

## Easi-Duct on National Grid's new Cumbria Substation

FP McCann has supplied Easi-Duct precast concrete cable troughs to a high profile scheme in Cumbria as part of National Grid's Electricity Alliance Central (EAC) programme to deliver major enhancements to the network's electricity transmission lines and 400 kV substations. The new substation at Old Hutton near Kendal, is scheduled for completion later this year and will play a vital role in the upgrading of a major power line across Cumbria and Lancashire.



FP McCann's Easi-Duct precast concrete cable troughs are being installed by Morgan Sindall, a main EAC construction partner along with ABB and Atkins. The troughs are to carry high voltage cabling to and from the new gas insulated switch-gear (GIS) substation. The access troughs are buried flush with the surface to protect the power network from accidental or malicious damage, but allow for easy access for maintenance and repair.

Deliveries to the project from FP McCann's Cadeby production facility in Warwickshire commenced in March and consist of 114 metres of 1250mmx1250mm straight troughs together with 'Tees' and corner units and some additional bespoke units made with duct openings cored in the trough walls. The high strength, load bearing, reinforced precast units are non-conductive and chemically resistant. Flush fitting lids in the case of Old Hutton have been supplied in GRP, but are also available in either precast concrete or steel tray. All are tested for loading group classes as set out in BS EN 124.

The £30 million contract is in its second phase and on completion in November, will see the upgrade of 116km of electricity transmission line with over 1,000km of new overhead and underground cabling between Old Hutton and a substation at Harker in Carlisle.

Sam Sprules, FP McCann's Power and Infrastructure sales manager comments, *"This is a prestigious part of the National Grid (EAC) contract that will continue to deliver benefits to our cable duct division for the foreseeable future. Morgan Sindall are a major contractor in the power and utilities sector and we are working closely with them to secure other infrastructure projects"*.



**Site:** Old Hutton, Kendal, Cumbria  
**Contractor:** Morgan Sindall / ABB Atkins (JV)  
**Client:** National Grid  
**Products Supplied:** Easi-Duct Precast Concrete Cable Troughs