

New Year heralds start of new gas mains for Wisbech

January sees the start of a major gas mains upgrade for Wisbech that will ensure safe and reliable gas supplies for local people for decades to come.

23 Dec 2014

National Grid will be renewing the gas mains in Old Market, Chapel Road, Castle Mews, Bridge Street, York Row, Post Office Lane. Work is due to start on 5 January and is expected to take 11 weeks. The existing iron gas mains will be replaced with tough plastic pipes that have a lifespan of at least 80 years.

To keep engineers and road-users safe, traffic management measures will be in place. There will be temporary traffic lights at The Chase, Chapel Road and at the side of the bank at Old Market. Temporary traffic lights will also be needed on Bridge Street at the junction of Nene Quay.

There will also be road closures which will include Post Office Lane and Alexandra Road. Pedestrian access will be maintained.

Further details about the programme of work will be available, as the project gets under way.

National Grid authorising engineer Vince Doggett said: "This is essential work so that local residents can continue to benefit from safe and reliable gas supplies for many years in the future. To complete the project as quickly as possible and to minimise any disruption our work may cause we will be working seven days a week for most of the project."

As part of the work we will be replacing 'service pipes'. These are the pipes that take gas from the gas main in the street to individual homes. We will contact residents in advance if we need to carry out this work at properties.

If members of the public have any queries or concerns they can call National Grid customer services on 0800 0965678.

- 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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United States

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> [Operating responsibly](#)

> [Gas](#)

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