National Grid System Operator holds first Future of Gas Steering Group

Leaders from across the UK gas industry are coming together this week to discuss plans and priorities for evolving the gas market over the next 10 years.

The Future of Gas Steering Group – which is independently chaired by National Grid System Operator – will provide leadership and strategic direction to the first Gas Markets Plan (GMaP), which is due to be published later this year.

Representatives from a wide range of gas industry stakeholder groups, including Ofgem and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), are part of the group which is set to meet in London on Wednesday 11 September.

Gas will continue to play a crucial role in the UK energy mix, both for domestic heating and industrial users, and remains a critical energy source for many which is delivered safety and reliably all year round.

The Steering Group stems from National Grid's Future of Gas programme, which sets out how gas can support a low carbon future, and will meet regularly with the next session scheduled for early next year.

In its inaugural meeting this week, the Steering Group will provide insights and leadership on how the gas industry should evolve markets over the next ten years to continue to provide great value for consumers, and to support the government's decarbonisation targets.

New technologies such as hydrogen and biogases – and how they might impact market frameworks – are also expected to be key topics of discussion.

Chris Logue, Gas Market Change Delivery Manager at National Grid System Operator, said:

"I am excited and honoured to be chairing the first meeting of the Future of Gas Steering Group.

I firmly believe that gas will continue to be a major pillar in the nation's energy mix for decades to come but the industry needs to manage a period of unprecedented change as it de-carbonises.

We hope that by developing the Gas Market Plan, in conjunction with a broad range of industry stakeholders, a clearer vision of the path ahead will emerge and we can start to generate some real momentum, with the ultimate aim of ensuring market changes and policy decisions maximise consumer value."

ENDS

Notes to editors

A full list of Steering Group members can be found on the <u>Future of Gas</u> website. Among its representatives are:

- consumer, environmental and local government groups;
- technology and manufacturing companies;
- research and innovation organisations;

- gas networks;physical connections and shippers;policymakers such as BEIS and Ofgem.