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Distribution Networks to Facilitate Low Carbon – Simple Assets, Complex Role?

As we move to a world of lower carbon, the electricity distribution networks will change from their passive role transporting power from the large centralised generators to the UK's 30 million connected customers. Whilst the actual lines and cables might not change too much, the design and operation of the network will be transformed.

This transformation could include decision making for many hundreds of thousands of network nodes to manage demand and generation within design limits for capacity and voltage, for a number of horizons from planned to real time response. Add to this the development of associated commercial transactions, and we have the potential for a truly complex network world.