



Leading the energy transition to clean power and net zero



Our commitments

- We will collaborate with NESO and help to deliver its requirements in a timely manner to support wider energy system objectives, including Clean Power 2030. [CO]
- We will continue to underpin the electricity network, enabling dispatchable generation to ensure a reliable supply of electricity when the wind doesn't blow and the sun doesn't shine. [CO]
- We will reduce the time and cost to connect for smaller flow biomethane and green gas customers from three years to less than 18 months where possible. [CO]
- In line with government's strategic directions, we will deliver options to integrate hydrogen-ready assets where it is cost-efficient and safe to do so. [CO]

How we will deliver

- We are proactively addressing the issues which impede on the timelines for biomethane and green gas connections, from introducing standardised green gas connection designs, to procuring long lead items to manage stock levels, ensuring we can be agile to demands. We are seeking changes where necessary to the regulatory framework to accelerate green gas connection processes.
- Our compressor fleet strategy for RIIO-GT3 will help address the growing volatility driven by the increasing integration of renewable generation. We will consider a range of options, including innovative modifications to increase capability, decommissioning, purchase of strategic spares, performance testing, innovative emissions abatement technology and site reconfiguration.
- When replacing natural gas assets, we will consider upgrades to hydrogen-ready assets where the cost is similar, to support production and storage investments and decarbonise hard-to-electrify transport and industrial sectors.
- We will develop a clean power roadmap for gas transmission alongside NESO and the wider energy system by 2030, and work with government to develop the Hydrogen and Transportation Business Model (HTBM) by 2026.
- We will be ready to respond to new requirements specified by NESO to enhance our capability through the energy transition.

Collaboration

- We will use collaboration as a key tool to develop regulatory frameworks that support the transition to net zero with the wider energy system, for example through our participation in the Future of Gas Steering Group where we drive market framework changes to deliver net zero.

Stakeholder engagement

- As part of our customer engagement programme for RIIO-GT3, our customers have emphasised that the drive to net zero should be core to all our initiatives, identifying decarbonisation of the power system and heating as critical enablers on the path to net zero.
- Our customers and stakeholders have repeatedly highlighted that we have a major role to play in leading the net zero transition in a positive way, and that we should leverage our position in the industry as much as possible to do so.
- Through deliberative focus group sessions, most end-consumers involved considered achieving net zero a priority for protecting the planet and future generations. The majority also felt comfortable paying slightly more on their current gas bills to enable net zero by 2050, and argued that greater action was needed in the short term to ensure we reach this goal.
- Our customers and stakeholders have expressed support for our ambitions for low and no-regrets investments in hydrogen readiness (e.g. considering hydrogen-ready gas components when replacing assets like-for-like), and development of our gas system operation capabilities to prepare to transport greater volumes of biomethane and/or hydrogen on the network.

Consumer value and additionality

- We are aligned to government objectives regarding net zero by 2050.
- Our plan will help reduce carbon emissions and offer flexible and reliable network solutions, supporting the path to net zero at the lowest cost possible for our customers.

Guide to our plan

- NGT_A10_System Operator Annex_RIIO_GT3