

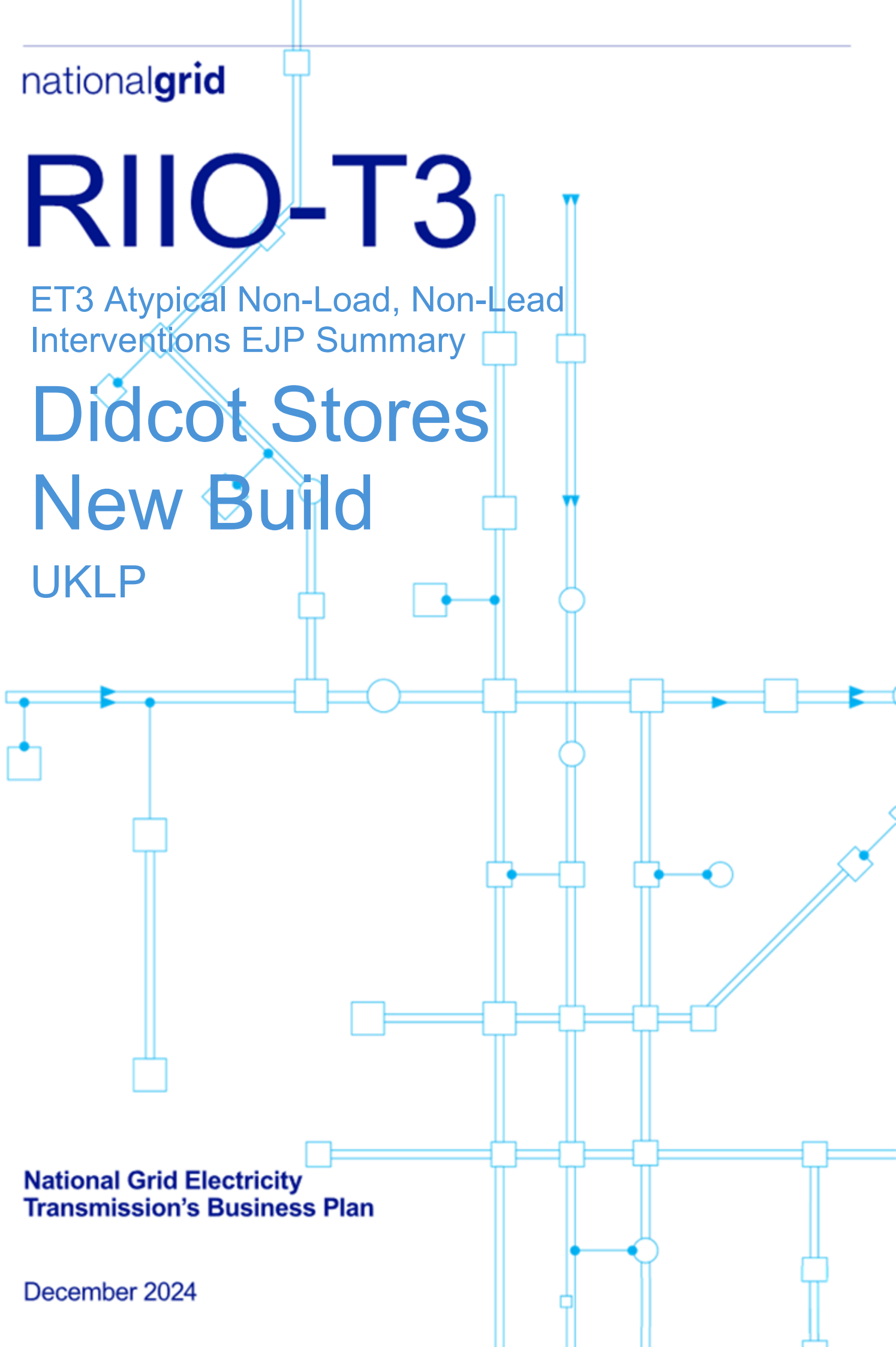
nationalgrid

R110-T3

ET3 Atypical Non-Load, Non-Lead Interventions EJP Summary

Didcot Stores New Build

UKLP



**National Grid Electricity
Transmission's Business Plan**

December 2024

Didcot Stores New Build: Executive Summary

Background to the Site

National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) operates the high voltage transmission network in the UK. The X National Stores, built in X on a X-acre site, serves as a critical facility for storing strategic spare assets which are essential for maintaining network resilience. In 2017, a temporary marquee was erected at the site to accommodate substation and overhead line assets. This marquee will reach the end of its lifecycle in 2027, necessitating replacement to ensure continued protection and availability of strategic spares. The facility is currently over capacity by X%, leading to inefficiencies and increased costs due to the use of third-party storage solutions.

Drivers for Investment

The primary driver for the investment is to sustain the lifecycle of strategic spare assets by providing fit-for-purpose storage facilities. The key reasons for this investment are:

- The marquee's X will need replacement by 2027
- Storage for a significant growth in spares required to decarbonise the network
- Ensuring compliance with storage procedures that mandate ease of access for inspection and maintenance

Options Considered

Based on the forecasted increase in strategic spares, several options were evaluated:

- Option 1: Replace the existing marquee with a new, permanent X structure
- Option 2: Construct a new permanent structure on the drum park
- Option 3: Replace the existing marquee with a new temporary structure
- Option 4: Construct a new temporary structure on the drum park

Each option was assessed for its ability to meet capacity needs, provide secure storage, and offer long-term value. Option 1 was identified as the preferred solution due to its comprehensive benefits and cost-effectiveness.

Preferred Solution

Option 1 involves constructing a new permanent X warehouse to replace the existing marquee. This solution addresses the asset health issue and provides the necessary storage capacity to accommodate future inventory growth. Key benefits of this option include:

- Enhanced flexibility in storage with X and X space
- Reduced reliance on third-party storage facilities, thereby saving costs
- Compliance with our Property Standards, ensuring easier and cost-effective future maintenance
- Improved operational efficiency and reduced risk of asset deterioration

The total investment required for this solution is £X million, with a phased delivery over the first three years of the RIIO-T3 period.

Timeline

The project is scheduled for delivery over the RIIO-T3 period. The project plan includes key phases such as planning, design, tendering, and construction, with a detailed monitoring and control framework in place to ensure timely and within-budget completion.

Conclusion

The X Stores New Build project is a crucial investment to support our strategic objectives of maintaining network resilience and enabling future growth. By addressing the pressing need for a new storage facility, this project ensures the protection and availability of essential strategic spares, reduces operational inefficiencies, and aligns with the broader goal of decarbonising the UK's power supply system. The proposed investment offers a cost-effective solution that meets current and future storage needs while providing significant value for consumers.