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Media Statement: Explosion Port Sunlight, Wirral, Merseyside

Port Sunlight media update, 6pm, Sunday 26 March 2017

26 Mar 2017

The cause of this explosion in Boundary Road, Port Sunlight, is still under investigation and it is too early to speculate on what may have caused it.

Our local gas mains network has been checked and no faults have been found on it.

National Grid Gas Distribution Emergency Engineers were called to the scene at 9.15pm last night (Saturday 25 March) and we remain on site today and are working with the emergency services and local authority to make the scene safe and to identify what caused the incident.

The gas supply to the main property involved has been isolated.

If people think they can smell gas they should call 0800 111 999 *all calls are recorded and may be monitored.

Our thoughts are with the injured and we wish them a prompt recovery.

Contact for media information only

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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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