

Monthly Stakeholder E Bulletin - October 2025

## **Your Northern Gas Networks Update**

# Innovation funding awarded for study on hydrogen storage potential in North Yorkshire



A new study has been awarded funding to explore the potential for underground hydrogen storage near the Knapton power plant in North Yorkshire.

Knapton H2 Storage is a consortium led by gas distributor Northern Gas Networks and partnered with BGS, Centrica Energy Storage, Third Energy Onshore and the University of Edinburgh.

The consortium has been awarded 'Discovery' funding by Ofgem's Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) to undertake a new study to evaluate geological storage potential in the Knapton area, North Yorkshire. The Ofgem SIF funding is designed to drive innovation in energy networks as part of the 'Revenue = incentives + innovation + outputs' (RIIO-2) price control for gas and electricity networks.

Energy storage and backup power will become increasingly important as the UK increases the amount of renewable energy supplying electricity. This study is the first of its kind in the region and will undertake a feasibility assessment of the area's geology to host energy storage technologies, allowing for the decarbonisation of adjacent gas-fired peaking power plants (those that only run when there is high demand) such as that at Knapton.

Keith Owen, Head of Energy Futures at Northern Gas Networks: "As more renewables come online, energy storage will be critical to UK energy security and to clean power. Understanding the full potential for storing hydrogen at scale through Knapton H2 Storage will give us key insights into how we can deliver technologies to provide clean resilience on the days where the sun doesn't shine and the wind doesn't blow."

Find out more

### **Driving Green Gas: The role of biomethane in HGVs**



A Northern Gas Networks sponsored Green Gas Taskforce report was launched this month at the REA Green Gas Day in Birmingham. The Taskforce and its partners were delighted to announce the full findings from the report conducted by Low Carbon Truck Consultancy on the role of biomethane in decarbonising and reducing costs in HGV transportation.

Biomethane is a reliable, renewable and ready fuel that can increase the UK's energy security, create well paid jobs in the rural heartlands of the country and decarbonise a range of end users seamlessly, including HGVs. Today there are around 3,250 biomethane HGVs on the road, with the potential for 80,000 by 2050, a 25-fold increase.

New analysis from expert consultancy Low Carbon Truck Consultancy has concluded that biomethane could decarbonise up to 50% of the 44 tonne 6x2 HGV market by 2050, delivering carbon savings of over 200 million tonnes CO2e.

The results of this analysis showed that green gas can decarbonise up to 80,000 vehicles by 2050 (50% of the 6x2 44 Tonne HGV market) while reducing emissions by at least 83% compared to diesel and offer lower cost of ownership than diesel vehicles, with a payback period of three years. The report makes clear that these levels of ambition can only be achieved with pragmatic regulatory support and long-term certainty, including reforms to fuel duty, CO2 regulation and the RTFO mechanism.

Keith Owen, Head of Energy Futures at Northern Gas Networks said:

"Biomethane is a proven technology which represents one of the fastest opportunities to reduce the carbon intensity of the HGV sector whilst reducing costs for businesses. NGN are committed to working to deliver with the Green Gas Taskforce and its partners in order to deliver an increase in biomethane across our network."

Read the full report

#### Other News

## Northern Gas Networks teams up with local residents and community partners to plant trees and create new homes for wildlife



New trees, hedgerows and homes for wildlife are flourishing across the North of England thanks to Northern Gas Networks (NGN), White Rose Forest, Humber Forest, Community Forest Trust and local volunteers including schoolchildren.

As part of our vision for a fairer, greener future for this region, we have been supporting various projects as part of our ongoing commitment to sustainability.

NGN has funded the planting of new trees and hedgerows which provide a wide range of environmental and social benefits. These include improving air quality, connecting people with nature to support wellbeing, enhancing local areas and creating 'homes for nature' to boost biodiversity at more than 100 sites across the north of England – all within 1km of one of its gas pipes.

Many of the trees have been planted by local volunteers from schools, colleges and community action groups.

Find out more

#### **Get involved**

#### **Our Annual Stakeholder Conference**



Thank you to all who attended our annual stakeholder conference!

On 16 October 2025, we hosted our annual stakeholder conference. The purpose of the event was to seek feedback from stakeholders on the following topic areas: current performance and readiness for GD3; customer experience; resilience; and low-carbon transition to net zero. In the final session, stakeholders were invited to participate in a Q&A focussed on collaboration.

Feedback from our stakeholders is always greatly appreciated. We are currently preparing a detailed report from the session, and we will share these on our Together Now website as soon as they are available.

Visit Togethernow

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