

Gas works in Sutton Coldfield

Essential gas works start in Sutton Coldfield

06 May 2016

- Twelve week gas mains renewal work starts next week
- Old metal mains to be replaced with modern plastic pipe
- Work will ensure a safe and reliable gas supply for the future

National Grid is starting work next week replacing the old metal gas mains in Sutton Coldfield town centre. The work will start in The Parade before moving into Mill Street, High Street and Victoria Street. The project is expected to take around 12 weeks to complete.

The 16" diameter metal mains have now reached the end of their working life and need to be renewed. They will be replaced with new hard-wearing plastic pipe which, once in the ground will last for several generations and will need little or no maintenance meaning any future disruption from roadworks will be greatly reduced.

Steve Murray, National Grid's head of network said: "There is never a good time to dig up the roads especially in busy town centres and I realise this work is likely to cause some disruption. But, I ask shoppers and motorists to bear with us while we carry out this essential work which is needed to make sure residents and traders in the area will continue to receive a safe and reliable gas supply for many years to come."

During the work, residents and traders wanting more information can call the customer helpline on 0114 232 8095. To find out more about how National Grid replaces gas mains and how that affects residents and businesses go to www.bettersgaspipes.co.uk.

Ends

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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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