

The future of energy

Cornwall Energy Island

This unique research project looked to understand how the existing gas network in Cornwall could be used to support the local authorities ambition to be 'carbon neutral' or better while maximising the economic and social opportunities of low carbon technologies.

Our series of NIA funded Bridgend Future Modelling projects investigated potential future ways to meet the energy needs of a typical south Wales town.

One of the main outcomes of these studies was that capacity and storage of energy is a vital part of the solution and this project proposal seeks to address those issues.

A 'bottom up' approach is essential to consider the impact on energy for customers in Cornwall considering different potential energy supply scenarios.

These scenarios include a range of options that include natural gas as well as renewables.





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Key Benefits

- We have built an energy simulator
 that takes into account an area's heat, light and power demands.
- This research project will provide long term savings to our customers by providing us with better information on which to base planning and investment decisions.
- The work will help the gas network support the UK's strategic aim to decarbonise energy over the next 40 years.

Next Steps

- Simplify the energy simulator to allow others to do a direct comparison of the storage requirements within different future energy mixes.
- Draft a comprehensive report, documenting all research, learnings and recommendations.
- Share the key learnings from the study with gas networks across the UK.

