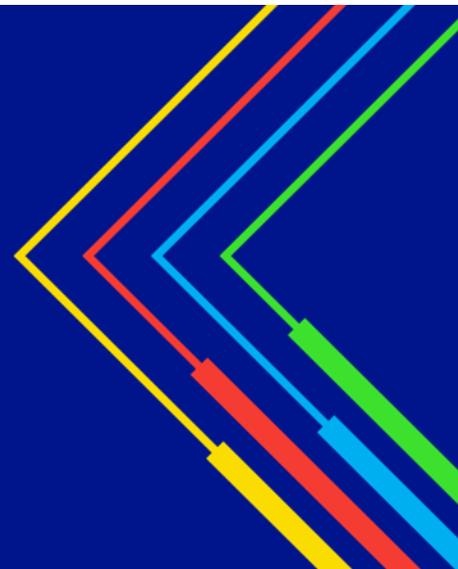


# Frequently Asked Questions



## Hinkley Connection Project: East Huntspill

### Building T-pylons

#### What are you doing?

We're starting work to build the world's first T-pylons from Bridgwater to Loxton, where they will connect with the underground cables we are installing across the Mendip Hills.

Construction activity includes:

- Temporary entrance and access roads and crossing points
- Temporary haul road
- Fencing off corridor and working areas
- Working areas to keep equipment
- Piling and concrete pylon foundations
- Erecting pylons, and stringing
- Removing the haul roads and accesses
- Replanting hedgerows and reinstating the area

#### What work are you doing in East Huntspill?

- Building two road access – one at Factory Lane and one at Causeway
- Building a haul road crossing on Burtle Road
- Building a haul road
- Building T-pylons
- Removing WPD pylons

#### When do you start work in East Huntspill?

The start date for construction work for this stage of the project is **18 May 2020**. Our first activity is to build road access and the temporary haul road and in 2021 we will start to build the first T-pylons. This section of new pylons is expected to be complete by late 2022.

We will also remove the existing WPD overhead line (2021 – 2022) and carry out landscaping. When all construction work is completed, we will remove the haul road and reinstate the land.

Our first activity in the parish will start on **26<sup>th</sup> May 2020** when we will start to build a road access on Causeway.

**What will I see?**

You will see us working on public highways when we are building road accesses and crossing points. We will need to manage traffic to keep road users and our staff safe - either by using traffic lights or by closing the road to traffic.

Much of the work to build pylons and remove the WPD pylons will be located away in fields away from properties. Some nearby residents and passers-by will see people working on the overhead lines and on the pylons.

People may also see large construction vehicles on roads whilst they are moving from one site to another.

**Who is doing the work?**

Our principal contractor for this stage of work is Balfour Beatty.

**Why do you need the haul road?**

Using a temporary haul road will reduce the amount of traffic and disruption on local roads and improve access for the construction vehicles. When we have finished building the pylons, we will remove the haul road and reinstate the land to its original condition.

**What are your working hours?**

Our normal working hours are between 7am and 7pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 5pm on weekends.

Most work will be carried out on weekdays, although there may be some occasions when we'll need to work at weekends or overnight - but there are restrictions to this.

**What roads will be affected in East Huntspill?**

To keep road users and our staff safe while we work on the public highways, we will need to manage traffic – either by using traffic lights or by closing the road.

Ref	Road Name	Start date	End date	Road closure or traffic lights
AC11	Causeway	26/05/2020	28/06/2020	Traffic lights
AC12/13	Burtle Road	01/08/2020	11/09/2020	Road closure
AC21	Church Road and Factory Lane	15/06/2020	30/06/2020	Traffic lights

We need to make some alterations to the parking arrangements on Church Road so our vehicles can access and exit Factory Lane safely and to help reduce congestion on Bason Bridge.

We recognise these road works will cause disruption and delays to journeys. We are sorry for any inconvenience and we're working with our contractors, Balfour Beatty, to minimise disruption as best we can.

### **There is a new road being built for This is Gravity – can you use that instead?**

We're exploring opportunities to reduce the amount of construction traffic we have on local roads. Firstly, by working with Gravity and others on whether we're able to use the new link road that's due for completion in 2021; secondly, by working with our contractors to reduce the amount of stone used to install temporary construction roads.

Until the link road is available, we need to use roads through East Huntspill and Woolavington. We apologise for the inconvenience this causes. Safety is our priority and all our drivers will be fully briefed on how to access and leave sites safely.

## **Traffic Management**

### **Who gave permission for you to work on these roads?**

The closures and traffic management operations have been discussed and agreed with the local highways authority: Somerset County Council.

### **What are you doing to let people know about this?**

Unfortunately, due to the lockdown, we needed to postpone our public information events and attendance at the parish council meetings.

We will keep our project website up to date and stay in touch with the parish council. We will re-arrange the public information event and parish council briefing when the restrictions on social events return are lifted.

We recognise that these closures will cause inconvenience and we're contacting parish councils, local residents, businesses and other groups or people who have registered to be kept informed. We're also putting out advance notice signs and traffic diversions will be clearly marked. Our project website will be kept updated at all times.

### **Will I still be able to access my house/driveway?**

Yes – we will maintain access to properties at all times.

### **What about bus routes and school buses?**

We have also been in contact with Transport for Somerset to check if our work will affect bus route timings and if there are any school bus stops near the working area. We write to local schools before they return from lockdown to let parents know about the road works.

### **How can I find out more?**

Detailed information on all stages of the project and updates on our progress can be found on our project website: <https://hinkleyconnection.co.uk/your-area/>

If you have any further questions, you can contact our Community Relations Team by calling 0800 377 7347 or emailing [hinkleyconnection@nationalgrid.co.uk](mailto:hinkleyconnection@nationalgrid.co.uk).

## **Who should I contact if I have a complaint or if there is a problem?**

The community relations helpline is a 24 hour service to ensure all concerns can be addressed as quickly as possible.

If there is an emergency, please dial 999.

## **Causeway**

### **What are you building at Causeway?**

We are building a temporary road access and construction haul road.

## **Church Road**

### **What are you doing at Church Road B3141?**

We need to make some alterations to the parking arrangements on Church Road so our vehicles can access and exit Factory Lane safely and to help reduce congestion on Bason Bridge.

We will repaint the existing yellow lines along Factory Lane and on Church Road.

We are extending the double yellow lines on Church Road northwards from opposite Factory Lane until just before Newmans Lane.

To provide parking for the residential properties – we're creating four parking bays on Church Road.

### **When are you working on Church Road?**

Work is scheduled to start on 15 June 2020. The only work on Church Road will be to paint the yellow lines and create the parking bays. Once we have finished on Church Road, we will start work in Factory Lane.

### **Will you need to close the road while you are doing this?**

We will not need to close the road to traffic while we are working on Church Road – we will use a three-way set up of 'stop/go' boards while we are painting the yellow lines and creating the parking bays.

## **Factory Lane**

### **What are you doing at Factory Lane?**

Our vehicles need to use Factory Lane to access the construction area for the new T-pylons and, later, to remove the existing WPD pylons.

As the lane is very narrow, we will need to control the movement of vehicles down the lane – particularly HGVs and build passing places.

We have applied for planning permission to create a vehicle waiting area opposite Superior Powders and a vehicle passing place further down the lane – with vehicle activated flashing beacons at either end to control the flow of lorries through the narrow part of the lane.

The location of the waiting area is pending approval for the planning application.

We will tarmac the lane from the vehicle waiting area at Hack Mead Lane junction to just past Riverview Farm where the lane ends.

We will introduce parking restriction along the north boundary of Factory Lane - the restrictions will be from Hack Mead Lane junction to the vehicle waiting area on Factory Lane - to prevent vehicles waiting in this area.

Where the lane ends, we will build a second vehicle passing place and from then we are building the temporary haul road westwards towards the area where we'll build the T-pylons.

To safeguard residents of Riverview Farm, we will install gates just outside the Farm and we will have banksmen on hand to see vehicles through safely and control the gates.

We will introduce a 5mph speed limit for all project vehicles from the vehicle waiting area, past Riverview Farm to where they will join the haul road.

To avoid traffic running past the farmhouse, we have applied for planning permission to build a diversion route to run to the north of Riverview Farm.

### **Will you need to close Factory Lane?**

We need to close Factory Lane at the junction of Hack Mead Lane temporarily while we create the yellow hatched area and we will need to close Factory Lane down to Riverview Farm while we carry out the resurfacing work.

We will let residents know in advance when the works are being carried out and when there will be parking restrictions.

### **Where will the temporary haul road at the end of Factory Lane go?**

The temporary haul road will connect the route of the new overhead line as far north as where it crosses the A38 at Tarnock. It will connect 22 T-pylon locations.

South of the River Brue, we will build a shorter haul road off the B3141 between the Huntspill River and the River Brue – it will provide access to six T-pylon locations.

## **Burtle Road Crossing Point**

### **What are you building at Burtle Road?**

We are building road accesses on either side where the haul road crosses Burtle Road.

### **How long is the diversion?**

We will publish a map to show the diversion route when it has been agreed with the highways authority.

**Why can't you keep one side of the road open for access?**

The road is too narrow and we need to ensure we have enough space to carry out the work safely.