Edge of Civil War battlefield site
- Two-year, major civil engineering project
- Stakeholder led, widely supported



North Wessex Downs VIP project















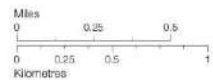
VIP North Wessex Downs

Project Overview Plan 2023



Key

-  Route Corridor
-  Sealing End Compound
-  Overhead Line Remaining / To be removed
-  Preliminary Cable Route
-  Pylon Remaining / To be removed
-  New Gantry
-  North Wessex Downs AONB



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Date: 30 April 2021
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Delimita Survey & Design Company

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03

Construction
update

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Construction programme

Activity	Proposed timings
Vegetation clearance work	February 2024 ✓
Enabling works	April 2024 ✓
Site establishment	Spring 2024 ✓
Main construction* starts	May 2024 ✓
Cables start to arrive on site	October 2024 ✓
Overhead line diversions	October 2024 ✓
Cabling and jointing	Early 2025 ✓
Sealing end compound construction	Summer/Autumn 2025 ✓
HV testing	Autumn 2025 ✓
Reinstatement work	Spring/Summer 2026
Cables energised	Autumn 2026
Pylon removal*	Winter 2026/2027

- * Main construction:**
- Duct installation
 - SEC construction
 - Cable installation & jointing

Construction programme

- **Provisional outages originally booked spring/summer 2026**
- **NESO advised on requirement for new shunt reactor at Taunton**
- **Sequencing means NWD VIP must wait for its commissioning**
- **Shunt reactor due to be online ~September**
- **Revised outages requested for autumn 2026 (September/October)**
- **Pylon removal to follow – dates TBC, you'll be first to know!**

Cable installation & jointing completed



Cable installation & jointing completed



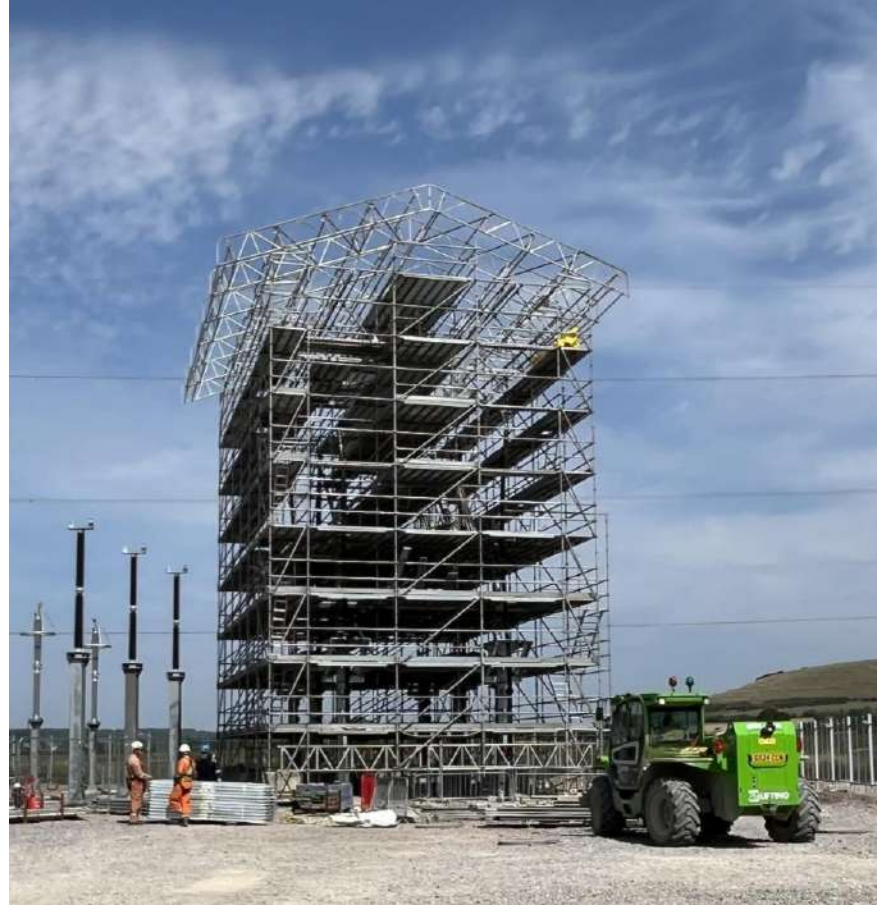
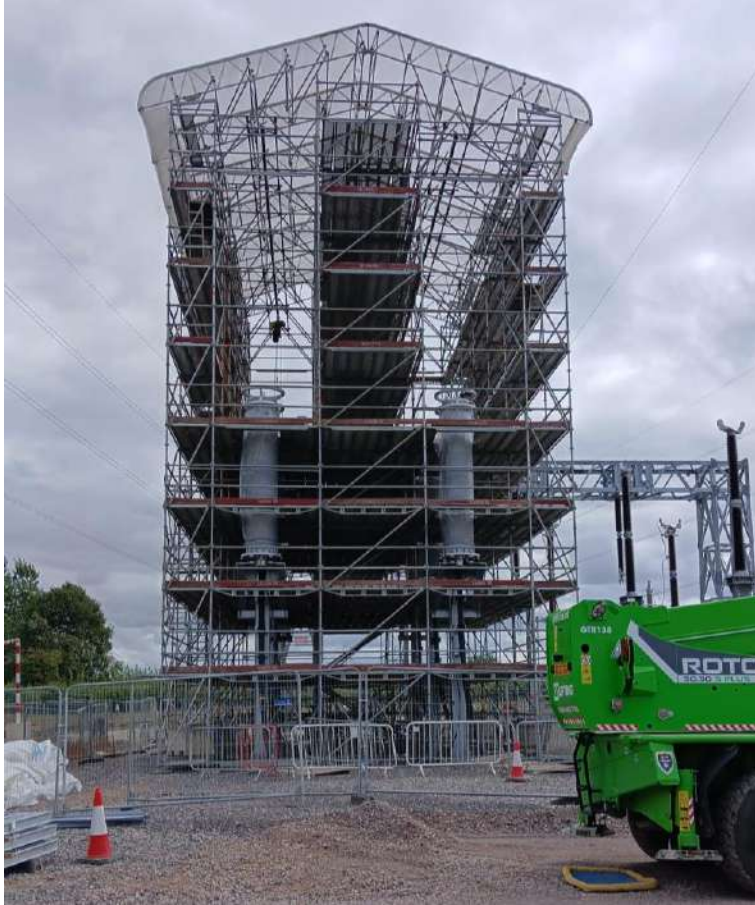
Link pillar boxes installed



Link pillar boxes installed



Cable sealing end compound construction



Cable sealing end compound construction



Cable sealing end compound construction



Cable Sealing End Compound (East)



Cable Sealing End Compound (East)



Cable Sealing End Compound (West)



Cable Sealing End Compound (West)



High voltage testing



High voltage testing



Haul road reinstatement



Haul road reinstatement



Haul road reinstatement



Haul road reinstatement



Dorset reinstatement



Dorset reinstatement



Dorset reinstatement



Dorset reinstatement



Dorset reinstatement



Pylon felling events

- **Winter 2026/2027 (TBC)**
- **Involving the community / CLG**
- **Invite local media and national**
- **More information to follow once new outages programme confirmed**



Pylon felling



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04

In the
community

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Community Grant Programme



Community Grant Programme



Community Grant Programme



Community Grant Programme

- **South-Western Ambulance Service and the Canal and River Trust are the latest organisations to benefit from funding**
- **Total awarded to projects in the North Wessex Downs VIP area since 2024:**

£161,652.99



School engagement: STEM programme

29th April



7th May



St Joseph's Catholic
Primary School

18th June



TBC



The Trinity
CE Primary Academy

Bishops Cannings School



Bishops Cannings School



Bishops Cannings School



Bishops Cannings School



Taking the circuit underground nationalgrid

The presentation consists of four images: a landscape with power lines, a tunnel entrance, a power station, and a group of people.

Verbs

Adjectives

1. The car was moving. 2. The driver was controlling the car. 3. The car was very fast. 4. The car was very noisy.

Prepositions

Conjunctions

Proper Nouns

Nouns

HOMOPHONES

Profession

Spelling

MERC ROCKS

READ UNDERSTANDING CHOOSE SOLVE ANSWER CHECK

My strategy was... Another strategy is...

Wednesday 25 April 26 294 26

Spelling



National Grid -
who are we and what do we do?



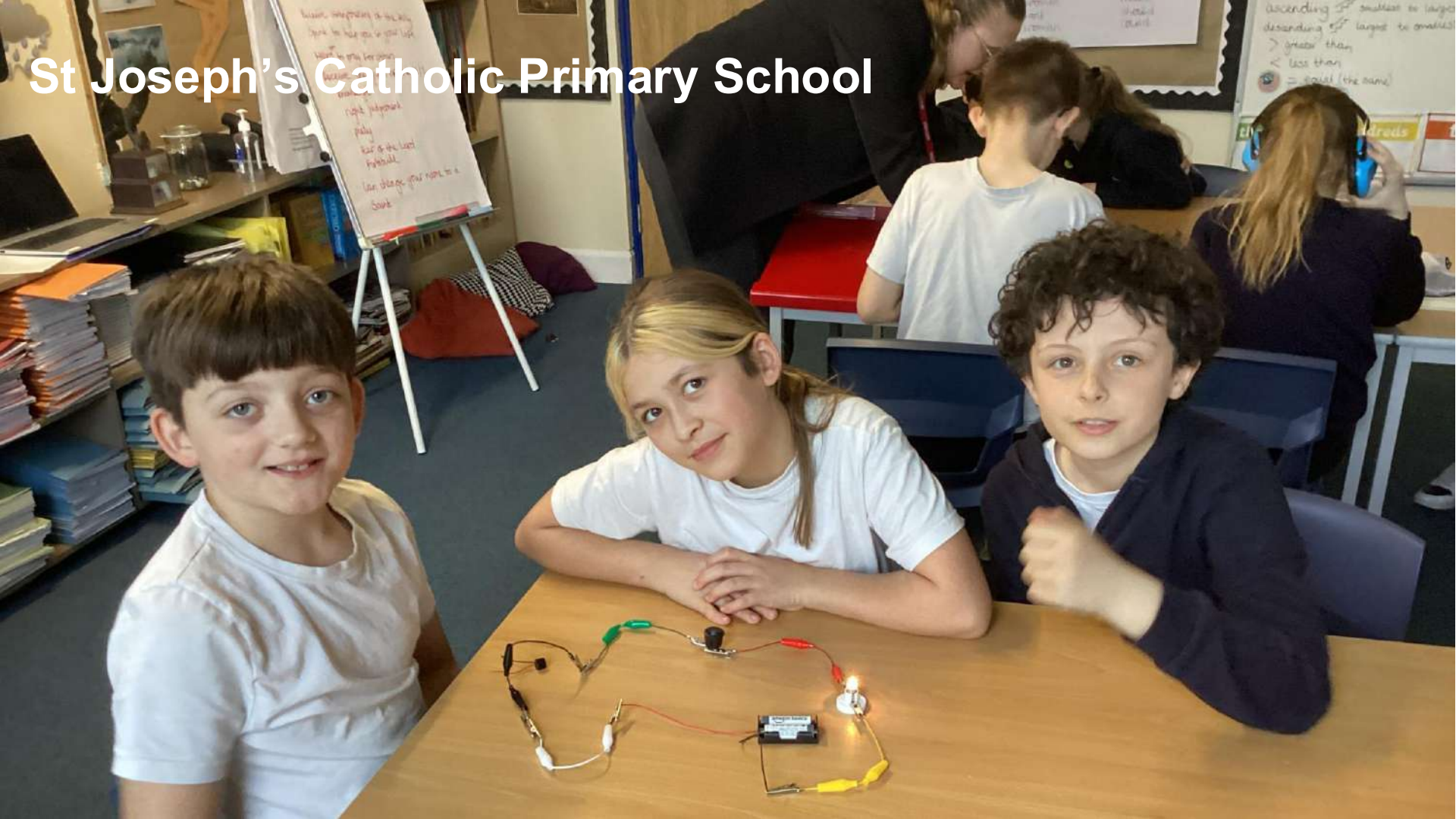
Sound -
Write

MATHS

Thousands 1 000 hundreds 100 tens 10 ones 1

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



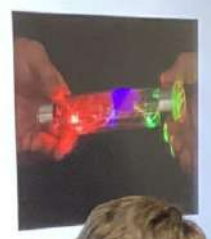
2026
1.03.15

"Kinetic Letters"
a b c d e
f g h i j
k l m n o
p q r s t u
x y z

Conductors and Insulators - Activity nationalgrid

Your turn again...

- We're going to identify some good conductors and good insulators.
- Can you tell which is which?



Three children in school uniforms are gathered around a table, examining a small, clear, rectangular object. They appear to be engaged in a hands-on activity related to the lesson on conductors and insulators.

Where
Reading
take
you

Learning that you will always be with God Jesus
I'll with more love, joy
why you're
Learn, accepting of the Bible
Don't be too nervous
because the rest of the Bible
knowledge
make judgement
polly
Eat of the land
forhold
Can change your name to a Saint

Rechalking the Millennium White Horse – Summer 2026

- **Positive meeting with Devizes Town Council**
- **Developing scope and programme**
- **Working with the local community / volunteers**
- **Guidance from chalk figure experts, including National Trust**
- **Targeting summer 2026**



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Other VIP project
updates

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Ofgem consultation: Cotswolds VIP

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Update on Cotswolds VIP project

- **Ofgem has published its ‘minded to’ position not to fund the Cotswolds VIP project**
- **Consultation ran from 1-28 April with final decision to be published in summer 2026**
- **National Grid acknowledges Ofgem’s ‘minded to’ position. The decision reflects Ofgem’s priority to protect consumers from unnecessary costs**
- **Recognise this is disappointing for stakeholders, partners and organisations who have supported the proposals over the last few years**



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Eryri VIP project update

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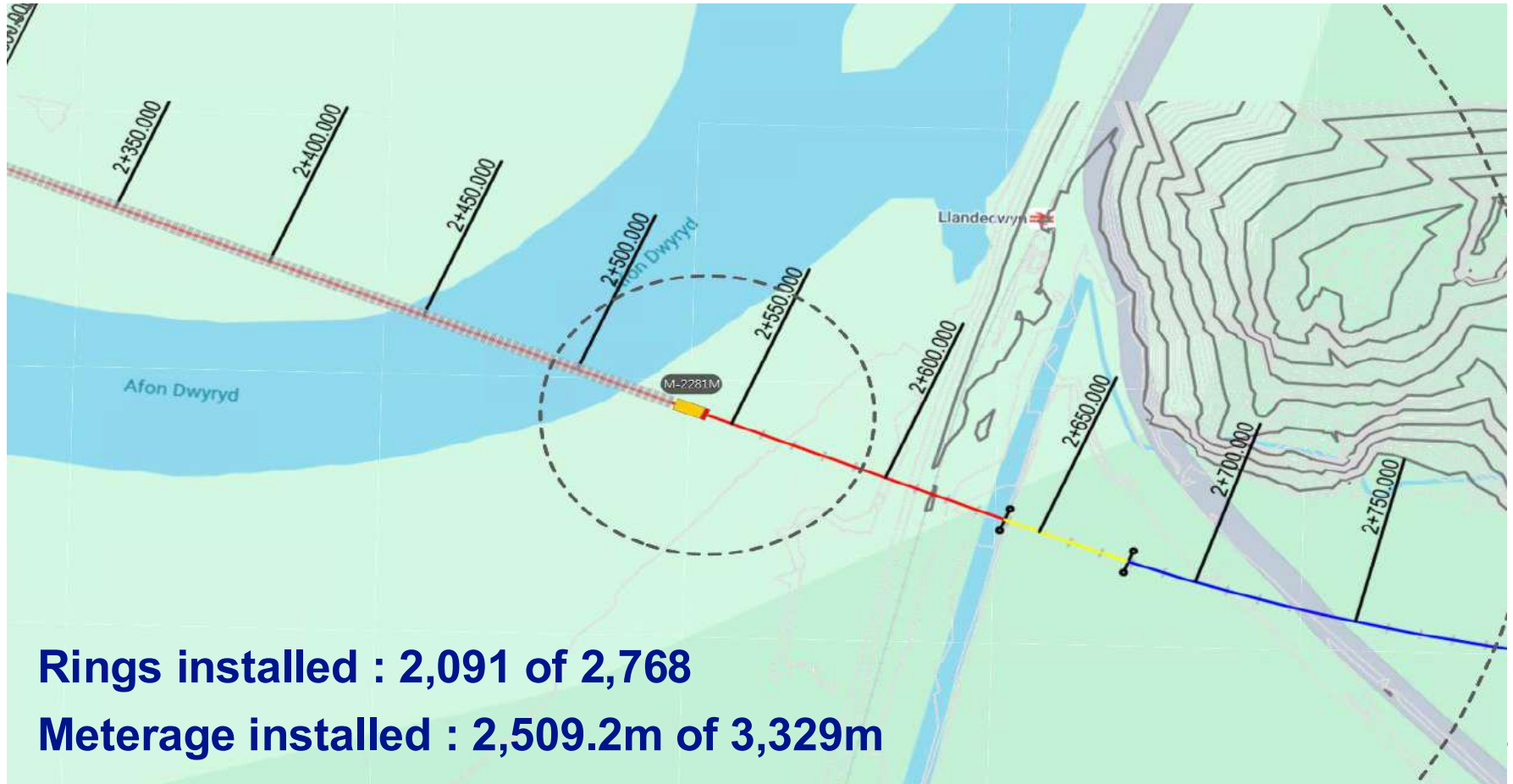
Tunnel Boring Machine – Buddug



Minffordd/Tunnel – Tunnel Works



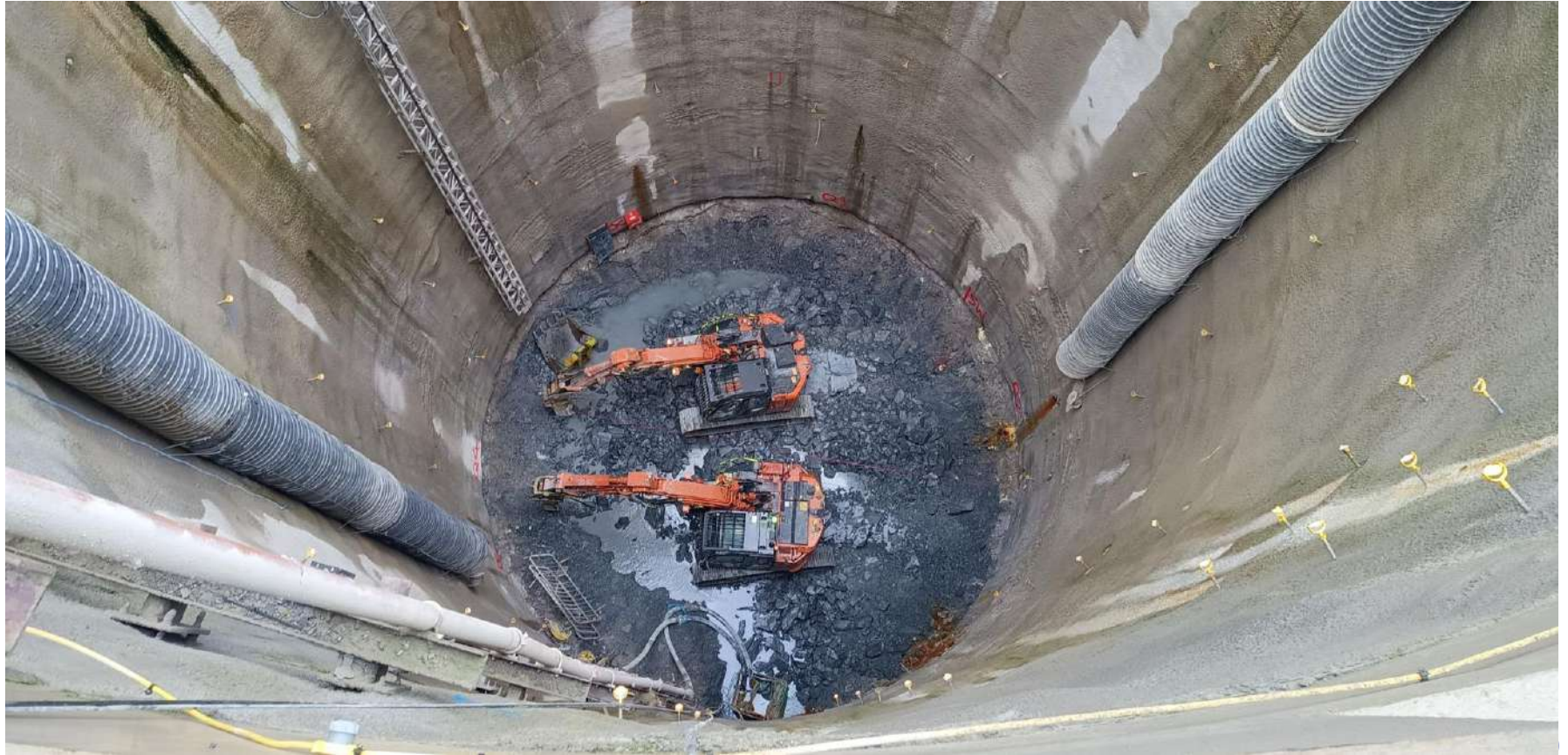
Minffordd/Tunnel – Current Position (07.05.26 @ 18:00)



Minffordd/Tunnel – Buddug achieves 2,000 rings



Llandecwyn Shaft – Excavation in Rock Formation



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Landscape Enhancement Initiative

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Landscape Enhancement Initiative

- The Landscape Enhancement Initiative (LEI) is a grant scheme that is reducing the impact of National Grid's existing electricity transmission lines in England and Wales
- **Set up in 2015, we've been celebrating ten years of success**



Window 17 application overview

Seven projects approved including:



**North Wessex
Downs**
National
Landscape

Nature's Screen, Southern Streams:

- **North**
 - **Central**
 - **South**
- (3x projects)**

- *Project to be delivered in three sections, with a wide variety of interventions focusing on regeneration of hedges and woodland and providing multiple new features for visual mitigation including linear rows of trees to block views to pylons.*

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06

Any questions?

AOB

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07

Thank you

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