



## **Participant Information Sheet: Case study interviews**

### **Satellite-Aided Technologies for advancing resilience – Guarding energy services under climate hazards, risks, and disasters (SAT-Guard)**

Thank you for your interest in participating in the SAT-Guard project. This document provides information about the project, your role as an interviewee, and your rights as a participant. It is important that you understand the contents before making a decision on whether to participate in the project.

This study has received ethical approval by the Anthropology Department of Durham University on 17.07.2025.

#### **Project overview**

The SAT-Guard project explores how we can best manage the electrical grid system and power supply to UK communities during and after extreme weather. SAT-Guard is a collaboration between researchers at Durham and Northumbria Universities, community members, and stakeholders in the energy industry, civil society, and field of emergency planning and response. The end goal of the project is to develop methods for using satellite communications and renewable energy to reduce power cuts during extreme weather and restore electricity quickly if it goes out. A key focus of SAT-Guard is to ensure that methods for managing electricity supply consider the diverse perspectives of community members.

#### **What we are asking of you**

We invite you to take part in an interview as part of a case study in Northeast England. The interview will last between 45 minutes to 1.5 hours. It will involve you answering questions about topics such as your experience with electricity supply at home, impacts of power cuts on your household, how your household and community prepare for storms, heatwaves, floods, and other extreme weather, and your feelings about response to power cuts. A member of the team will take notes during the interview, and if you agree to it, we will audio record our conversation.

#### **Your rights as a participant**

Taking part in an interview is voluntary. You do not have to answer all questions the team poses to you and you may request that audio recording stops at any point during the interview. You have the right to withdraw from the project (without giving a reason, and with no repercussions). If you choose to withdraw you must tell the SAT-Guard team within four weeks of this interview date. Should you withdraw, the information collected from you will be destroyed and will not be included in the project. You may request a copy of your information before it is destroyed by contacting a member of the project team (details overleaf).

#### **Data storage**

Information gathered during this interview will become part of our research data. Unless you instruct us otherwise, we will anonymise your data before storage and use. This means we will not associate your name or other identifying characteristics with the information you share in the interview. Data will be stored securely on Durham University systems and will only be accessible to members of the SAT-Guard team. Data will be retained for 10 years. You may request a copy of the audio recording and written transcript of your interview. If you require further information about Durham University's



privacy policies please visit: <https://www.durham.ac.uk/about-us/governance/information-governance/privacy-notice/generic-privacy-notice/>

#### Data use

We will use data to create reports, summaries of the research for a general audience, academic papers, policy papers, presentations, and other forms of research output as opportunities arise. We may quote you (use your words) in these research outputs, and you will have the option to choose whether or not we associate your words with your name. If you wish to remain anonymous, the research team will write up project results in a way that make it very hard for others to know that you participated in the research, but we cannot absolutely guarantee this. You may request a copy of the summary of results. If you are interested in other products of the research project (e.g. reports, papers), please contact the research team using the contact details below.

#### Key project contacts

Please contact a member of the SAT-Guard team if you have questions about the project or your participation.

Professor Simone Abram (SAT-Guard Co-investigator, social science lead)  
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Dr Danielle Johnson (SAT-Guard Postdoctoral Researcher)  
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If you wish to make a formal complaint about the research, please contact the Anthropology Ethics Chair at [anthropology.ethics@durham.ac.uk](mailto:anthropology.ethics@durham.ac.uk)