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## The Paul Bettson Lecture

### SUB-SEA NETWORKS ENABLING A LOW CARBON ENERGY SYSTEM

**Jon Davies CEng.**

Operations Director, Interconnectors  
nationalgrid Ventures

**Date changed**

**8:00 pm on Wednesday, 9th February 2022**  
**A virtual lecture via Zoom**

Jon is a Chartered Engineer having worked for the last 20 years in a variety of engineering, commercial and leadership roles at National Grid. Jon has spoken internationally on the topic of offshore electrical systems from real time operations through to the developments needed to hit our ambitious net zero goals by 2050.

For the last four years Jon has worked within National Grid Interconnectors in Director roles across the portfolio. Jon was previously Commercial Director at BritNed, the interconnector with the Netherlands, before being appointed in mid-2021 as Asset & Operations Director for a portfolio of four interconnectors, two to France, one to Norway and one in construction to Denmark. He sits on the associated company Boards internally to National Grid along with those including investment partners in connected countries.

Connecting countries via sub-sea cables is no easy job. The challenges start with the business model and regulatory framework. Then come project development, construction and enduring operation. In the process you are faced with onshore and offshore risks, global supply chain challenges, as well as the requirement to form relationships and work closely with investment partners.

Despite the developments already committed, significant further investment is needed to hit UK and EU renewable targets by 2030 and beyond. The technology, skills, supply chain and investment partnerships combine to give us one very big, yet very exciting engineering challenge for many years to come. However we cannot wait, these challenges need to be tackled with urgency and that starts today.