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Gas mains upgrade in the pipeline for Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter

Work is underway on a gas mains revamp in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter to keep the gas flowing to local homes and businesses for decades to come.

17 Mar 2017

National Grid is replacing iron gas mains in Newhall Street and Fleet Street with a tough new plastic pipes that will last at least 80 years. Work began last Wednesday (8 March) and is due to take seven weeks.

The first phase of work will take place in Newhall Street and is due to take three weeks. During the second phase of work in Fleet Street, Fleet Street will need to be narrowed and parking spaces will be suspended.

Stephen Murray, Head of Contract for National Grid, said: "National Grid plays an essential role in keeping people warm and industry running. We are investing in new gas pipes that will secure safe and reliable gas supplies for local homes and businesses until the end of the century.

"To keep our staff and road-users safe, we will need to suspend parking spaces in Fleet Street. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused but it is important that we replace this pipe. Once the new plastic pipe is in the ground it will last for decades and require little or no maintenance."

For any enquiries about this work people should contact National Grid's customer services team on 0161 703 1000.

To find out more about National Grid's gas mains replacement work go to www.bettersgaspipes.co.uk.

Contact for media information only

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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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