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Photographers document dismantling of Macclesfield landmark

Amateur photographers visit National Grid site to document dismantling of historic gas holder

29 Jul 2016

- Local photographers visit local landmark before dismantling
- Two gasholders to be removed at the site on Black Lane
- Holders have helped keep local homes warm for 150 years

A local camera club visited the soon to be decommissioned gasholder site on the outskirts of Macclesfield Town Centre to document the one of the two iconic structures before they are removed this year.

The Macclesfield Alternative Camera Club (MACC) visited the site on Wednesday 20th July to photograph the gasholder in Black Lane.

Technological advances mean that after 150 years the iconic gasholders are coming down.

Used by locals to fuel their homes and businesses for generations, these structures have come to the end of their lifespans and their removal will provide valuable land for brownfield regeneration.

MACC member Dr David Boam said: "We were delighted to be allowed on to the site by National Grid to take some pictures of this Macclesfield landmark.

"The site has been out of use for some years so we were pleased to be able to document this piece of Victorian engineering before it comes down later this year.

"The group captured some fantastic images and we are happy to have a record of this landmark of local character. We hope the photographs will serve as a reminder of part of Macclesfield's industrial history."

Site Manager Paul Holohan said: "This is an iconic structure in Macclesfield. We were delighted to allow MACC on site to get some photographs before the removal.

"The gasholders haven't been used for several years and the decommissioning work is part of National Grid's commitment to regenerate the site for future use"

Work on decommissioning the gasholders began on the site on the 20th June and is expected to be completed by January 2017.

The Macclesfield Alternative Camera Club was set up by four like-minded photographers in Macclesfield; this group is about having somewhere to interact with other photographers whether amateur or professional. The group meets fortnightly on Wednesday's, from 7pm till 9pm. For more information you can visit their website - <http://www.tmacc.co.uk/>.

National Grid's Community Relations Team are available to answer any questions about the ongoing work and can be reached on Freephone 0808 168 7590 or by emailing nationalgrid@macclesfieldgasholders.com.

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

Macclesfield:

- The work at Macclesfield is to remove two gasholders.
- National Grid has no current plans for the future use of the gasholder site.
- The work will be undertaken by National Grid's contractor KCD Contractors Limited.
- The work is expected to last until January 2017.

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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