

# Rochdale gas holders set for demolition

Holders not been in use since 2013

**18 Dec 2014**

- National Grid is dismantling and removing two of the three gasholders at its Church Street site in Rochdale.
- This is part of a national programme to regenerate gasholder sites for future use.

National Grid has started work to remove two gasholders in Rochdale as part of a nationwide programme to clear redundant industrial sites for future use.

The first stage will involve taking down two of the three gasholders at the Church Street site, just outside of Rochdale town centre. The company expects that the first gasholder will be removed by March 2015, and the second by summer 2015. National Grid will firm up plans to remove the third gasholder at a later date.

The site and surrounding area has a rich history in securing Rochdale's gas supply. The gasholders once formed part of the expansive Rochdale Gasworks, opened in 1824 and the catalyst for lighting up the town's streets with gas lamps.

As demand for gas increased, so too did the site. The two gasholders that National Grid is dismantling were built in 1949 and 1954 and replaced previous, smaller holders on the site in a bid to cope with anticipated post-war demand.

Today, gasholders are no longer needed due to investments made to improve the national network, meaning gas can be stored in the pipe system or underground. The gasholders in Rochdale have not been used since 2013.

Land Regeneration Manager, Matthew Pearce, said:

"It has been several years since the gasholders were last used and our work is the next step in cleaning up this redundant site. You only have to look at the surrounding area to see how much it has been transformed since the heyday of the Rochdale Gasworks.

"Although there are no specific plans for the site at the moment, we hope that regeneration will breathe new life into the area at some point in the future.

"Our team will aim to carry out the work as quickly and efficiently as we can and we will be sure to update the surrounding community and neighbours throughout the work."

National Grid's Community Relations Team are available to answer any questions about the project and can be reached on Freephone 0808 168 7590 or by emailing [nationalgrid@rochdalegasholders.com](mailto:nationalgrid@rochdalegasholders.com).

**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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