

New Year, new gas mains for Thetford

January will usher in a major revamp of Thetford's gas mains that will ensure safe and reliable gas supplies for local people until the end of the century.

23 Dec 2014

National Grid will be renewing almost a kilometre of gas mains in the town centre. Work is due to start on 5 January and is expected to take until the end of March. The existing iron gas mains will be replaced with tough plastic pipes that have a lifespan of at least 80 years.

National Grid authorising engineer Vince Doggett said: "This is essential work that will ensure Thetford residents and businesses can continue to benefit from safe and reliable gas supplies for decades to come. We will make every effort to minimize any disruption caused by our work."

Gas mains will be renewed in St Nicholas Street, Bridge Street, Minstergate, White Hart Street, King Street, Market Place, Guildhall Street, Well Street, Castle Street and Rampart Way.

Work will start on 5 January in St Nicholas Street. Temporary traffic lights will be in place to keep engineers and road-users safe. Further details about the programme of work will be available as the project gets under way.

Mr Doggett added: "We apologise for any inconvenience. We are liaising with the highways authority to keep everyone safe while we carry out this essential work."

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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