

Major gas mains upgrade for Letchworth

National Grid renewing gas pipes in Letchworth

04 May 2016

- **Work will keep gas flowing for the rest of the century**
- **Gas mains to be replaced in 24 streets**

A major National Grid project to upgrade gas mains in Letchworth is underway that will keep gas flowing to homes and businesses for the rest of the century.

In the essential gas pipe upgrade, expected to take until the start of April 2017, engineers are renewing the gas pipes in 24 roads in Letchworth.

National Grid Authorising Engineer Dilbir Chana said: "This is a major investment project that will help ensure that people in Letchworth continue to enjoy safe and reliable gas supply for many decades to come.

"It's part of an ongoing programme to modernise Letchworth's gas network.

"We're sorry for any inconvenience the work may cause. We will make every effort to minimise any disruption and complete the project as soon as possible. We really appreciate people's patience and co-operation."

Work has already been completed in Northfields and Eastern Way and is due to take place in the following streets during 2016: Gaunts Way, Maycroft, Whitehicks, Sparhawke, Kimberley, Stoneley, Northfields, Eastern Way, Ordelmere, Heathermere, Sherwood, Midhurst and Western Way. The project will continue during 2017 in Ashdown, Ridge Road, Ridge Avenue, Pixmore Way, Geron Road, Rowland Way, Broadway, Olden Mead, Newlands, Willian Way and Rookes Close.

It is not expected that traffic management will be needed. However, National Grid is liaising with the local authority and will keep people updated if any traffic management is required.

Gas engineers may need access to homes and businesses to replace service pipes (the pipes that take gas from the main in the road to individual properties). This work will involve temporarily interrupting the gas supply and anyone who is affected will be notified beforehand.

All National Grid engineers carry official identity cards, which people should ask to see before allowing them on their property.

For any enquiries about this work people should contact National Grid's customer services team on 0800 096 5678. To find out more about how National Grid replaces gas mains and how that affects residents and businesses go to www.bettergaspipes.co.uk.

Contact for media information only

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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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