

Digging beneath the Thames: National Grid invites public to find out more about new gas mains project

Exhibitions on plans for new gas pipe under River Thames

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- National Grid to lay a new gas pipe under the Thames as part of its essential gas mains replacement work in London
- Project will include work in Battersea and Chelsea
- Two public information sessions to be held on Friday June 10 and Monday June 13

National Grid is inviting the local community to get the lowdown on a new tunnelling project that will help ensure Londoners keep on enjoying safe and reliable gas supplies.

As part of its ongoing work to replace London's gas supply system National Grid will be digging a tunnel under the River Thames to lay a gas pipeline from Chelsea to Battersea.

The work will also involve installing new equipment in the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea and in Battersea Park. This equipment will be mainly underground, with a small kiosk half a metre long and one metre high, and a three-metre-tall pipe above ground. Temporary construction compounds will also be set up in the Royal Hospital Chelsea grounds and in the north-east corner of Battersea Park.

Subject to agreement it's planned to carry out the work in two stages between September 2016 and March 2017 and between September 2017 and March 2018.

National Grid will be holding two public exhibitions so the local community can meet the project team, see detailed plans and ask questions.

The exhibitions will take place at:

- Chelsea Old Town Hall, Kings Road, SW3 5EE on Friday 10 June 2pm to 7pm
- Battersea Park Conference Room, Herb Garden/Staff Yard, Battersea Park SW11 4NJ (nearest entrance is Albert Gate on Albert Bridge Road) on Monday 13 June 3pm to 8pm

Andrew Hejdner, National Grid's Project Manager, said: "Our work will help make sure local homes and businesses keep on enjoying safe and reliable energy supplies to help support the capital's growth.

"We're planning the work in close discussion with the local authorities and others and will do all we can to make sure we deliver it with as little disruption as possible."

He added: "I'd like to encourage local residents to come and meet us at one of our information events where they can find out more about the work."

National Grid is working closely with the landowners and their representatives, the Royal Hospital Chelsea, Battersea Park, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the London Borough of Wandsworth, to plan and agree the work.

For more information on the events call 0800 389 8261 or email nationalgrid@londongasmains.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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