

Vital gas mains upgrade set to benefit Oundle

National Grid renewing gas pipes in Oundle

27 Jun 2016

- **Road closure necessary in East Road**
- **Work will keep gas flowing for the rest of the century**

A major National Grid gas mains replacement project is due to start on Monday 4 July to help ensure that homes and businesses in Oundle continue to enjoy safe and reliable gas supplies for the rest of the century.

National Grid will be upgrading nearly two kilometres of gas main in East Road. The project is expected to take nine weeks and will involve replacing the existing iron gas mains with new, hard wearing plastic pipes that have a lifespan of at least 80 years.

To carry out the work safely it will be necessary to close East Road during the project. However access to homes and businesses will be maintained at all times.

Waitrose Supermarket will be open for business as usual and can be accessed via a signed diversion route. There will also be access to the Eastwood Industrial Estate.

National Grid Authorising Engineer Mark Allsop said: "This is a vital project to ensure that the residents and businesses in Oundle continue to enjoy a safe and reliable gas supply for many years to come.

"We're sorry for any inconvenience the work may cause. We'll make every effort to minimise disruption and to complete this project as quickly as possible. We would like to thank people for their patience and co-operation during the work."

Gas engineers may need access to 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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