

Gas pipe work set to benefit residents in Birkenhead

Nine-day vital gas pipe work is due to start in the Birkenhead area tomorrow

21 Oct 2016

- **Essential work will ensure local people continue to enjoy safe and reliable gas supplies for cooking and heating**
- **Temporary road closure in Whetstone Lane needed to carry out work safely and efficiently**

National Grid engineers are starting vital gas pipe work in Birkenhead tomorrow (Saturday 22 October). The essential work will ensure that residents in the area continue to enjoy safe and reliable gas supplies for heating and cooking until the end of the century.

In a project that is expected to last only nine days engineers will be renewing the gas pipe that links Whetstone Lane to Maple Street.

During the essential works National Grid will make every effort possible to maintain access for residents in Maple Street.

To carry out the work safely and efficiently a road closure will be necessary on the B5148 Whetstone Lane where it meets Maple Street. There will be a short signed diversion in place.

Engineers will be working at weekends to complete the essential works as quickly as possible.

Steve Murray, Head of Contracts for National Grid, said: "We're sorry for any inconvenience that our work may cause in the short term. However, there will be a long-term gain. We need to carry out the essential work so that people in this area of Birkenhead can continue to enjoy a safe and reliable gas supply for many years to come.

"We planned the project to coincide with the school half-term holiday to reduce any disruption to drivers. We know that this is a key route through Birkenhead and we'd advise motorists to leave some extra time for their journeys. We really appreciate people's patience and co-operation during our vital works."

For any enquiries about this work people should contact National Grid's customer services team on **0161 703 1000** or **0161 703 1010**. To find out more about how National Grid replaces gas mains and how that affects residents and businesses go to www.bettergaspipes.co.uk.

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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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