From: ESP Utilities Group Ltd <donotreply@espug.com>
Sent: 20 March 2023 13:52
To: Gate Burton Solar Project <GateBurtonSolar@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Reference: PE175796. Plant Affected Notice from ES Pipelines

Gate Burton Solar Planning Inspectorate

20 March 2023

Our Ref: PE175796 Your Ref: Gate Burton Energy Park

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to your enquiry received on 20/03/2023, I can confirm that ESP Utilities Group Ltd may be affected by the proposed works in the area of . ESP Utilities Group Ltd has a low pressure gas and electric cables serving the area in question (Reference **PPS16467 & ESPE033574**) at grid reference E479942, N378512 and security of supply is vitally important.

Project drawing as laid extracts for these sites are enclosed (not to scale) for your information which show the approximate location of the ESP Utilities Group Ltd network close to the area of interest off.

If your enquiry is part of a C3/budget estimate request, please respond to <u>plantresponses@espug.com</u> with a copy of the attached aslaid highlighting specifically where your works will be taking place in relation to ESP Utilities Group's assets.

As your plans for the proposed work develop you are required to keep ESP Utilities Group Ltd regularly updated about the extent and nature of your proposed works in order for us to fully establish whether any additional precautionary or diversionary works are necessary to protect our network.

Arrangements can be set in place so that one of our representatives can meet on site (date to be agreed) and we will be happy to discuss the impact of your proposals on the network once we have received the details.

A list of precautionary measures is attached for your information. This must be passed on to the appointed contractors carrying out the work and any other associated parties.

ESP are continually constructing new gas and electricity networks and this notification is valid for 90 days from the date of this letter. If your proposed works start after this period of time, please re-submit your enquiry.

If you wish to discuss the matter further please contact myself or the team on 01372 587500, alternatively you can email us at PlantResponses@espug.com.

ESP Utilities Group <u>must</u> be consulted prior to carrying out excavation work within 10 metres of any above ground gas installation or *Intermediate Pressure gas pipe.

ESP have provided you with all the information we have to date however, there may be inaccuracies or delays in data collection and digitisation caused by a range of practical and unforeseeable reasons and as such, we recommend the following steps are taken as a minimum before work is commenced that involves the opening of any ground and reference made to HSG47 (Avoiding danger from underground services). A. Plans are consulted and marked up on site

B. The use of a suitable and sufficient device to locate underground utilities before digging (for example the C.A.T and Genny)

C. Trial holes are dug to expose any marked up or traced utilities in the ground D. If no utilities are shown on any plans and no trace is received using a suitable and sufficient device, trial holes are dug nonetheless using hand tools at the location or at regular intervals along the location that the work is being carried out depending on the length of excavation work being undertaken

E. All location work is carried out by individuals with sufficient experience and technical knowledge who may choose to control this activity under a Safe System Of Work

Yours faithfully,

Plant Protection Team ESP Utilities Group Ltd

This plan shows those pipes owned by ESPUG in their role as a licensed Independent Gas Transported (IGT). Gas pipes owned by other GTs/IGTs, or otherwise privately owned, may be present in this area. Information with regard to such pipes should be obtained from the relevant owners. The information shown on this plan is given without warranty, the accuracy therefor cannot be guaranteed. Service pipes, valves, stub connections etc are not shown but their presence should be anticipated. No liability of any kind whatsoever is accepted by ESPUG or their agents, servants or contractors for any error or omission. Safe digging practices in accordance with HS(G)47 must be used to verify and establish the actual position of mains, pipes, services and other apparatus on site before any mechanical plant is used. It is your responsibility to ensure that this information is provided to all persons (either direct labour or contracts) working for you on or near gas apparatus. The information included on this plan should not be referred to beyond a period of 28 days from the date of issue.

Bluebird House Mole Business Park Leatherhead KT22 7BA ℋ № 01372 587500 ⊠ 01372 377996

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PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN WHEN CARRYING OUT WORK IN THE VICINITY OF UNDERGROUND GAS PIPES

ADVICE TO SITE PERSONNEL

MANAGEMENT NOTE

Please ensure that a copy of this note is read by your site management and to your site operatives.

Early consultation with ESP Utilities Group prior to excavation is recommended to obtain the location of plant and precautions to be taken when working nearby.

This Guidance Note should be read in conjunction with the Health and Safety Executive guidance HSG47 "Avoiding danger from underground services".

Introduction

Damage to ESP Utilities Group's plant can result in uncontrolled gas escapes which may be dangerous. In addition, these occurrences can cause expense, disruption of work and inconvenience to the public.

Various materials are used for gas mains and services. Cast Iron, Ductile Iron, Steel and Plastic pipes are the most widely found. Modern Plastic pipes are either bright yellow or orange in colour.

Cast Iron and Ductile Iron water pipes are very similar in appearance to Cast Iron and Ductile Iron gas pipes and if any Cast Iron or Ductile Iron pipe is uncovered, it should be treated as a gas pipe. ESP Utilities Group do not own any metallic gas pipes but their gas network infrastructures may be connected to Cast Iron, Ductile Iron or Steel pipes owned by Transco.

The following general precautions apply to Intermediate Pressure (2-7barg MOP), Medium Pressure (75mbarg-2barg MOP), Low Pressure (up to 75mbarg MOP) and other gas mains and services likely to be encountered in general site works and are referred to within this document as '**pipes**'.

Locating Gas Pipes

It should be assumed when working in urban and residential areas that gas mains and services are likely to be present. On request, ESP Utilities Group will give approximate locations of pipes derived from their records. The records do not normally show the position of service pipes but their probable line can be deducted from the gas meter position. ESP Utilities Group's staff will be pleased to assist in the location of gas plant and provide advice on any precautions that may be required. The records and advice are given in good faith but cannot be guaranteed until hand excavation has taken place. Proprietary pipe and cable locators are available although generally these will not locate plastic pipes.

Safe working Practices

To achieve safe working conditions adjacent to gas plant the following must be observed:

Observe any specific request made by ESP Utilities Group's staff.

Gas pipes must be located by hand digging before mechanical excavation. Once a gas pipe has been located, mechanical excavation must proceed **with care**. A mechanical excavator must not in any case be used within 0.5 metre of a gas pipe and greater safety distances may be advised by ESP Utilities Group depending on the mains maximum operating pressure (MOP).

Where heavy plant may have to cross the line of a gas pipe during construction work, the number of crossing points should be kept to a minimum. Crossing points should be clearly indicated and crossings at other places along the line of the pipe should be prevented.

Where the pipe is not adequately protected by an existing road, crossing points should be suitably reinforced with sleepers, steel plates or a specially constructed reinforced concrete raft as necessary. ESP Utilities Group staff will advise on the type of reinforcement necessary.

No explosives should be used within 30 metres of any gas pipe without prior consultation with ESP Utilities Group.

ESP Utilities Group <u>must</u> be consulted prior to carrying out excavation work within 10 metres of any above ground gas installation or *Intermediate Pressure gas pipe.

Where it is proposed to carry out piling or boring within 15 metres of any gas pipe, ESP Utilities Group should be consulted prior to the commencement of the works.

Access to gas plant must be maintained at all times during on site works.



Proximity of Other Plant

A minimum clearance of 300 millimetres (mm) should be allowed between any plant being installed and an existing gas main to facilitate repair, whether the adjacent plant be parallel to or crossing the gas pipe. No apparatus should be laid over and along the line of a gas pipe irrespective of clearance.

No manhole or chambers shall be built over or around a gas pipe and no work should be carried out which results in a reduction of cover or protection over a pipe, without consultation with ESP Utilities Group.

Support and Backfill

Where excavation of trenches adjacent to any pipe affects its support, the pipe must be supported to the satisfaction of ESP Utilities Group and must not be used as an anchor or support in any way. In some cases, it may be necessary to divert the gas pipe before work commences.

Where a trench is excavated crossing or parallel to the line of the gas pipe, the backfill should be adequately compacted, particularly beneath the pipe, to prevent any settlement which could subsequently cause damage to the pipe.

In special cases it may be necessary to provide permanent support to the gas pipe, before backfilling and reinstatement is carried out. Backfill material adjacent to gas plant must be selected fine material or sand, containing no stones, bricks or lumps of concrete, etc., placed to a minimum depth of 150mm around the pipes and well compacted by hand. No power compaction should take place until 300 mm of selected fine fill has been suitably compacted.

If the road construction is in close proximity to the top of the gas pipe, a "cushion" of selected fine material such as sand must be used to prevent the traffic shock being transmitted to the gas pipe. The road construction depth must not be reduced without permission from the local Highway Authority.

No concrete or other hard material must be placed or left under or adjacent to any Cast Iron pipe as this may cause fracture of the pipe at a later date.

Concrete backfill should not be used closer than 300 mm to the pipe.

Damage to Coating

Where a gas pipe is coated with special wrapping and this is damaged, even to a minor extent ESP Utilities Group must be notified so that repairs can be made to prevent future corrosion and subsequent leakage.

Welding or "Hot Works"

When welding or other "hot works" involving naked flames are to be carried out in close proximity to gas plant and the presence of gas is suspected, ESP Utilities Group must be contacted before work commences to check the atmosphere. Even when a gas free atmosphere exists care must be taken when carrying out hot works in close proximity to gas plant in order to ensure that no damage occurs.

Particular care must be taken to avoid damage by heat or naked flame to plastic gas pipes or to the protective coating on other gas pipes. Leakage from Gas Mains or Services

If damage or leakage is caused or an escape of gas is smelt or suspected the following action should be taken at once:

- Remove all personnel from the immediate vicinity of the escape;
- Contact Transco's National Gas Escape Call Centre, on: 0800 111 999;
- Prevent any approach by the public, prohibit smoking, extinguish all naked flames or other source of ignition for at least 15 metres from the leakage;
- Assist gas personnel, Police or Fire Service as requested.

REMEMBER - IF IN DOUBT, SEEK ADVICE FROM ESP UTILITIES GROUP.

ESP Utilities Group can be contacted at:

Office Address: Bluebird House, Mole Business Park, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 7BA

Office Tel: 01372 587500 Fax: 01372 377996



PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN WHEN CARRYING OUT WORK IN THE VICINITY OF ELECTRICITY CABLES

ADVICE TO SITE PERSONNEL

MANAGEMENT NOTE

Please ensure that a copy of this note is read by your site management and to your site operatives.

Early consultation with ESP Electricity Ltd prior to excavation is recommended to obtain the location of plant and precautions to be taken when working nearby.

This has been produced after consultation with and at the request of the Health and Safety Executive, the construction industry and the electricity companies.

1.0 Introduction

This procedure should be read in conjunction with the ESP Electricity Distribution Safety Rules and other relevant procedures. The object of this procedure is:

- a) To lay down the rules for the location of cable before work is started.
- b) To specify the safe working procedure to be adopted by persons who have to work on or in the vicinity of cables.

2.0 <u>Reference</u>

ESP Electricity G81 – Design and Planning ESP Electricity G81 – Installation and Records National Joint Utilities Group (NJUG) Guidance Notes Avoiding danger from underground services HSG47 HSE Advice Booklet.

3.0 <u>Work</u>

- 3.1 All cables and apparatus to which the cables are connected shall be treated as being live, until they have been proved dead and all points of isolation have been establish and controlled.
- 3.2 All work carried out under this procedure shall also be carried out in strict accordance with the ESP Electricity Distribution Safety Rules and other relevant procedures.
- 3.3 For the purpose of this procedure:
 - a) Work on a cable includes the intentional cutting or removal of its Sheath or Armour, cutting of its core(s) or conductor(s) and the removal of a spiking gun.
 - b) Work in the vicinity of a cable includes digging or any activity carried out at any work location where cables are or may be present, whether or not for the specific purpose of preparation for work on a cable.

4.0 Cable Locating Devices

- 4.1 An approved cable locating device is to be used on every occasion before any surface is removed or any digging is started. It must also be used during the course of any digging work.
- 4.2 Cable location devices provide information on the position of cables. They must not be used as the only means of cable location.
- 4.3 Cable locating devices must be regularly checked for correct operation.

All persons using cable locating devices must be adequately trained in their use and must be Competent Persons.

5.0 Location of Cables

- 5.1 The depth of underground cables varies greatly. It is essential that a site specific risk assessment is undertaken for the proposed work you are planning this must include obtaining an up-to-date map of the electricity cables in the area and to make use of it. The electricity cable records must be checked before any work is started. Changes in surface level or reference points, and work carried out by other people may affect the reliability of these records. Anybody excavating must be told of these possibilities.
- 5.2 Before the start of any excavation work, a cable locating device shall be used to establish the run of live cables. Reasonable steps should be taken to establish the runs of cables both along and across the length of the intended area of digging. The cable avoidance tool shall be used together with mains records and where provided, service records.



5.3 All cable runs either confirmed by use of the cable locating device or indicated on the mains records must be marked out on the surface using a waterproof marker. Marked cable runs must be extended 300mm beyond either end or side of the intended digging area, and must stay visible while the digging is going on. The trial hole dig method can be used to identify the run of cables using hand dig tools only.

6.0 Precautions to be Taken while Working in Vicinity of Cables

- 6.1 Work in the vicinity of cables must be carried out as if the cables are live and all excavation work must be personally supervised by a Competent Person. All persons shall wear a minimum of safety footwear, Safety Glasses, hard hat, Task Specific Gloves flame retardant overalls.
- 6.2 Approved hand tools should always be used in preference to power tools in the vicinity of cables, unless site conditions make this impracticable. Spades should always be used in preference to forks. Extreme care must always be taken when using a fork or pick. Forks must be of approved type with shortened chisel ended tines. Spades must have sharp corners of the blade rounded. The selection of a fork or pick will be assessed on a Task Specific Risk Assessment.
- 6.3 A proprietary air digging tool, which removes oil with a high-velocity jet of air, can be used to expose buried services without damage to the service. However, it will not penetrate asphalt, concrete or frozen ground. Also precautions need to be taken that will prevent injury to the operator and members of the public from ejected soil and other materials.
- 6.4 When site conditions require the use of hand held power tools they must be fitted with a short bit. The following method of work must be used:
 - a) Using all the information provided, together with an approved cable locating device, the line of all know cables must be marked out at least 300mm past the hole that will be dug using waterproof marker.
 - b) Encroachment lines must be drawn 300mm parallel to and away from the outer and innermost cable marker lines. And as in (a) above these must be drawn to extend at least 300mm beyond the edge of the hole that will be dug.
 - c) Hand held power tools must not be used below ground level in between the encroachment lines. Hand tools must be used for progressive and careful undermining from outside the encroachment lines towards the cable(s). Hand power tools must only be used to break up any hard surface, keeping pace with, but not going past the undermining. Extreme care must, in particular, be exercised when using power tools above cables already exposed by undermining. The use of power tools must stop if at any time the cutting rate quickens, indicating softer ground. At all times, attention must be paid to the cable run marker lines outside the edges of the holes.
 - d) The safe digging procedure in (c) above must be followed until all cable(s) required for work or for identification have been located.
 - e) If all recorded or detected cables inside the digging area have been located then hand held power tools may be used below ground level to break up concrete or similar structures, but even then only when site conditions render the use of hand tools impractical.
- 6.5 During excavation, full use must be made of cable locating devices which must be used to assist in establishing the exact location of live cables.
- 6.6 Where exposed cables are likely to be damaged in any way they shall be adequately protected and/or supported. Where in the opinion of the person in charge on site it is appropriate, warning notices must be attached to cables e.g. 'live cable exposed above ground level' or 'live coiled cables'.
- 6.7 Irrespective of the color of the electricity cable it shall be considered as being in a 'live' status unless it has been confirmed and proven that the cable has been physically isolated or turned off.

If damage is caused or suspected the following action should be taken at once:

- Remove all personnel from the immediate vicinity
- Contact ESP Electricity 01372 227560 or out of hours Emergency contact Number 0800 731 6945
- Prevent any approach by the public.
- Assist electricity personnel, Police or Fire Service as requested.

REMEMBER - IF IN DOUBT, SEEK ADVICE FROM ESP Electricity Ltd.

ESP Electricity Ltd can be contacted at:

Office Address: Hazeldean, Station Road, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 7AA

Office Tel: 01372 227560; Fax: 01372 377996; email: plantresponses@espipelines .com



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