

New Year rings in gas mains upgrade for Sywell and Overstone

National Grid renewing over two kilometres of pipes in Sywell and Overstone

04 Jan 2016

- **Work will keep gas flowing until the end of the century**
- **Temporary traffic lights on Sywell Road and Overstone Road**

The New Year heralds a gas mains upgrade in Sywell and Overstone, Northamptonshire, that will keep the gas flowing to homes and businesses until the end of the century.

National Grid will be installing 2,248 metres of new pipes – approximately a mile-and-a-half. The existing iron mains will be replaced with tough, long-lasting plastic pipes that will last for at least 80 years.

Work starts today (4 January) and is expected to be completed by mid-April. The gas mains will be renewed in the following roads: Overstone Road, Bembridge Close and Park Close in Sywell and Sywell Road and Woodland Avenue in Overstone.

To carry out the work safely, temporary traffic lights will be needed while the project is under way. The traffic lights will initially be stationed in Sywell Road, Overstone and will move along into Overstone Road, Sywell, as each stretch of gas main is replaced.

National Grid authorising engineer Mark Allsop said: "This is essential work that will ensure that local people continue to enjoy a safe and reliable gas supply for decades to come. For the safety of our workers and the public, temporary traffic lights will be needed.

"We are sorry for any inconvenience caused but we would urge people to bear with us while we complete this essential work. We will make every effort to minimise any disruption and complete the work as soon as possible."

For any queries about this work people should contact National Grid's customer services team on 0800 096 5678.

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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