

In the pipeline

Gas to the West news



A major energy infrastructure project to extend the benefits of natural gas to Coalisland, Cookstown, Derrylin, Dungannon, Enniskillen, Magherafelt, Omagh and Strabane.

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Hello

Welcome to the second edition of the Gas to the West project newsletter.

A milestone step was taken recently in the delivery of the project when work began on the construction of two sections of the pipeline between Maydown and Strabane, signalling a major boost to energy users throughout the west of Northern Ireland.

We believe that there will be many benefits coming from the Gas to the West project, not just in helping the local economy but also in attracting businesses and jobs.

We are very proud to have been appointed to build and operate the new gas network and are now fully focused on building the new infrastructure in a safe and efficient manner.

Thanks,

Paddy Larkin Chief Executive Mutual Energy	Danny O'Malley Director SGN Natural Gas
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Public information events

Over the last couple of months, executive members from both Mutual Energy and SGN along with the project delivery team, environmental impact assessors and agricultural liaison officers have been visiting local towns to engage with the public, landowners and community officials as part of the pre-application community consultation.

In this first phase of the consultation process, these public events look to inform communities about the project, obtain their views and gather information that may be relevant to the pipeline route selection and assessment of any potential impacts.

These events took place in Augher, Dungannon, Enniskillen, Magherafelt, Omagh and Portadown and were attended by over 200 people including elected representatives, local Chamber of Commerce members and landowners.

In addition to the manned public consultation events, unmanned display boards, information leaflets and feedback forms were also available at 13 locations along the route, bringing information to communities that are more isolated from main public events.

The second phase of consultation will be undertaken in early spring 2016 when the pipeline route has been further developed.



Continuous engagement

The project partners will continue to work with key project stakeholders, including local elected representatives, local councils, government departments, agencies and representative bodies, where a key part of this engagement will be around the planning and consenting process.

March 2016 will see the commencement of Phase 2 of the pre-application community consultation process where we will be holding another series of events where anyone who has an involvement with or an interest in the project can come along and speak to key members of the project team to access more information on the project as we build relationships in the local communities to make Gas to the West a reality.

Looking after our landowners and farmers

Landowner leaflets have been produced and circulated to all potentially affected landowners to provide information on the project.

The Landowner Code of Practice and compensation package information, which has been agreed and supported by the UFU and NIAPA, has been circulated to all landowners who may be affected by the project and discussions continue with our land agents.

Strabane works commence

We welcome the appointment of contractor McNicholas, who have commenced work on the Maydown to Strabane section of the pipeline.

McNicholas have been successfully delivering innovative infrastructure solutions to blue chip clients across the utilities sector for more than 65 years and can provide gas infrastructure solutions for both domestic and commercial developments.

The event was marked by the Mayor of Derry City and Strabane, Councillor Elisha McCallion, along with the Minister for Environment, Mark H Durkan. Local MPs, MLAs, councillors and business representatives also attended an informal gathering in Ballymagorry to meet the project team and gain information about the activity going on in the surrounding area.



Ongoing works

Work commenced on Trench Road and Leckpatrick Road and will continue until Christmas 2015. Work is then scheduled along the remainder of the route until October 2016.

We are coordinating with the roads services, utility companies and many other agencies to ensure any disruption is kept to a minimum and residents, local businesses and commuters are kept well informed.

Letters and accompanying information leaflets have been sent to all households and businesses along the route outlining the works in the area and how they can get in touch with us, and a 24 hour contact number, **0800 975 7774**, is displayed at work sites to ensure anyone with a query can easily make contact with us.

Business plan for developing the low pressure gas network

In late October, SGN Natural Gas submitted their proposed business plan for the development of our low pressure gas network in the west of Northern Ireland to the regulator for consideration. This can be viewed on SGN Natural Gas website under 'Bringing Gas to the West' and 'Project documents'.

The document itself provides some background to the project and explains the key elements of our plan, the outputs and incentives surrounding it and how our engagement with stakeholders has influenced its development.

Coming soon...

- Phase 2 of pre-application community consultation
- Construction of the Maydown offtake
- Next phase of Maydown to Strabane

For more information on Gas to the West



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