





## INNOVATING FOR THE FUTURE

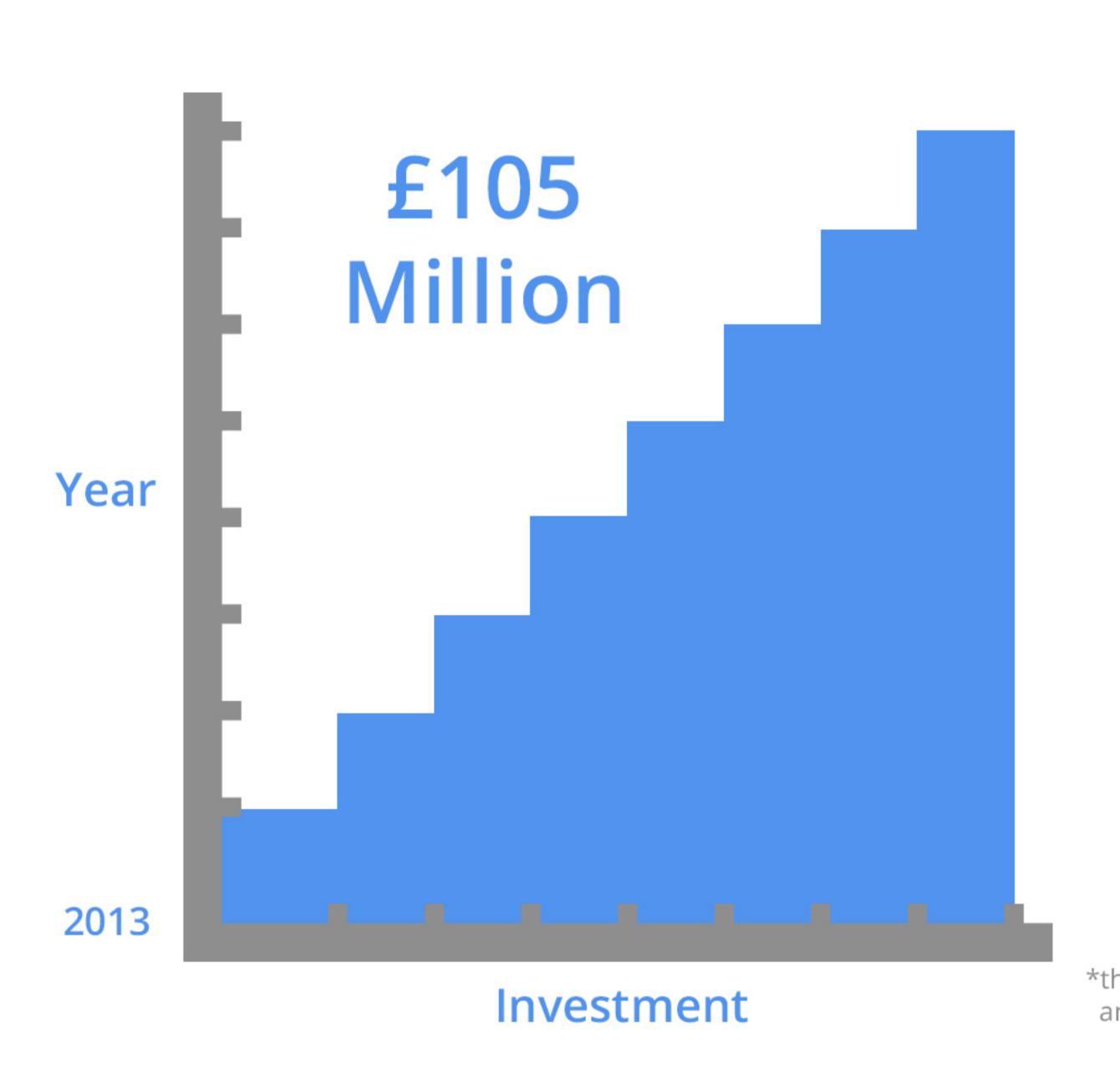


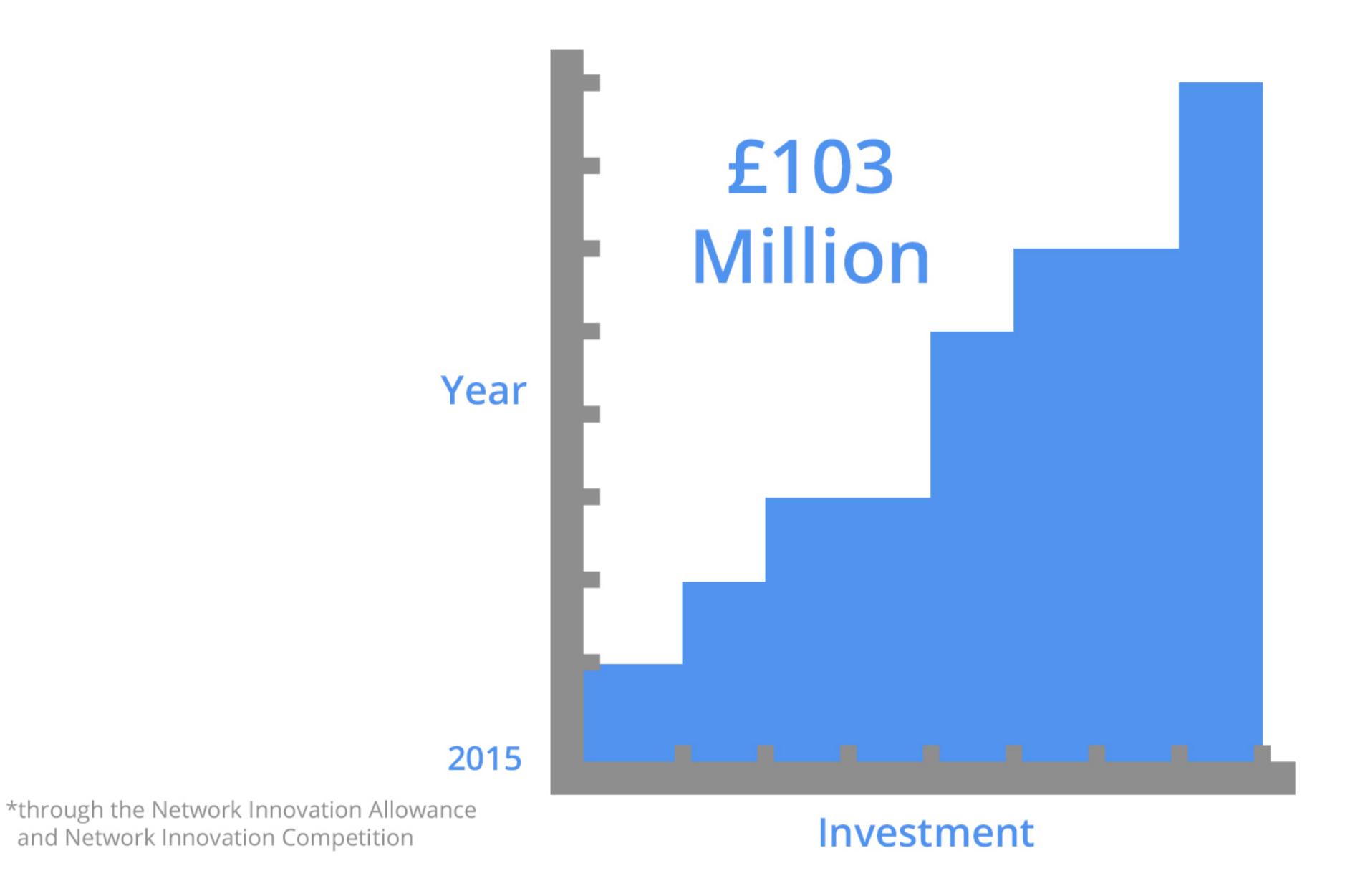
Innovation in the network sector is fundamental to meeting the challenges associated with the decarbonisation of the economy and will deliver savings for customers.

Under the current regulatory innovation funding arrangements, the energy networks have made or planned investments of over £256 million in innovation.\*

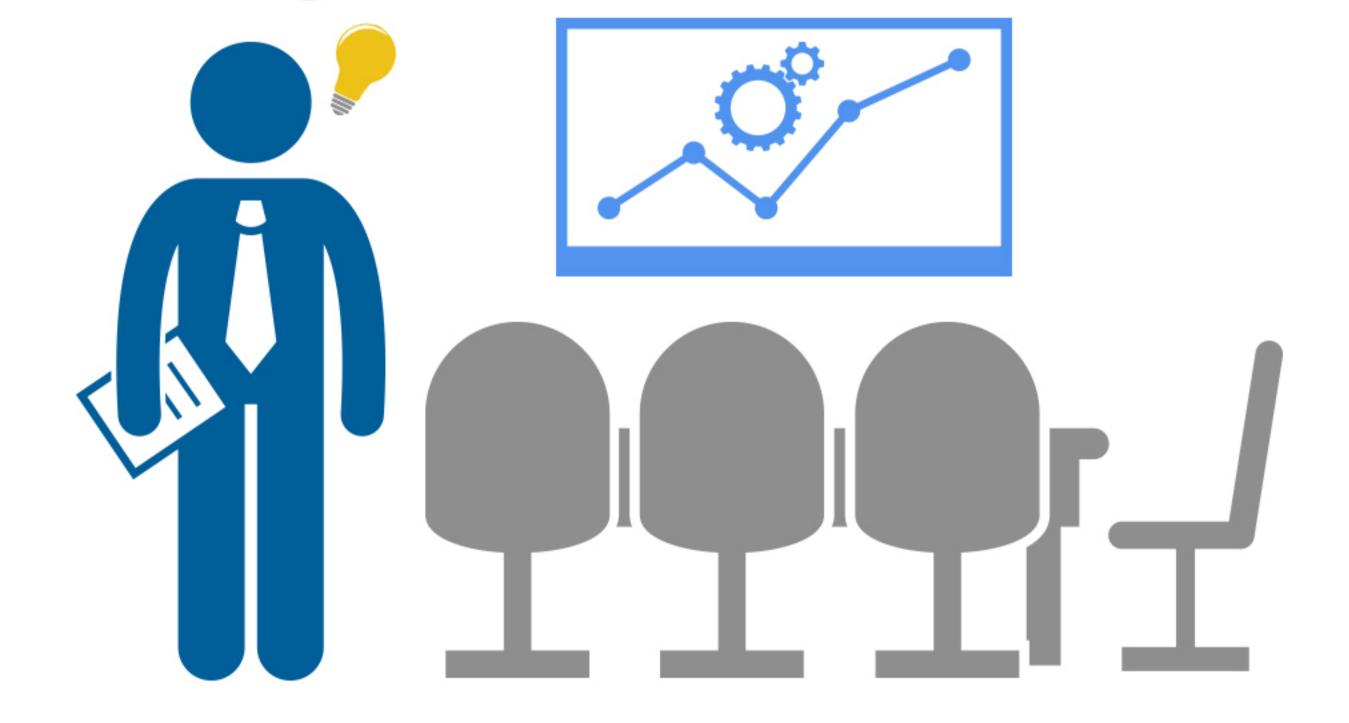
Since 2013, the gas networks have planned to invest over £105 million in innovation.\*

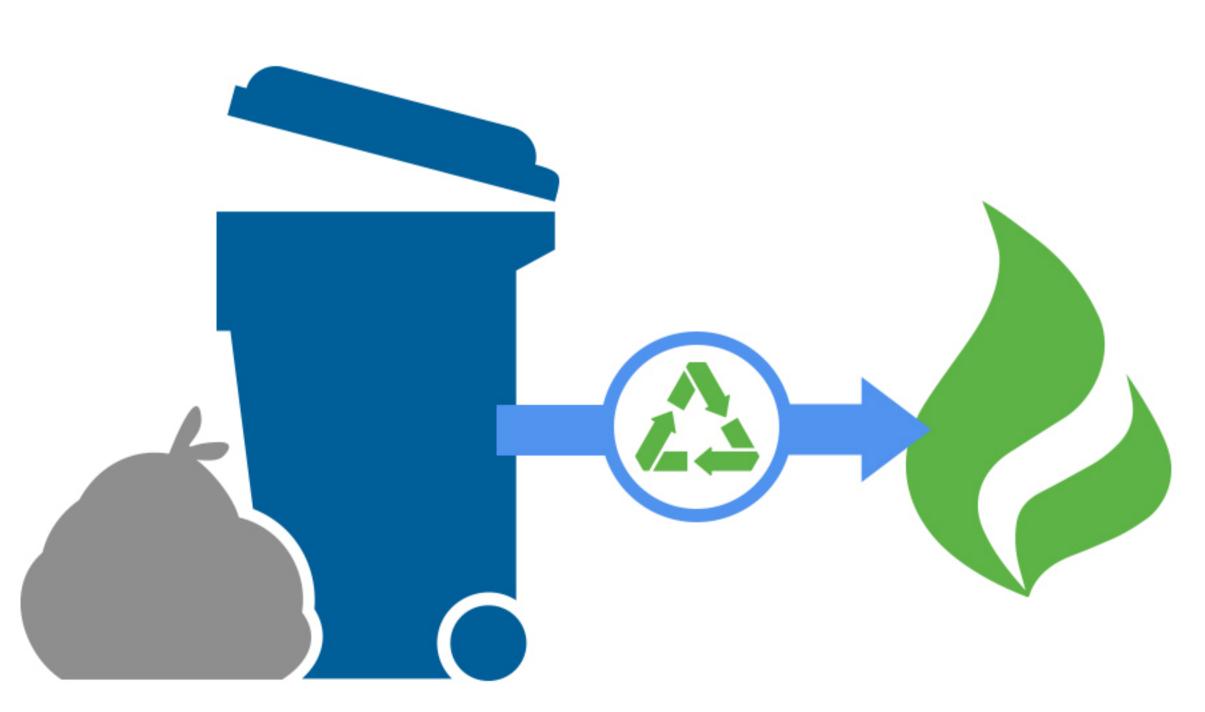
Since 2015, the electricity networks have planned to invest over £103 million in innovation.\*



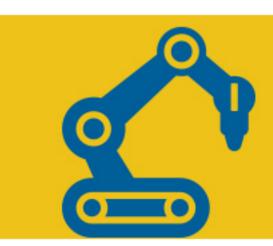


Gas networks are innovating to improve efficiency and investigate alternative forms of gas





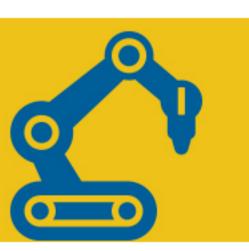
and develop robots that can repair pipes internally without having to dig up roads.





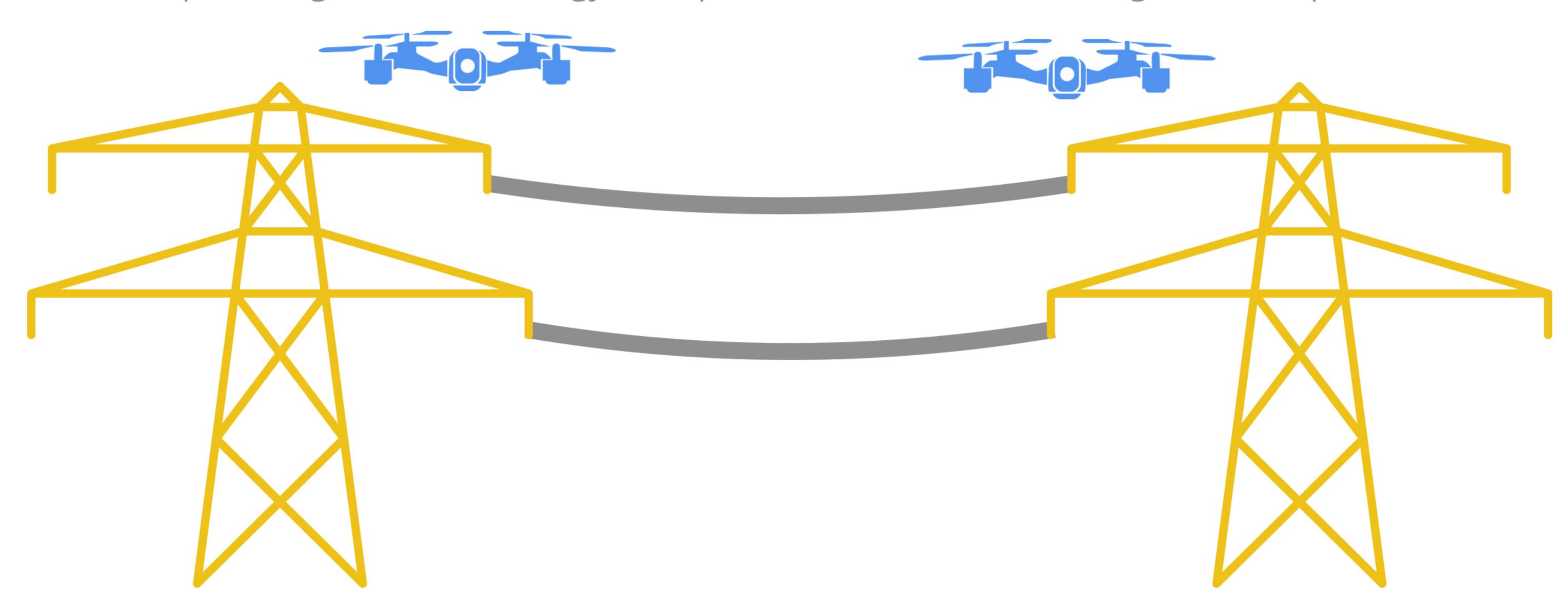








Electricity distribution network companies are developing new, innovative ways of using the existing network capacity more efficiently, reducing the need for costly reinforcement and speeding up the time it takes to connect to the grid. For example, using drone technology to inspect overhead lines, reducing costs and power cuts.



The Low Carbon Networks Fund (LCNF) supports projects sponsored by the network companies to try out new technology, operating and commercial arrangements. It aims to improve understanding of how to provide security of supply at value for money as the UK moves to a low carbon economy.



The LCNF projects could deliver savings of up to £8.1 billion and reduce CO2 emissions by up to 250 million tonnes, the equivalent of 824 million trees.\*

\*An Independent Evaluation of the LCNF, Poyry, 2016

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Smart grids have the potential of contributing £13 billion to the UK economy and £5 billion of exports between now and 2050, as well as 8,000 – 9,000 jobs over 2020s and 2030s.\*

\*Delivering UK Energy Investment: Networks, DECC, 2015

