

## Ramblers diverted for gas works

07 Sep 2016

- Gas mains renewal work along footpath expected to take six months
- 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 replacing a worn-out section of gas pipe running along the Old Railway Track footpath between Oakamoor and Alton. So that work can be carried out safely and in the shortest possible time, a short section of the footpath will be closed and the walkers diverted.

This essential work to replace nearly four kilometres of gas main is expected to last for six months. During the work, walkers will be diverted off the footpath and across a bridge over the works. The Ramblers Retreat tearoom in Alton will remain open as usual.

The old metal main has now reached the end of its working life and needs to be renewed. It 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 will be greatly reduced.

Steve Murray, National Grid's head of network said: "Most of our gas mains run under roads and we have occasionally have to divert motorists so we can carry out our work. We very rarely have to divert walkers! There is never a good time to carry out work in areas as popular as this but I ask the walkers and visitors to bear with us while we carry out this essential work which is needed to make sure the local gas supply remains safe and reliable for many years to come."

During the work, further information can be found by calling 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.bettergaspipes.co.uk](http://www.bettergaspipes.co.uk).

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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>

National Grid undertakes no obligation to update any of the information contained in this release, which speaks only as at the date of this release, unless required by law or regulation.

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