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The heat is on as Blackpool gets set for gas pipe revamp

Gas mains renewal set for Church Street, Blackpool

24 Jan 2017

- **Work will keep gas supplies flowing for decades to come**
- **Continued access for pedestrians throughout the work**

Strictly contestants may have been feeling the heat at Blackpool's Tower Ballroom but National Grid is making sure they always get a warm welcome at the much-loved seaside resort.

The company is installing brand new gas mains in Church Street, outside the town's legendary Winter Gardens, so that local homes and businesses can stay warm and safe until the end of the century.

Work started yesterday (23 January) and is expected to take five weeks. Engineers will be replacing ageing iron mains with tough new plastic pipes that will last for at least 80 years.

The work will not affect traffic as the area is pedestrianized and there will continue to be access for pedestrians at all times.

Access for delivery vehicles may be restricted at times. National Grid has been liaising with local businesses but if anyone has any concerns or specific requirements they can contact National Grid's customer services team on 0161 703 1000.

Stephen Murray, Head of Contract, said: "National Grid plays a vital role in keeping people warm. This essential work will mean that local residents and businesses can continue to enjoy a safe and reliable gas supply for decades to come.

"We are mindful that we will be working in a busy and popular area. We'll do all we can to complete this work as soon as possible and minimise any disruption. We really appreciate people's patience and co-operation while we carry out this essential work."

To find out more about how National Grid replaces gas mains and how that affects residents and businesses go to www.bettergaspipes.co.uk.

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>

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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