

Maintenance Programme Review 2022/23

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Introduction

This report provides a summary of the maintenance and investment activities that took place during the 2022/23 year and details any changes that were made to the maintenance plan as published on 30 March 2022. This report is published in line with our obligations in Special Condition 5.6 (Part G: Maintenance and Operational Planning) in our gas transporters license in respect of the National Transmission System (NTS).

To ensure a high level of safety and reliability in operation, it is essential that a system of inspection and maintenance exists for assets associated with the transmission of natural gas. Effective maintenance is essential to minimise the potential safety and environmental risks caused by the failure of pipelines and plant.

In order to facilitate work on the NTS, it is sometimes necessary to require network outages or impose operating restrictions (e.g., where steady gas flows may be required). This may affect one or more parties connected to the NTS including:

- Gas-fired power stations and large industrial consumers
- Gas Storage Facilities
- Gas Entry facilities
- Distribution Networks
- Interconnectors

This report covers work scheduled including maintenance activities on the NTS from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. It does not include maintenance carried out upstream of the NTS by Delivery Facility Operators (DFOs) and Producers or downstream of the NTS by Distribution Networks Operators or large connected users.

We work closely with our customers to ensure any impacts due to our maintenance activities are kept to a minimum and endeavour to meet our firm Exit Capacity obligations. The Uniform Network Code (UNC) enables National Gas Transmission to inform NTS Users of intended “Maintenance Days” where maintenance activities will have an impact on a specific site connected to the NTS. These Maintenance Days are notified in advance of the work to provide NTS Users with an opportunity to discuss the timing and impact and for us to respond to any industry requests for further information.

Where possible National Gas Transmission always endeavours to align its NTS maintenance activities with our customers own outages to minimise any potential disruption to gas supplies. Where this is possible National Gas Transmission will issue the customer an “Advice Notice”, notifying them of our planned work, aligned with their own outage.

If you have any queries, questions, or feedback regarding the information contained within this document, please contact us via e-mail at NTSAccessPlanning@nationalgas.com

Maintenance Work in 2022/23

Primarily the maintenance activities that can impact our customers are as a result of routine maintenance, asset replacement, pipeline inspections, and faults as well as work to facilitate investment in the NTS which may be as a result of a new connection or capacity requirement.

During the 2022/23 maintenance programme, a wide range of maintenance activities were carried out which had the potential to impact our customers. Through careful planning and regular customer liaison, we aim to minimise these impacts. This is not always possible and Maintenance Day notifications will be issued in these circumstances to allow the maintenance to be completed safely.

As shown below, the majority of maintenance activities were carried out without the use of Maintenance Days and therefore had no impact on our customers. This may be because the activity did not have any direct impact on a customer due to the geographic location, strategic network configurations were employed, or because the activity was aligned directly with our customer's outages, mitigating any potential impact. The majority of the maintenance activities carried out in 2022/23 were managed without the need for calling Maintenance Days, mainly due to an increased focus on customer impacts.

Overview of NTS maintenance activities undertaken in 2022/23 impacting customers and requiring Maintenance Days

Maintenance Activity	Completed Maintenance Activities	Potentially Impacting Activities	Impacting Activities	Maintenance Days Called
In Line Inspections (ILI)	13	4	0	0
Compressor Jobs	152	0	0	0
Defect Inspections	13	4	1	8
Enhanced Gas Monitoring Programme (EGMP2) works	0	0	0	0
Flow Weighted Average Calorific Value (FWACV) Works	0	0	0	0
Gas Quality, Metering & UPS	10	0	0	0
Remote Telemetry Unit (IRIS) Replacement	10	0	0	0
New NTS Connections	0	0	0	0
Pipeline/AGI	402	0	0	0
Cyber / Telemetry	175	0	0	0
Survey Inspections	8	0	0	0
Remote/Local Valve Operations	188	30	1	1

Note: All maintenance activities listed under the “Potentially Impacting” column that did not result in Maintenance Days being called were either managed through the alignment of works or by other engineering and strategic processes.

Overview of changes made to NTS maintenance activities in 2022/23

Maintenance Activity	Planned jobs	Completed to plan	Completed with amendments	Replanned	Cancelled
In Line Inspections	16	10	0	3	3
Compressor Jobs	163	135	17	5	6
Defect Inspections	13	11	2	0	0
Enhanced Gas Monitoring Programme (EGMP2) works	0	0	0	0	0
Flow Weighted Average Calorific Value (FWACV) Works	0	0	0	0	0
Gas Quality, Metering & UPS	12	10	0	2	0
Remote Telemetry Unit (IRIS) Replacement	11	4	6	0	1
New NTS Connections	0	0	0	0	0
Pipeline/AGI	419	383	19	1	16
Cyber / Telemetry	175	169	6	0	0
Survey Inspections	8	8	0	0	0
Remote/Local Valve Operations	189	153	35	0	1
Total	1006	883	85	11	27

National Gas Transmission always aims to minimise the impact of planned maintenance on customers through a transparent and flexible approach, endeavouring to align all maintenance activities with customer outages where feasible and practical.

Each year we ask when our customer's outages are to enable alignment of works. If customer outages or other operational plans change at any time, we request to be notified as soon as possible so that we can consider whether we also can realign our planned maintenance activities.

There may be occasions when either National Gas Transmission or our customers ask for work to be rearranged or altered in some way. In 2022/23, our initial draft plan was published in January, to enable customer feedback prior to publishing the final plan by 1 April 2023.

There were no changes initiated by National Gas Transmission during the maintenance period for 2022/23 but we facilitated a number of change requests initiated by our customers.

Length of Short and Long Line In-Line Inspections (ILIs)

Date	Type of ILI undertaken (Long/Short) ¹	Length of Run (Km)	Time taken to complete (Days)
04/04/2022	Long	68.57	3
18/04/2022	Long	56.12	3
15/05/2022	Long	85.47	3
05/06/2022	Long	32.45	3
13/06/2022	Long	18.32	4
26/06/2022	Long	94.38	3
11/07/2022	Long	43.67	3
31/07/2022	Long	54.67	3
04/09/2022	Long	89.56	3
19/09/2022	Long	74.56	3
24/10/2022	Long	134.50	3
06/11/2022	Long	34.61	3
14/11/2022	Long	97.79	4

The number of days taken to complete each run is broadly in line with previous years.

¹ Long In-Line inspection is longer than 10 km

Enabling Flexibility

Sometimes standard maintenance approaches may not be optimal for our customers. Where this is the case, a bilateral contract (known as the Minor Works Agreement) can be utilised to enable parties to agree on a different, one-off way of completing specific maintenance. This enables customers to pay the incremental costs of working flexibly outside normal working practices pending our ability to accommodate such a request. For example:

(a) Customer-initiated requests for us to change our planned maintenance to a non-standard arrangement, such as requesting planned maintenance during non-standard hours (e.g., weekends or bank holidays).

(b) Customer-initiated requests for National Gas Transmission work e.g., the isolation of the customer's supply using National Gas Transmission plant to facilitate the customer's own works.

If you would like to talk to us about these potential options, please contact us at:
box.SCM.GTO@nationalgas.com.

General Queries

Further information on the maintenance activities undertaken by us is available on our website.

If you have any queries or questions regarding the information contained within this document, please contact:

Network Access & Short-Term Risk Team
National Gas Transmission
Gallows Hill
Warwick
CV34 6DA

We would welcome any feedback from you in relation to the maintenance programme or the way in which this information is provided. If you would like to provide feedback, please contact us via email at: NTSuccessplanning@nationalgas.com

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