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22 Jul 2016

- National Grid to renew gas mains in Woodbridge Road East, Ipswich
- Work will keep gas flowing for the rest of the century
- Traffic management measures will be in place

Work is due to start next Monday on a major gas mains upgrade in Ipswich to keep gas flowing to homes and businesses until the end of the century.

In a 10-week National Grid engineers will be renewing more than 400 metres of gas mains in Woodbridge Road East. Work is due to start on Monday 1 August is scheduled to take 10 weeks to complete.

To enable this essential work to be carried out safely and in the shortest time possible traffic management measures will be in place throughout the project. This will involve lane closures in Woodbridge Lane East between Heath Road and Colchester Road.

Access to Ipswich Hospital and Ambulance Centre, as well as to homes and businesses, will be maintained at all times. It will also be business as usual for local shops.

National Grid Authorising Engineer Vince Doggett said: "This is a vital project to ensure that the residents and businesses in the Ipswich area continue to enjoy a safe and reliable gas supply for many years to come

"We appreciate that this is a main route through Ipswich and we will make every effort to minimise any inconvenience caused by our work. We have planned the project during the summer school holidays as there is less traffic on the roads. However, we would still advise motorists to leave extra time for their journeys, particularly at morning and evening peak times. We would like to thank people for their patience and co-operation."

Gas engineers may need access to homes and businesses to replace service pipes (the pipes that take gas from the main in the road to individual properties). This work will involve temporarily interrupting the gas supply and anyone who is affected will be notified beforehand.

All National Grid engineers carry official identity cards, which people should ask to see before allowing them on their property.

For any enquiries about this work people should contact National Grid's customer services team on 0800 096 5678. To find out more about how National Grid replaces gas mains and how that affects residents and businesses go to www.bettergaspipes.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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