

Map shows planned route for power line from Mid Wales to Shropshire

A map showing the exact proposed route of the high-voltage power cable line planned to link proposed Welsh wind farms with the National Grid in Shropshire has been published.

Consultations begin in village halls across the region from today, starting at Whittington Senior Citizens' Hall.

Campaigners have said that National Grid should postpone any consultations or decisions on the power line until the results of a year-long planning inquiry into whether five wind farms in Mid Wales are given planning permission. They say the 400 kv electricity line would not be needed if permission was refused.

The map shows the line starting at Bryngwyn near Cefn Coch. It will go overland for about nine miles before being sunk underground for eight miles along the Meifod Valley. It will continue overground south of Llansantffraid and Llanymynech and for a while will follow the Montgomery Canal close to Maesbury Marsh.

The line is then planned to cross the A5 south of Oswestry, taking a controversial route across the British Ironworks headquarters and sculpture park, before finally tapping into the National Grid at Berghill, Whittington. There would be an extension to a substation at Uffington to cope with the increase in electricity.

National Grid said it was planning to use smaller, stubby pylons for its route across Mid Wales and new T-type pylons in Shropshire to lessen the visual impact of the pylons.

Meetings are at the following venues:

- Four Crosses Village Centre, January 12, 5pm to 8pm
- West Felton Village Hall, December 3 and January 7, 1.30pm to 7.30pm
- Cwm Llanluggan Community Centre, November 25 and January 6, 1.30pm to 7.30pm

- Whittington Senior Citizens' Hall, November 24, 1.30pm to 7.30pm
- Llansantffraid Community Centre, November 28, 12.30pm to 2.30pm
and 5pm to 8pm December 9 and January 13, 1.30pm to 7.30pm
- Welsh Frankton Village Hall, December 5, 1.30pm to 7.30pm
- Meifod Village Hall, November 25 and December 2, 1.30pm to 7.30pm,
January 2, 10am to 4pm
- Navigation Inn, Maesbury Marsh, November 26 and January 21, 1.30pm
to 7.30pm
- Llanfair Caereinion Public Institute, December 6, 10am to 4pm, January
8, 1.30pm to 7.30pm
- Knockin Assembly Rooms, November 29, 10am to 4pm
- Maesbrook Village Hall, December 11 and January 9, 2pm to 7.30pm
- Llanymynech Village Hall, December 4 1.30pm to 7.30pm and January
17, 10am to 4pm
- Uffington Village Hall, 1.30pm to 7.30pm