

## Scheme to protect vital gas pipeline in Stockport receives praise

National Grid engineers have shored up a section of the bank of the River Tame near Stockport to protect a gas pipeline supplying the Manchester area. Their work has been praised by the Friends of Reddish Vale.

28 Sep 2015

- **National Grid carries out £250,000 riverbank improvement scheme on Tame after erosion threatens pipeline**
- **Gas supplies to homes and businesses in Stockport and Denton safeguarded by work**
- **Friends of Reddish Vale praise efforts and welcome contribution toward tree planting on the river banks**

National Grid engineers have finished work on a £250,000 project to shore up the banks of the River Tame after erosion threatened the safety of a high pressure gas pipe running between Stockport and Denton.

The banks of the river at Reddish Vale had become eroded and this posed a risk to the 24 inch diameter iron pipe which is one of the main pipes supplying gas to the Manchester area. After discussions with the Environment Agency and Stockport Council, National Grid drew up plans to improve the river bank by using rock armour which involved bringing in a team of divers to do work to install it where the pipe crossed the river bed.

The work garnered the praise of the Friends of Reddish Vale and the group was so impressed with the work done by the National Grid team that they have arranged the installation of a plaque on the site to mark completion of the work. National Grid has also agreed to made a donation towards the cost of planting trees along a 110 metre stretch of the river bank to further improve its stability.

James Massey, Network Supervisor for National Grid said: "This gas pipe is a vital link in the network of high pressure mains supplying the Stockport, Denton and Manchester area. The flow of the river had eroded the banks and this could, in time, have caused damage to the pipe. We've now managed to shore them up so that they support the pipe. We've worked closely with the Friends of Reddish Vale and they have taken a keen interest in our project. We've pleased that they are happy with the work we have done and are delighted to be able to support their work to carry out tree planting along the river banks.

Dr John Cameron from Friends of the Vale said "Friends of the Vale acknowledges the financial and other contributions that National Grid, Northern Divers and Stockport Council made beyond the minimum requirements that enabled a sustainable outcome to be achieved over the entire length of affected riverbank. We also appreciate the active involvement and co-operative approach taken by the Environment Agency at all stages."

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Notes for editors

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#### 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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