

Media Relations

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Making New Jersey Energy Strong: PSE&G to upgrade gas facilities in North Plainfield, Green Brook and Watchung

(March 9, 2015) - Under its Energy Strong program, Public Service Electric & Gas Co. (PSE&G) is upgrading gas facilities in Plainfield.

The utility will install new gas mains, as well as upgrading associated service lines that carry the gas to homes and businesses. Beginning in North Plainfield on or about March 9, work will take place Monday through Saturday between the hours of 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., conditions permitting. Work will begin in Green Brook and Watchung starting in early April. The project is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

Customers will be notified when work is about to begin in their area. This upgrade is part of PSE&G's Energy Strong program to strengthen and protect the state's electric and gas infrastructure from severe weather. Customers can find a list of streets where work will take place at www.pseg.com/energystrong.

As part of Energy Strong, PSE&G is replacing 250 miles of older cast iron main with new plastic pipe in or near flood areas throughout its service territory. Last year, the utility replaced 88 miles, with the remainder scheduled for replacement in 2015. These new pipes will prevent water from entering the mains, increasing the reliability of gas service in these locations.

"We're working to build the resiliency into our systems needed to withstand the kind of severe weather that has devastated our state in recent years," said Ralph LaRossa, PSE&G president and COO. "The gas pipes we are replacing were impacted by flood waters from Hurricane Irene or the storm surges from Superstorm Sandy. Once this work is done, our gas system in these areas will be better protected during future storms."

To upgrade the mains, it will be necessary to dig trenches in the roadway to install the new pipe. As a result, there may be road closures and/or detours. Local police will be on the scene to direct vehicle and pedestrian traffic. At the end of each workday, the trenches will be filled in. Plates will be secured on any other open areas so people can safely drive and walk.

Once the gas mains are upgraded, PSE&G will need to access customers' homes to connect their service and meter to the new main. PSE&G will contact homeowners to arrange a date and time to do the work. During this reconnection, customers will be without gas service for approximately four hours. We regret any inconvenience this may cause.

For everyone's safety, PSE&G crews will be using work area protection including traffic cones, utility work signs, and barriers to allow the job to be done safely. The utility reminds motorists to slow down and follow detour signs when driving through the construction area.

Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) is New Jersey's oldest and largest regulated gas and electric delivery utility, serving nearly three-quarters of the state's population. PSE&G is the winner of the Reliability One Award for superior electric system reliability. PSE&G is a subsidiary of Public Service Enterprise Group Incorporated (PSEG) (NYSE:PEG), a diversified energy company (www.pseg.com).

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