

National Grid puts Forthquarter site including Granton gasholder on the market

- 40 acres of prime land for residential led mixed-use development in 'The Forthquarter', Edinburgh Waterfront
- Land sale continues National Grid's vision to regenerate the Granton area to deliver much needed family housing
- Interested parties will need to demonstrate their ability to repair the listed Granton gasholder

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National Grid has put 40-acres of land in 'The Forthquarter' on the market for residential led mixed-use development. The land is an exceptional opportunity to develop much needed housing to meet unsatisfied demand in the Edinburgh market. The site – which includes the Granton gasholder – has been put up for sale in a bid to identify whether there is a potential buyer with the means and ability to both develop the site and find a creative approach to repairing the listed gasholder.

There is an opportunity for a new alternative use of the gasholder which complements the regeneration objectives of the wider area. The purchaser of the land must be able to demonstrate that they are able to repair the structure.

Benjamin Gaunt, from National Grid Property, said: "National Grid is keen to unlock the potential of this area and bring forward much needed family housing for the city. To do that, we need to address the situation with the disused gasholder. We have asked for consent to remove the gasholder which is now redundant to National Grid's operational requirements.

"As part of its consideration of the application to remove the holder, the City of Edinburgh Council and Historic Environment Scotland have asked us to market the gasholder and surrounding site to ascertain whether there is any interest from a purchaser willing and able to develop the site and repair the gasholder. As current owners, we are obliged to ensure that any interested parties are credible buyers and are able to invest appropriately in the repair of the gasholder."

Cushman & Wakefield marketing agent, James Thomson, said "Edinburgh's thriving economy and resultant population growth is putting significant pressure on residential land supply. The Forthquarter is one of the very few opportunities to acquire a significant serviced land holding in a location within a short distance of the city centre and where more affordable product can be developed."

National Grid, which owns the Forthquarter site, has reiterated its commitment to bring forward its own plans for redevelopment of the site if a suitable purchaser does not come forward.

Benjamin Gaunt added: "The marketing of this site offers an opportunity for a developer to come forward and play a critical role in the development of Edinburgh's waterfront. However, if following the marketing process no suitable purchaser has come forward, we will continue to play our role in regenerating the Forthquarter and will work with developers to enable the delivery of much-needed housing and apply for the demolition of the gasholder."

ENDS

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

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More information:

The marketing material for the site can be found at <http://www.forthquarterland.co.uk/>

Granton gasholders:

Known as the 'No. 1' gasholder the structure, a watersealed type, was originally one of three gasholders at Granton. No. 2 gasholder, a MAN type, was located on the west side of No. 1 with No. 3, also a MAN type, on the east. Both No. 2 and No. 3 were demolished between 2002 and 2004. The No 1 gasholder is now decommissioned.

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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