

Media Release No. 7

12 February 2020: 1830 hours

Gas Supply Outage in Whanganui

The following is an update to our media statement of 1130 hrs on Wednesday 12 February 2020.

Progress Update

Recommissioning of the College Estate pipes is now complete and 45 consumers reconnected by 5:30pm on Wednesday. GasNet representatives will continue to work until nightfall around 8:30pm and then recommence at 8am on Thursday morning.

Consumers in the College Estate area are reminded that GasNet representatives will progressively visit each affected property to first check GasNet's meter installation and the consumer's appliances for any faults, and then subject to there being no issues relight the appliances. Any faults on the consumer's pipework or appliances will be discussed with the consumer at the time. If there is no one home when our representative calls, a card will be left with instructions on who to contact.

GasNet has undertaken a range of safety checks to ensure that all pipes have reconnected and the network is sound, but in the event that a consumer or member of the public smells gas they should immediately contact GasNet (349 2050) or one of GasNet's onsite representatives know, identifiable by the GasNet branded hi-vis vests.

For safety reasons once sections of the network have been commissioned consumers must not turn on their own gas supplies as in some instances water may have entered the gas meter and possibly the pipework with the consumer's property.

All GasNet representatives will either have a company ID card or a letter from GasNet authorising them to complete the work. Any consumers concerned about anyone claiming to be a representative of GasNet should ask for their identification and if still not happy, call GasNet at 349 2050.

Meanwhile excellent progress has been made by the civil contractors in the blocks between Spier and Pitt Streets, and by the contractor Technicians with the pipes in Russell Street now cleared of water. Rapid progress with water removal in this area is likely, but very much dependent upon the pipes being free of blockages and low points being accessible.

Excavation work in Peakes Road was completed today with excavations in Parsons Street to recommence on Thursday morning, followed by commencement of water removal.

It is pleasing to finally see a number of holes in the College Estate area being backfilled and reinstated, but there remains extensive excavations in the other areas and road users are reminded to be extra vigilant when passing these sites.

The updated list of streets and properties that are affected are listed as follows.

<u>Street</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Street</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Argyle Street	3	30	London Street	12	155
Barrack Street	1	24	Parsons Street	28	60
Campbell Street	111	111	Peakes Road	1	3
College Street	1	56	Pitt Street	58	87
Glasgow Street	18	52	Russell Street	1A	12
Gloucester Street	2	9	Seddon Street	38	38
Godwin Crescent	1	1	Selwyn Crescent	1	24
Grey Street	5	59	Somme Parade	100	100
Halswell Street	2	43	Spier Street	1	28
Ingestre Street	162	162	Tarata Street	23	23
Keith Street	94	94	Tay Street	13	36
Liverpool Street	77	130	Victoria Avenue	349	447

Although some are likely to have their supplies restored sooner, 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.**

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.

Free Use of Splash Centre Shower Facilities

Consumers who are affected by the current gas supply outage are welcome to use the Splash Centre shower facilities free of charge for the duration that their supply is affected.

The Splash Centre opening hours are 6am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 8pm on weekends.

A copy of the list of affected properties will be held at the front counter so people wishing to use the shower facilities should take along some form of confirmation of their address.

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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