

# The Story: National Grid

*“I found the Project Management course insightful and very interesting with the added bonus of having a brilliant trainer. She made the class engaging and relevant to the company I work for whilst also maintaining a balance on materials in the textbook for the exam. She also demonstrated a wealth of knowledge within the field and was able to give great direction in preparing for the exam.”*



**Maggie Tran, Regulation & Reporting Analyst, National Grid**

Maggie is an Economics and Finance graduate from the University of Sydney and has spent the last seven years working for high profile financial services organisations until joining National Grid. She began her career at National Grid in October 2021 as a ‘Regulation and Reporting Analyst’. Maggie attended the APM PMQ (Project Management Qualification) course which our SPOCE trainer Julia Gosse delivered over five days. The course was delivered face to face at one of the National Grid premises in Birmingham and so was tailored toward their organisation and the challenges that they face.

## About National Grid

Connecting millions of people to the energy they use every day, while continually seeking ways to make the energy system clean, fair, and affordable. National Grid lies at the heart of a transforming energy system. Their business areas play a vital role in connecting millions of people to the energy they use, while continually seeking ways to make the energy system cleaner. National Grid Ventures and National Grid Partners also enable innovations to help revolutionise and decarbonise the future of energy.

(National Grid website 2023).

## Maggie’s role at National Grid

Maggie explains that it is extremely important for her to have a sound understanding of project management because her role encompasses project and portfolio reporting and supporting regulatory submissions for her department.

*Maggie says:*

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*“ Since my role captures reporting for all projects and portfolios in our department, it is important to understand the principles of project management that underpin what is reported. This will enable effective reporting that aligns to our business objectives.”*

And what did Maggie think about the course itself?

## The resources

“The course was APM Project Management Qualification (APM PMQ). The study guide was very useful as it was easy to understand and the syllabus helped structure my studying.”



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## How does it all work?

When SPOCE Project Management conduct any course, we supply candidates with all the materials that they will need for a successful week of study. Candidates are given a link to pre course resources before the course commences, so that they can hit the ground running when their course begins. Pre course materials include: pre course reading, an overview of the syllabus, exam question sample papers and answers, candidate guidance, hints and tips and more. Candidates are also supplied with the APM official handbook which is referenced throughout the course.

## The training

SPOCE Project Management take great care selecting our trainers. In most cases they have been delivering our courses for many years. Our trainer in this instance was Julia Gosse, who has been working with SPOCE for over 15 years.

Maggie says:

“Julia connected the APM PMQ approach directly with our company objectives. She was effective in connecting the project management approaches to various scenarios at my company. In combination with her wealth of experience, she delivered an engaging and relatable course.”

And the course itself? What type of things did the PMQ syllabus cover and did you find this relevant to you?

“There were some areas of the syllabus which I found particularly engaging and relevant to my role. Earned Value Management assists with understanding of how this tool can be used effectively within projects and greatly helps within my role in Reporting. I also found the Project Management Plan and Knowledge and Information Management engaging topics.”

## Exam preparation

And how well do you feel you were prepared for the PMQ exam that was taken?

“With a combination of the study guide and Julia as the trainer, I felt prepared to take the exam shortly after the five day intense course.”

## About SPOCE

SPOCE Project Management Limited is a global leader in delivering best practice training for project programme and risk management.

We offer a wide range of courses which can be tailored to suit any form of training need. For example, public courses e-Learning, blended learning, virtual classroom and client workshops. SPOCE is the flagship training provider for PRINCE2® and MSP® and were APMGs first ever training provider.

### *And finally:*

*So for our final question Maggie, Would you recommend SPOCE to other colleagues and friends for training?*

*“Definitely! I would recommend taking the five day course in person. I thought it was a great course with content that is versatile enough to be used by anyone involved in projects or portfolios.”*



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Call 01202 736373 • email: [sales@spoce.com](mailto:sales@spoce.com) • [www.spoce.com](http://www.spoce.com)