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Gas holders set to disappear from Wolverhampton skyline

Two gas holders are to be dismantled in Wolverhampton as part of National Grid's programme to replace them with modern forms of gas storage.

30 Oct 2018

- **National Grid dismantles two disused gasholders at Mammoth Drive, Wolverhampton**
- **Site within an Employment Development Opportunity Area**
- **Gasholder dismantling work will unlock redevelopment potential at the site**

Work to dismantle two gasholders has started at National Grid's Mammoth Drive site in Wolverhampton, just weeks after the company announced the removal of two structures at Swan Lane in West Bromwich.

The Wolverhampton gasholders once played an essential role in making sure local homes had a reliable gas supply. They were filled with gas during times of low demand so that they could feed into the local network of pipes at times of peak demand. Now, new techniques developed by National Grid allow gas to be compressed and stored inside gas pipes. This means that the old holders are no longer needed and can be removed to free up the site for potential future development.

Jonathan King, National Grid project manager, said: "Our Mammoth Drive site is within an Employment Development Opportunity Area as identified by the City of Wolverhampton Council. The gasholders are no longer in use and their removal will unlock redevelopment potential. Ultimately, we expect this will help to bring high-end manufacturing employment opportunities to the area."

The site is understood to have been developed around the late 1930's with the first gasholder built around 1938 and the second between 1948-1950.

Jonathan concluded: "Removing the two gasholders will be a complex job and we're using highly skilled engineers to carry out the work. We'll keep the local community informed as our work progresses."

National Grid expects to complete the dismantling work towards the end of January 2019.

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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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