

# UK Power Networks

## *A faster route to net zero network capacity*

**U**K Power Networks, the UK's largest electricity distribution network, is helping businesses across London, the East and Southeast of England meet the growing demand for low-carbon technologies.

The company's Smart Connect portal allows technologies such as EVs, heat pumps, batteries, and solar panels to readily connect to its network. With the click of a button, the Smart Connect portal enables electrical installers to see if sufficient network capacity is available for their installation. If network upgrades are required, then the installer is automatically referred to a UK Power Networks' representative for support.

The high efficiency of the portal can slash approval times for consumers and businesses from a ten-day wait to just seconds. Jodie McPherson from East Green Energy said, "The introduction of Smart Connect has revolutionised the way DNO applications can be submitted and brought a much more efficient way of working into our industry. It has more than tripled the number of applications possible."

Since its launch in 2021, Smart Connect has enabled the installation of over 10,000 electric car chargers, 5,000 solar installations and 900 heat pumps. James Harding, Electrical Installer at Harding Electric Company, said, "UK Power Networks has unlocked unprecedented approval speeds through Smart Connect.

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This tool has boosted our business capabilities as we can now manage far more renewable energy installations, and the rapid installation speeds keep my customers very happy."

Not only do these technologies help consumers use electricity more efficiently, but they also enable significant environmental benefits. With ten million EVs predicted to be on UK roads by 2030, urgent action is required. Innovative tools



such as Smart Connect will help to ensure that the distribution network is meeting the growing demands of tomorrow and lead the way for an eco-friendlier future that meets the UK's 2050 net zero emissions target.

Neil Madgwick, Head of Service Delivery at UK Power Networks, said, "Millions of electric cars and heat pumps will connect to local electricity networks over the next decade. We want to ensure they can do that quickly and easily. Through tools like Smart Connect, we'll make it possible for installers and consumers to connect at pace, greatly helping the UK's journey to net zero. We are proud to be part of Leading the Charge, a great campaign that is raising awareness of the work that needs to be done."

[ukpowernetworks.co.uk](http://ukpowernetworks.co.uk)

**UK Power Networks**  
Delivering your electricity