

Pipelines and gas supply industry: GB major accident hazard pipeline networks 'Dial before you dig' information



Background

Networks of major accident hazard pipelines (MAH pipelines or MAHPs) are used to safely transport hazardous substances around Great Britain; however third party damage to MAH pipelines by landowners, utility and construction contractors and others poses a risk to workers and the public. In July 2004, 25 people died and more than 150 were seriously injured in Ghislenghien, Belgium following construction damage to a high pressure gas pipeline.

Anyone planning an excavation in the vicinity of a MAH pipeline should contact the pipeline operator **at least 7 days before the start of any work**. MAH pipelines are usually buried between 1 and 1.5 metres underground and can be identified by surface marker posts.

MAH pipelines and the gas Distribution Networks

Pipelines conveying natural gas at pressures above 7 bar are classified as MAH pipelines. National Grid Gas plc and four other gas Distribution Network owners operate regional networks, which include 15,000 km of MAH pipelines. The 'dial-before-you-dig' contact numbers for the gas Distribution Networks are shown on page 3 of this document and anyone planning an excavation in these areas should contact the relevant gas Distribution Network operator before starting work.

High Pressure Transmission Gas Pipelines

National Grid Gas plc also operates the National Transmission System (NTS) which delivers gas to the Distribution Networks and other large consumers such as power stations and industrial sites. The NTS comprises 6,000 km of gas pipelines ranging in pressure from 38 to 85 bar. The layout of the NTS is shown on page 4 of this document. Anyone planning an excavation in the vicinity of NTS pipelines should contact National Grid Gas on **0800 731 2961** or via Linesearch (<http://www.linesearch.org>).

Other MAH pipelines and hazardous pipelines

Linesearch provides a free online pipeline location service for thousands of Km of buried gas, petrochemical and oil pipelines in England, Scotland and Wales.

The pipelines and operators covered by Linesearch are shown on page 3 of this document. Linesearch can be contacted on 0870 403 6484 or online at <http://www.linesearch.org>.

Other useful links:

National Grid Gas - Gas Pipelines - Who to Contact

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Gas/Safety/work/>

Scotia Gas Networks - Dig Safely

http://www.scotiagasnetworks.co.uk/index.aspx?rightColHeader=12&rightColContent=15&rightColFooter=237&id=90&TierSlicer1_TSMMenuTargetID=90&TierSlicer1_TSMMenuTargetType=1&TierSlicer1_TSMMenuID=6

Northern Gas Networks - Dial Before You Dig

<http://www.northerngasnetworks.co.uk/cms/28.html>

Wales & West Utilities - Dial Before You Dig

<http://www.wwutilities.co.uk/DialBeforeYouDig.asp?GroupKeyPos=02,03>

UKOPA - Pipeline Excavation Safety

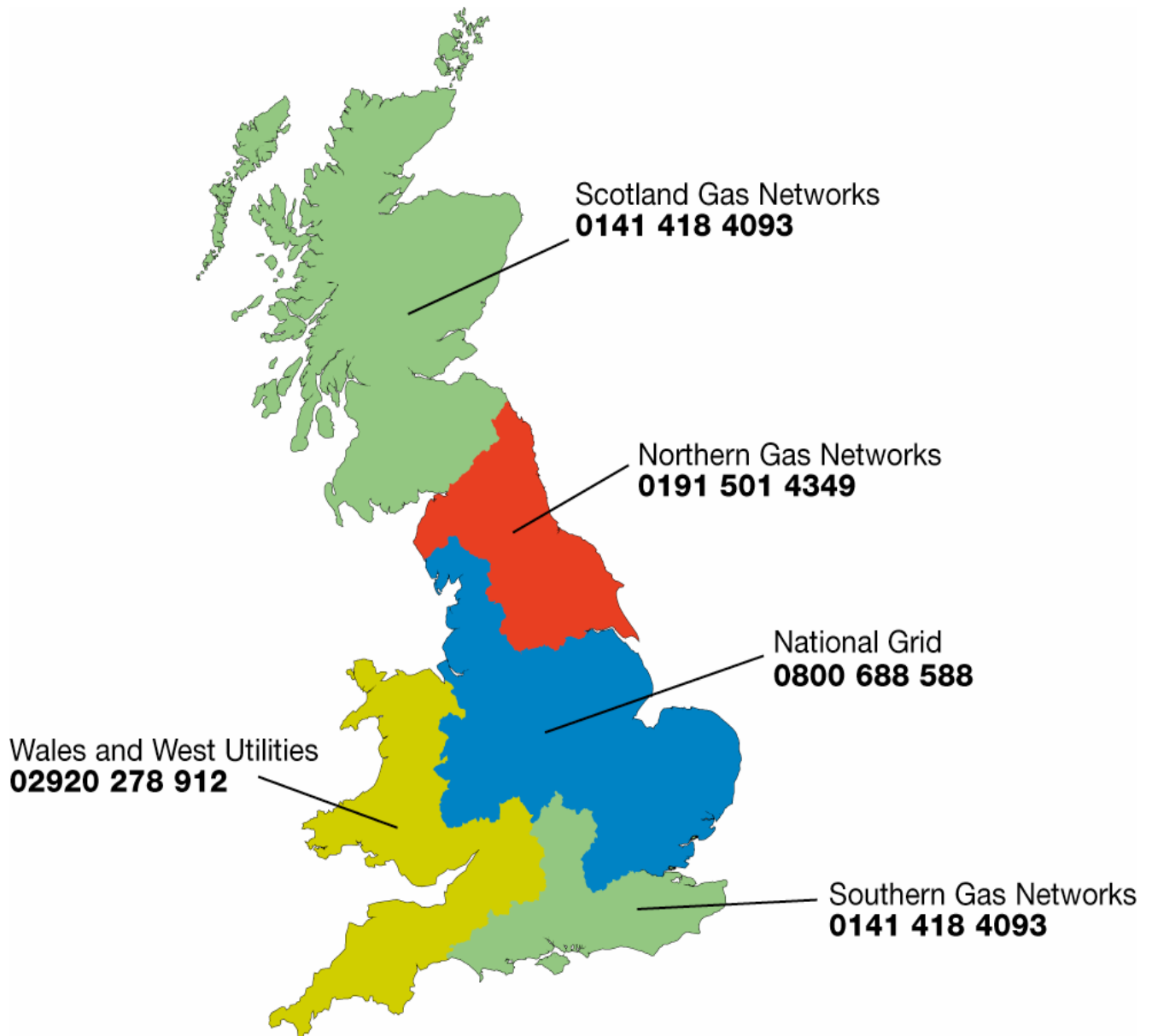
<http://www.ukopa.co.uk/pipeline-safety-excavation.html>

Linewatch - Safety

<http://www.linewatch.co.uk/safety.htm>

For further information contact HSE's Gas and Pipelines Unit on 0114 291 2392 or go to HSE's 'Pipelines health and safety: Information' webpage at www.hse.gov.uk/pipelines/information

MAH pipelines and the gas Distribution Networks



High Pressure Transmission Gas Pipelines



Other MAH pipelines and hazardous pipelines

Linesearch.org



www.linesearch.org

MEMBERS

- . BP EXPLORATION PSP
- . BP TSEP
- . BPA
- . BT GEO NETWORK
- . CENTRICA ENERGY
- . CONOCOPHILLIPS LTD HUMBER REFINERY
- . CONOCOPHILLIPS (UK) LTD
- . CORYTON ENERGY CO LTD (Gas Pipeline)
- . E-ON UK LTD (Gas Pipelines Only)
- . ESSO PETROLEUM CO LTD
- . GOVERNMENT PIPELINES & STORAGE SYSTEM
- . MAINLINE PIPELINES LTD
- . MANCHESTER JETLINE LTD
- . NATIONAL GRID -
(National Gas and Electricity Transmission Networks)
This does not include National Grid's or other's local high pressure (above 7 bar) gas pipelines and lower pressure gas pipes and gas mains.
- . NPOWER CHP PIPELINES
- . PREMIER TRANSMISSION LTD (SNIP)
- . SABIC UK PETROCHEMICALS
- . SCOTTISH POWER GENERATION LTD
- . SHELL UK LTD
- . TOTAL UK



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This is a schematic plan to be used for illustrative purposes only and should not be relied upon.