

Historic occasion: National Grid takes pupils back in time to explore history of gas in Borehamwood

Time travelling gas history lesson for pupils in Borehamwood

26 Feb 2016

- Pupils from Monksmead Primary School learn about Borehamwood's historic links with the gas industry
- Work to remove two disused gasholders at National Grid's Station Road site is due for completion this March
- Removal of the gas holders will free up land for redevelopment

Pupils went back in time with National Grid to learn about the history of the gas industry and its role in Borehamwood's past.

National Grid is currently completing work to prepare its former gasworks in Station Road for redevelopment. Company representatives spent a morning exploring the history of gas with Year 5 and 6 pupils at the Monksmead Primary School this week.

The pupils learned about how gas used to be manufactured. The children then did a hands-on experiment to turn solids and liquids into gas. They also tried on some of the modern safety gear which workers now use, which taught them about the importance of safety and protective clothing.

Gas was stored in the two gas holders at the Station Road site until the 1990s. However changes in technology made the holders redundant as gas is now stored in underground pipes.

Tom Remnant, Year 5 Teacher said, "We really loved having National Grid visit our school. The workshop was a great mix of science and fun. It is really good to see a responsible business such as National Grid sharing what they are doing in the local area."

Nadia Dew, Land Regeneration Manager at National Grid, added: "We want to thank the pupils and staff at Monksmead for letting us come and talk about our work at National Grid."

She added: "Our educational programme is important because it promotes science and other STEM skills among school children.

"We hope that our educational sessions will inspire the next generation of engineers. We really enjoyed meeting the pupils and delivering the lesson."

National Grid's work to clear the site began in September 2015 this year and is due to be completed next month (March 2016). The work has involved clearing the two disused gasholders and associated industrial buildings from the site which will free up the land for future redevelopment.

Anyone wanting more information on the work can contact the National Grid Community Relations team on 0800 073 1047. The line is open from 7am -7pm Monday to Friday and 7am-1pm on Saturday.

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

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- 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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