

Media Release No. 3

10 February 2020: 1100 hours

Gas Supply Outage in Whanganui

The following is an update to our media statement of 1600hrs on Sunday 9 February 2020.

A total of 263 consumer supplies are within the affected area and have now been isolated and turned off at the meter. In each instance a GasNet representative will have either spoken with the occupier or left a card in the mailbox advising that the supply has been disconnected. Consumers who have no gas and have had no contact or a card are advised to contact GasNet urgently.

The updated list of properties that are affected are listed below. Similarly, consumers who have no gas and are not within the areas listed are advised to contact GasNet urgently.

Now that all supplies have been isolated GasNet will be progressively disconnecting sections within the area and purging the water from the pipes. In order to maximise utilisation of available resources it is planned to use civil contractors to excavate holes to expose the pipes and then GasNet and contractor Technicians to undertake the purging and commissioning operations.

Current estimates suggest that in excess of 60 holes will need to be excavated over coming days to expose the gas pipes, at road intersections within the affected area and at some locations in between. Public safety is a focus in undertaking this work and road users are asked to be vigilant when driving past these sites.

A number of excavations have already been completed in College Estate and it is expected to commence purging within this area later today. There is a supply point adjacent to this area at a GasNet District Regulator Station in Liverpool Street from which a stable and reliable gas supply can be introduced into the network once the water has been removed. Excavations will then commence from the two extremities, from this location in Liverpool Street to the north and from Spier Street to the south, at the same time as St Johns Hill.

Removal of water from pipework designed to transport gas can be problematic so it is difficult at such an early stage to be able to give any indication of likely restoration times. It will become clearer in the next day or two what can be achieved and from this what consumers can expect in coming days.

As each section is cleared a GasNet representative will then call to turn on each individual gas supply and relight the appliances at the property.

Consumers are reminded that due to the extent of the outage, the grid nature of the network and the effort required to isolate, purge and reinstate each section of pipe it is likely that **consumers supplies will not be restored for a number of days.**

GasNet acknowledges the inconvenience that the loss of gas supply is to consumers and remains committed to restoration of gas supplies as soon as possible.

Further information for those consumers affected by this outage and progress updates will be available from GasNet's website www.gasnet.co.nz, by phone at 349 2050 or email enquiries@gasnet.co.nz.

List of Affected Streets:

<u>Street</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Argyle Street	3	30	Parsons Street	28	60
Barrack Street	1	24	Peakes Road	1	3
Campbell Street	111	111	Pitt Street	58	87
College Street	1	56	Russell Street	1A	12
Glasgow Street	18	52	Selwyn Crescent	1	24
Gloucester Street	2	9	Somme Parade	100	100
Grey Street	5	59	Spier Street	1	22
Halswell Street	2	43	Tarata Street	23	23
Keith Street	94	94	Tay Street	13	36
Liverpool Street	77	130	Victoria Avenue	349	447
London Street	18	155			

About GasNet

Based in Whanganui, GasNet Limited is a company dedicated to the ownership and management of natural gas networks and meters, predominantly in the Whanganui-Manawatu region. Its Whanganui network has operated since the late 1800's when the city became established with management of its gas infrastructure a core activity within the GasNet business.

GasNet Limited is 100% owned by Whanganui District Council Holdings Limited, a Council Controlled Trading Organisation of the Whanganui District Council.

Contact:

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ENDS