

Essential Gas works on Orwell Road, Liverpool

National Grid engineers ready start a seven week project to replace a 70 metre section of gas main in Orwell Road, Liverpool.

27 Apr 2016

- **Seven week gas mains renewal project starts on Friday 6 May**
- **Old metal main to be replaced with modern plastic pipe**
- **Work will ensure a safe and reliable gas supply for decades to come**

National Grid engineers start work on Friday 6 May on an urgent and essential seven week project to replace a 70 metre section of old metal main on Orwell Road in Liverpool.

The main, which is 24 inches in diameter, is nearing the end of its lifespan and so will be replaced with modern plastic pipe which is designed to last at least 80 years once in the ground. There have been a number of gas escapes on this section of pipe in recent years and it is important that it is replaced to protect public safety.

Liverpool City Council has been consulted and given the go-ahead because the work is critical and needs to be completed as quickly as possible.

During the work Commercial Road will be closed at Stanley Road and there will be temporary traffic lights in operation at the junction of Stanley Road and Melrose Road. Motorists are advised to allow more travelling time or use alternative routes, particularly as road works are also currently taking place on Scotland Road for Project Jennifer.

Colin Baker, Project Engineer for National Grid said: "We need to do the work to make sure that the people in this part of Liverpool can continue to count on a reliable gas supply. We're replacing a section of old metal main with a modern type of hardwearing plastic. We need to replace the pipe in Orwell Road as a matter of urgency

due to the fact that there have been a number of leaks on it in recent years and it is showing evidence of corrosion. The new pipes will last for several generations and will need little or no maintenance. This means that the risk of future disruption from road works will be greatly reduced.

"We know that closing the road will cause issues for local people but we hope that they will be patient with us. We'll do everything in our power to get our job done as quickly as possible.

"We hope that people will understand that a few weeks of work will allow us to guarantee them a safe and reliable gas supply for many decades to come."

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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

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