

Essential gas mains upgrade for Wigston, Leicestershire

Essential gas mains upgrade starts on Monday 13

03 Jul 2015

- Work will secure local gas supplies for decades to come
- Temporary traffic lights in Station Road

Monday 13 July will see the start of an essential gas mains revamp in Wigston that will keep gas flowing to local homes and businesses until the end of the century.

National Grid will be upgrading more than 700 metres of gas mains in Station Road and Blaby Road. The project is expected to take six weeks and will involve replacing the existing iron mains with new, hardwearing plastic pipe that has a lifespan of at least 80 years.

To carry out the work safely, there will need to be temporary traffic lights in Station Road while the work is under way and temporary road closures at the junctions of Manor Road and Station Road and Pullman Road and Station Road. The traffic lights will be manned throughout the day, from 6am to 6.30pm, to reduce disruption to motorists.

While the work is underway there will be some temporary changes to the bus stops in Station Road:

- The number 47 bus stop opposite Guthlaxton College will be closed and customers will be directed to one of the other stops nearby.
- The number 48 bus stop outside Guthlaxton College will be closed and a temporary bus stop will be installed further down the road.

National Grid Authorising Engineer Mark Allsop said: "It's our job to connect people to the energy they use and these new gas mains will ensure local residents and businesses continue to enjoy a safe and reliable gas supply for decades to come.

"We recognise that this is a main route through Wigston and we will make every effort to minimize any inconvenience caused by our work. We would advise motorists to leave extra time for their journeys, particularly at morning and evening peak times."

Some local gas service pipes to properties are being replaced and engineers will need access to them to do the work, which will involve a brief interruption of the gas supply. Those affected will be given advance notice.

If anyone has any queries about the work they can contact customer services on 0800 0965678.

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>

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