

Gas mains upgrade in Northampton town centre

National Grid to replace gas mains in Northampton town centre

26 Apr 2016

- **Work will keep gas flowing for the rest of the century**
- **Parking spaces temporarily suspended**

A four-week project to keep gas flowing to businesses in Northampton town centre for the rest of the century is due to start on 3 May.

National Grid will be renewing 200 metres of gas mains in Castilian Street, Derngate and St Giles Street. Ageing iron mains will be replaced with tough new plastic pipes that will last for at least 80 years once they are in the ground.

To carry out the work safely, a number of parking spaces will need to be temporarily suspended while the work is under way.

Mark Allsop, National Grid Authorising Engineer, said: "National Grid plays a vital role in keeping people warm and this essential work will mean that local businesses can continue to enjoy a safe and reliable gas supply for many years to come.

"We will make every effort to reduce any disruption to the local community and complete this work as soon as possible. We really appreciate people's patience and co-operation."

Gas engineers may need access to properties 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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