### Proposed acquisition of Western Power Distribution and Strategic Portfolio Repositioning

London, 18 March 2021

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### John Pettigrew Chief Executive

### Transforming our business, leading the energy transition

#### **Our priorities**

- Deliver for our customers efficiently
- Grow organisational capabilities
- > Empower our people for great performance
- Enable the energy transition for all

to be at the heart of a clean, fair and affordable energy future

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# A strategic transformation

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Significantly improves strategic positioning and long term growth

Puts National Grid atthe heart of delivering net zero

Attractive financial returns for shareholders

### **Transformative strategic fit**

- Combined transaction agreed with PPL Corporation:
  - Acquisition of Western Power Distribution (WPD) for equity value of £7.8bn
    - UK's largest electricity distribution network operator
  - Sale of our Rhode Island business for equity value of \$3.8bn (£2.7bn¹)
- Announcing an intention to sell a majority stake in our UK Gas Transmission business
- Two complementary businesses a compelling combination
  WPD
  - Low cost and local delivery strength
  - Customer focus and strong operational performance

#### **National Grid**

- Engineering expertise
- Experience in modernising electricity distribution networks



### **Accretive earnings and stable credit metrics**

#### **Attractive financial returns for shareholders**

- Strong growth profile of WPD and potential for outperformance
- Expected strong cash flow and returns greater than cost of capital
- Valuation of WPD based on conservative assumptions for future regulatory returns
- Achieved premium valuation for Rhode Island business
- Confidence in value of UK Gas Transmission business



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### **WPD** business summary

One-off opportunity to gain a scale position in UK electricity distribution

### UK's largest electricity distribution network operator (DNO)



Network comprises ~90,000 km of overhead lines ~135,000 km of underground cable 188,000 transformers

#### Key highlights

£8.8bn Estimated RAV FY2022

6,500 Employees

#### **5% Annual RAV CAGR**<sup>1</sup> delivered for ED1 period

7.9million Customers

#### Key financials

£m	FY18	FY19	FY20
Revenue	1,621	1,686	1,724
EBITDA	1,168	1,193	1,241
Net Income	586	605	549
RAV	7,355	7,698	8,000

1. Regulated asset base compound annual growth rate based on Ofgem publication.

### **WPD a leading Distribution Network Operator**



1. Cumulative Return on Regulatory Equity for the RIIO ED1 regulatory years up to and including 2019/20, using 65% notional gearing; before debt and tax performance

2. Ofgem RIIO-ED1 Network Performance Summary 2019-20

### A strong strategic fit

# Strong electricity demand growth

#### Improved growth outlook

tation raised

Net zero delivery



#### Benefits of diversity maintained



### **Increases electricity footprint**

- A changing energy landscape
  - Increased renewable generation
  - Growth in electric vehicle penetration
  - Electric heating solutions for homes, offices and buildings
- Electricity demand potentially doubles by 2050
- National Grid positioned to play a pivotal role in enable growing role of electricity



1. Source: Committee on Climate Change, Net Zero Technical Report, May 2019

### An improved growth outlook

# WPD brings high quality assets with attractive growth

C.5% RAV CAGR<sup>1</sup> over 6 years

## Delivering a cleaner, smarter energy system

Investment expected to rise C.20% from ED1 to ED2

**5-7%** Group asset growth underpinned

1. Regulated asset base compound annual growth rate

2. FY25 illustrative only. Assumes illustrative 51% disposal of UK Gas Transmission and divestment of Rhode Island



#### Capital investment by segment<sup>2</sup> (£bn)

### **Delivering net zero**

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#### A holistic approach

- Faster more efficient delivery across transmission and distribution
- Smarter networks to deliver more renewable energy connections
- Electric vehicle charging infrastructure
  - National: £950m Rapid Charging Fund
  - Local: Enable up to 3m electric vehicles by 2030
- Sharing best practice
  - Engineering solutions
  - Customer solutions

A shared vision to reduce own emissions

#### **National Grid**

80% reduction in own emissions by 2030

**90%** by 2040

Net zero by 2050

**25% CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction** FY15/16 to FY19/20<sup>1</sup>

1. National Grid ESG Virtual Seminar, October 2020

#### WPD

- Net zero aims in ED2 business plan
- 20% emissions reduction in ED1 to date

### **Electricity-oriented portfolio with regulatory diversity**

National Grid remains geographically balanced with the US regulatory assets C.40% of the Group

# Step-change in electricity's portfolio contribution

to be c.70% of the Group



1. Proportion of FY2020 asset base

2. Calculated as proportion of FY20 asset base basis, assuming illustrative 51% disposal of UK Gas Transmission

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3. National Grid Ventures and Other

4. Includes US Service Co, NG Partners, Property and UK Other Assets (Corporate).

### Rhode Island business summary

Divestment does not materially change National Grid US asset mix or growth



#### **Key highlights**

- Largest electricity transmission & distribution service provider as well as a natural gas distribution company in Rhode Island
- Electric and gas distribution business regulated by Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission; electric transmission business regulated by the FERC
- \$2.6bn rate base (\$1.8bn distribution, \$788m transmission) as at March 2020
- Net debt of \$1.4bn (£1.0bn) as at 31 March 2020

#### Key financials<sup>1</sup>

£m	<b>FY18</b>	<b>FY19</b>	FY20
Revenue	1, 063	1,188	1,207
Net Income	91	84	95
Rate Base	1,576	1,854	2,119

1. Company Information, US GAAP, £m at an average FX rate of \$1.36/1.31/1.29 for FY18/FY19/FY20 Revenue and Net Income and \$1.40/1.30/1.24 for Rate Base



### Andy Agg Chief Financial Officer



#### **Transaction details**

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WPD £7.8bn equity value<sup>1</sup>

£6.4bn assumed net debt

- £8.8bn March 2022 RAVe<sup>2</sup>
- Attractive growth profile
- £750m FY20 profit before tax
- £1bn average annual capex over RIIO-ED1

Rhode Island £2.7bn consideration<sup>1</sup>

£1.0bn (\$1.4bn) assumed net debt<sup>1</sup>

 Partially repays cost of acquiring WPD

- Attractive valuation
- FY20
  - **\$206m** operating profit<sup>3</sup>
  - \$122m net profit<sup>3</sup>

UK Gas Transmission £6.4bn March 2022 RAVe<sup>2</sup>

- Intention to sell majority interest, including gas metering
- £356m FY20 profit before tax<sup>4</sup>
- Plan to launch a sale in 2H 2021

- 2. RAVe: estimated regulated asset value
- 3. US GAAP basis
- 4. National Grid Gas plc

<sup>1.</sup> Assumed GBP/USD FX rate of 1.39 and subject to customary closing adjustments

### **Financial impact**

#### Financing

- Bridge facility in place to fully cover WPD purchase
- Proceeds from Rhode Island and UK Gas Transmission businesses to repay bridge facility<sup>1</sup>
- UK Gas Transmission sale process expected to be launched in second half 2021

#### Portfolio

- Earnings accretive
- Expect to maintain current credit rating

#### Dividend

- Dividend cover metrics enhanced
- Further underpins updated CPIH-linked dividend policy





2. Subject to customary closing adjustments

3. Rhode Island is conditional upon WPD completing, but WPD is not conditional on Rhode Island completing

<sup>1.</sup> Any remainder to be refinanced with new debt

### **Delivering further value for shareholders**

Further significant upside potential

#### Valuation of WPD reflects

Conservative assumptions on baseline returns

#### **Further upside potential**

- Opportunities to drive outperformance on totex
  - Strong track record of delivery
- Opportunities on incentives

#### Sharing best practice to drive performance

- Digital innovation
  - Streamline connection process
  - Improve asset reliability
- Leading customer satisfaction

### **Timetable and regulatory considerations**

#### **Overall timeline summary**



Timing of key steps

#### WPD

Shareholder meeting to approve acquisition of WPD expected by the end of April 2021

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- Technical filings to be submitted with FCA and Guernsey equivalent
- Voluntary CMA filing
- Expected to complete within the next four months

#### **Rhode Island**

- Relevant regulatory approvals required
- Expected to complete in Q1 2022

#### **UK Gas Transmission**

- Intention to launch process for sale of a majority stake in Q3 2021
- Expect process to completion will take c.12 months

### Conclusion

#### **Transforms National Grid's strategic position**

- Increased focus on electricity
- One-off opportunity to establish scale UK Electricity Distribution
- Enhances 5-7% growth for longer

#### Foundation for growth and shareholder returns

- Earnings accretive
- Expect to maintain current credit rating
- Further underpins dividend policy and long-term sustainability

#### Geographic and regulatory diversity maintained

#### Puts National Grid at the heart of a clean, fair and affordable energy future

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# Q&A

#### To ask a question, please dial in as below

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