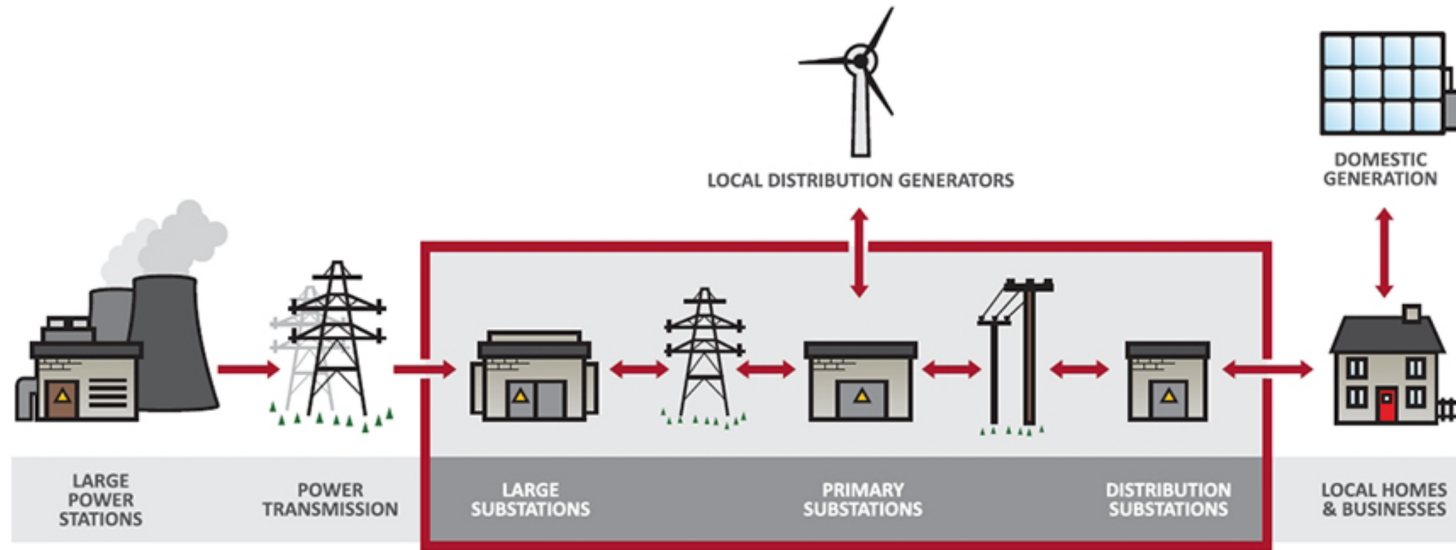


Community and Vulnerability

www.northernpowergrid.com/education





- Northern Powergrid is the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) for the North East of England, Yorkshire and northern Lincolnshire.
- We distribute electricity to 3.9 million homes and businesses.
- As a DNO we do not own the energy we distribute – we charge electricity suppliers for the use of lines and cables to move energy they purchase from generators to the customers they supply.
- This charge to suppliers represents around 10% of customer's bills.









“To be honest, I don’t think they could have done better because they got the Red Cross out within one hour so we could get a drink and something to eat. We were quite satisfied as during the day they kept in touch to make sure we were ok. I’m disabled and I’m on the priority list and can get in touch with them quite quickly.”

Mrs B, South Yorkshire



Scenario

It is mid September.

A series of freak storms
have hit the UK.





‘Power sharing’ has been put into place. The cables will take 2 weeks to repair. Emergency response protocols have been implemented and power sharing rotas will be in place over the next two weeks.

Electricity generation and distribution has been reduced.





Power sharing means people will be able to receive electricity in **6 hour slots**, but some people will require electricity most or all of the time.

There are some generators which can be used for the most vulnerable in the community.



What and who will be affected?

Think, Pair, Share

What would you need to consider for yourself and your community in a power cut?

What actions would you need to take?

Northern Powergrid's Advice on how to Prepare for a Power Cut



- ✓ Have a battery-powered or wind-up radio tuned into a local radio station
- ✓ Keep a torch handy - much safer than candles
- ✓ Make sure you have a charged mobile to hand with all important numbers stored
- ✓ If you have a stair lift, avoid using it up to 30 minutes prior to a planned power cut
- ✓ Only use alternative forms of heat or lighting if they're safe
- ✓ Regularly back-up work and important files on your computer before a power cut
- ✓ Make a hot water bottle and fill a vacuum flask with something warm
- ✓ Make sure you wrap up warm with extra clothes and/or blankets
- ✓ Ensure cupboards are stocked with food and drink
- ✓ Gas appliances should still work during a power cut
- ✓ Home and fire alarms may be affected during a power cut
- ✓ Fish and livestock may be vulnerable during a power cut

KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON

Identify specific communities/ infrastructure that would need electricity to enable the UK to continue to function normally.

Who should receive the most power and why?



Vulnerable Groups





What do we mean by 'vulnerable'?

What groups of people may be vulnerable?

In groups research 'vulnerability' - what does it mean and who might it impact?

HINT: Northern Powergrid recognises that some of its customers are vulnerable. Look at the website to find out more about how it helps those customers.

www.northernpowergrid.com/care



Time to share your findings
with the rest of the class.





What do Northern Powergrid offer to its vulnerable customers?

Free services to customers with additional needs, such as:

Services in different languages, additional communication, winter warmer packs (blanket, scarf, gloves etc), generators, help to find alternative accommodation, provide support through the British Red Cross.

Across the country

The protections put in place by DNOs across the UK meant that more than 85,000 customers were provided with extra help when their supply was interrupted during the 2013-2014 storms.

Note: DNO = Distribution Network Operator; Northern Powergrid is a DNO



Task

Power sharing is in place in your community for 2 weeks.

Who do you think are the most vulnerable?

Who do you think should receive the generators, what issues should be considered?

How else could vulnerable people in your community be supported?



Task

Aim: For the local area to continue as normal where possible, but ultimately the focus must be on the safety and wellbeing of those who need it most.

Be ready to present your ideas to the rest of the class at the end of the lesson.

Class Discussion – Next Steps

- Prepare a menu showing what you could eat for breakfast, lunch and dinner if power were switched off at this time.
- What sort of food could you eat and why?
- Think about your choice of food and ingredients in terms of: lack of electrical cooking appliances, freezing and refrigeration.
- Are there any other factors you would need to consider? Make a note of them and indicate how your menu takes these into consideration.





Well done!

