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Essential work extended: More time for essential power project in Wellington, Shropshire

Unexpected challenges mean essential work will take longer to deliver

20 Sep 2016

- Essential gas mains work in Haybridge Road, Wellington, Telford extended until October 2016
- Unexpected challenges have included having to dismantle a wall and take a diversion to avoid a culvert
- Work will help ensure the local community keep on having a safe and reliable gas supply for cooking and heating.

National Grid Engineers have been given more time to complete essential work to replace old gas mains after they ran into a series of unexpected obstacles.

The project to replace ageing metal gas mains in Haybridge Road, Wellington, Telford, with tough new pipes, began in late July with an initial estimate of seven weeks given to complete the essential work.

However the job has turned out to be much more complex than first thought. Engineers had to obtain permission to dismantle a boundary wall after gas mains were found to extend inside the grounds of a builder's merchant. The wall will be rebuilt once work is complete. An additional 20metres of gas mains has to be laid to avoid a culvert.

Project Manager Chris Ashmore said: "Some maps our planners have to work from are old and of variable accuracy and despite our best efforts sometimes we run up against unexpected things which delay our work."

"I'd like to apologise for any inconvenience caused to residents and thank Telford and Wrekin Council for their understanding."

For more information on the work call 0800 121 4444 or visit www.bettergaspipes.co.uk

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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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