Battery storage plant supplies flexible power

Centrica Business Solutions has built one of Europe’s largest battery storage facilities at Roosecote to supply power to thousands of homes and businesses across Cumbria.

New flexible power demanded
The Roosecote site on the Cumbrian coast was built as a coal-fired power station in 1953. In the 1990s it was converted to a gas-fired power station but eventually reached the end of its life. Centrica Business Solutions sanctioned the project to build a battery storage plant on the site which would provide more flexible power to the region.

Meeting changing energy generation needs
Commissioned in December 2016, the 49 MW battery storage facility is part of a £180m investment into new flexible power plants across the UK.

Due for completion at the end of 2018, the battery plant will be used as an asset to support National Grid. It stores energy and discharges it back onto the network in response to fluctuations in electricity supply and demand.

With the unreliability of renewable energy generation, such as solar and wind, Centrica Business Solutions can use its portfolio of flexible power stations and energy storage, such as Roosecote, to provide a stable back-up energy source.

The results
The Roosecote battery holds enough power to meet the needs of around 50,000 homes; the equivalent to powering a town the size of Carlisle. It can respond to fluctuations in demand in under one second.

With a maximum capacity output of 49 MW, the equivalent of 123,000 batteries, Roosecote is one of the largest battery storage facilities in Europe.

We are delighted to start breathing life back into the old Roosecote site. This is a great opportunity for the region to be at the forefront of a new era for the energy industry as we bring in the very best state-of-the-art battery technology to help ensure stability of supply for local homes and businesses.”

Mark Futyan, Merchant Power Director, Centrica Business Solutions

Why Centrica Business Solutions?
• Centrica Business Solutions plays a pivotal role in helping organisations reduce their carbon emissions and energy usage through more resource efficient business models.
• The project is part of a wider £180m investment programme into new flexible power plants across the UK.
• Specialist expertise in energy generation and storage.