

nationalgrid

RIIO-T3

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

Eakring Training Centre

UKLP



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

December 2024

Eakring Training Centre: Executive Summary

Background to the Site

The X Training Centre, operated by National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET), serves as a crucial facility for the technical and practical training of our current and future workforce. Located in X, the centre supports the UK's ambition to decarbonise its power system by 2030. The facility accommodates various training programmes, including classroom, laboratory, and operational asset-based courses, and is integral to our efforts in workforce development.

Drivers for Investment

The main drivers for the proposed investment in the X Training Centre are:

Workforce Growth and Training Requirements

We anticipate significant workforce growth in the RII0-T3 period as we work toward decarbonising the power system. Training requirements are expected to more than double, necessitating enhanced training capacity and facilities. The current site is inadequate to meet this increased demand and requires refurbishment and expansion.

End-of-Life Infrastructure

Many of the buildings and mechanical systems at the X Training Centre are over X years old and have reached the end of their usable life. This includes critical assets such as X. Upgrades are essential to ensure compliance with regulatory standards and to provide a modern, safe, and inclusive training environment.

Compliance and Inclusivity

The site needs to meet current regulatory requirements including the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), and it needs to align with our Property Standards. Improving inclusivity credentials and creating a supportive environment for a diverse workforce are essential for retaining talent.

Options Considered

Several options were evaluated to address the identified needs and drivers:

Option 1: Critical Asset Replacement and Partial Refurbishment

This option involves replacing critical assets, refurbishing welfare facilities, and updating existing accommodations without X. It addresses some immediate needs but falls short of meeting the projected growth requirements.

Option 2: Critical Asset Replacement, Partial Refurbishment, and Temporary Accommodation

This option includes all elements of Option 1 and adds X. While it provides some additional capacity, it relies on temporary solutions that may not meet long-term needs.

Option 3: Comprehensive Refurbishment and New Accommodation (Preferred Option)

This option entails a complete refurbishment of the site, including asset replacement, welfare facilities, and X. It fully meets the growth requirements, enhances compliance, and offers a long-term solution for training needs.

Option 4: Critical Asset Replacement and Deferred Accommodation

This option involves replacing critical assets and refurbishing main buildings but defers the X. It partially addresses immediate needs but does not support the projected growth in training requirements.

Option 5: Partial Refurbishment and New Accommodation

This option includes partial refurbishment of welfare facilities and X, while deferring some training building upgrades. It does not fully address site refurbishment needs.

Preferred Solution

Option 3 is the preferred solution as it offers a comprehensive approach to meeting the investment drivers:

- Critical asset replacement: ensures all essential systems are updated
- New welfare and wellbeing facilities: provides enhanced amenities for trainees
- Refurbishment of X: modernises existing lodge facilities
- X: adds sufficient capacity to meet projected growth, ensuring all trainees can be X

This option is the most cost-effective over the long term, ensuring compliance and creating an attractive and functional training environment.

Timeline

The investment will be delivered over the RII0-T3 period, with phased implementation to minimise disruption:

- Phase 1: construction of X
- Phase 2: refurbishment of existing training buildings and site infrastructure

Conclusion

Investing £X million in the X Training Centre is essential to support our workforce growth and compliance requirements. The preferred solution ensures the facility can meet future training needs, provides a modern and inclusive environment, and aligns with our sustainability goals. By investing now, we will secure a well-trained, competent workforce ready to deliver the UK's decarbonised power system by 2030.