

£225,000 Investment in Village Electricity Infrastructure

Western Power Distribution

A major project to underground overhead power cables and enhance the landscape of the village of Goulceby, a recognised area of natural beauty, has been completed in a joint project between Western Power Distribution (WPD) and the Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service.

Approximately 1.5km of overhead head power lines have been removed and replaced with underground cables, restoring the beauty of the area.

The works are being funded through a regulatory backed initiative to enhance landscapes in recognised Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and National Parks by removing electrical infrastructure like overhead lines and supporting poles. WPD has worked closely with steering groups made up with representatives from various AONBs and National Parks to identify suitable sites for consideration.

Christian Hjelm, Consents and Wayleaves Manager for WPD said: "Working with the groups has been helpful to pinpoint high priority schemes and enable the limited funds to be spent as effectively as possible."

Helen Gamble, Project Officer for the Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service said: "We welcome input from the local community in suggesting schemes. By spending time meeting the officers and contractors on site and working closely with WPD and the local community of Goulceby, this project has been a great example of the partnership working for the wider benefit of the AONB."

Note for newsdesks:

About WPD:

- Western Power Distribution (WPD) is the distribution network operator for the Midlands, South West England and South Wales, and is responsible for delivering electricity to approximately 7.7 million customers in the UK.
- WPD is not an electricity supply company and does not bill customers in the UK. Its responsibility is to distribute electricity from the point of generation to homes and businesses.

About Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service:

- The Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is one of 46 AONBs in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, covering 18% of our countryside. AONBs are designated in recognition of their national importance and to ensure that their character and qualities are protected for all to enjoy.
- The Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service is a jointly funded partnership between Natural England, East Lindsey District Council, West Lindsey District Council, North East Lincolnshire Council and Lincolnshire County Council.
- We work in the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB to protect and enhance the landscape and its distinctive features, encourage community interest and involvement, raise awareness of the Wolds and promote sustainable development and appropriate enjoyment.

For further information: For WPD: Stella Hayward on 01332 827461. For Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service: Helen Gamble on 01507 609740.