

SMITH brothers

Case Study



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Objectives and purpose

ANESCO, one of the UK's leading developers of battery energy storage projects, commissioned Smith Brothers to work on the delivery of the 20MW Lascar battery energy storage site, following a string of successful joint projects.

With a target energisation date of Spring 2019, and appointed as the Independent Connection Provider (ICP), Smith Brothers was tasked with constructing a 33kV metered connection supply substation to ENWL specification.

Works also included the installation of a 430 metre, 33kV cable connection to Kearsley grid supply point.

Project delivery

Construction began in January 2019, with ground works to remove former factory foundations. Immediately, the team encountered the persistent problem of high levels of groundwater, which were made worse by the mid-winter start.

Additionally, the public highway cable route included a technically challenging 50m road section which also traversed the railway bridge of Bury's historic steam railway museum.

To negotiate the obstacle, directional drilling and the installation of a large diameter cable duct (to a depth of 8m) had to be employed, using specialist third-party contractors.

The works were completed on time and energised in May. ENWL engineers also expressed how impressed they were with quality and efficiency of Smith Brothers contestable works.

Project Manager, Steve Bolland, said: "I couldn't have asked for a more dedicated and capable team to help me achieve this challenging delivery timescale."