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Final media statement 3 - Explosion Port Sunlight, Wirral, Merseyside

**26 Mar 2017**

National Grid Gas Distribution emergency engineers were called to a report of an explosion on Boundary Road, Port Sunlight, Wirral, Merseyside on Saturday evening. (25th March 2017 at 21:15)

Our gas emergency engineers will remain on site until 11pm this evening, after completing the isolation of the gas network in the area of the damaged buildings.

The police are now investigating the cause of the explosion and have declared the affected property a scene of crime.

We have checked the local gas pipe network in the area and no faults have been found.

Our gas emergency engineers will return tomorrow morning to assist the police with their investigation. Once the work requested by the police is completed, we will leave the site. The police will be investigating the cause of this incident.

The gas supply to up to 30 properties have been isolated as a safety precaution only, due to the damage to these properties.

If you smell gas, call immediately the national gas emergency service on 0800 111 999*

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

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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