

## News Release

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### **GAS PRESSURE IN NATIONAL GRID'S PIPELINES TO BE USED TO GENERATE RENEWABLE ENERGY**

- **National Grid and 20C to use innovative geo-pressure technology to tackle climate change**
- **Pilot schemes agreed that could generate over 45MW**
- **Moves National Grid towards its target of sourcing all its internal electricity needs from renewable sources by 2010**

National Grid and geo-pressure energy company 20C have today announced an agreement to form a joint venture that will use innovative technology to generate renewable electricity from natural gas pressure in the pipe network.

The joint venture between National Grid and 20C will build pilot projects to generate electricity at two of National Grid's gas pressure reduction stations, with the potential for work to start on six further sites in spring 2008. Initial investment for the first eight sites would be between £50 and £60 million, and the first two projects could potentially be at Beckton near the proposed Olympic complex and at Fulham. Construction is expected to begin in the first quarter of 2008 and the sites will be producing renewable power in early 2009. All eight sites, once up and running, could provide National Grid with all its internal electricity needs.

National Grid Chief Executive, Steve Holliday, said, "It's clear that for society to tackle climate change – and for us as a company to reduce our carbon footprint – we need to start thinking of new ways to meet our energy needs.

"As a company, we have already reduced our emissions by 35%, beating the Kyoto 2012 target of 12.5 per cent emissions reduction for the UK and we are on target to reduce emissions from our operations and offices across the company by 60 per cent well before 2050. Today's agreement with 20C is a great step forward and will help us meet all our internal energy needs from renewable sources by 2010."

More....

Natural gas is driven through the pipe network under pressure, which must be reduced by a pressure reduction station before being safely delivered to homes and businesses. By installing a turbine generation system at some of these stations, the energy created by reducing the pressure can be harnessed and used to generate renewable electricity.

Andrew Mercer, Chief Executive of 2OC said, "With this agreement we hope to make a real difference to the way the world thinks about exploiting the many sources of clean, renewable energy that exist today. We are excited about working with National Grid to enable them to meet their internal energy needs from renewable sources and reduce their carbon footprint. Showing leadership in the fight against climate change and being passionate about finding new sources of clean energy are core values of 2OC."

It is expected that each of the pilot installations will generate between 5 and 13MW of electricity and whilst the actual generation capacity will depend on the characteristics of the site, a feasibility study has indicated that renewable energy could be generated at around 200 of National Grid's sites.

John Sauven, Director of Greenpeace UK said, "If we are to solve the problem of climate change we cannot afford to leave any stone unturned in the hunt for solutions. The work done by 2OC in developing geo-pressure shows the potential for finding clean, renewable sources of energy and we're delighted with National Grid's commitment to this project. Greenpeace believes that this renewable resource can become an important part of a new energy system that will help tackle the problems of climate change and energy security."

-ENDS-

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**National Grid**

National Grid is one of the world's largest utilities, focused on delivering energy safely, reliably, efficiently and responsibly. Our principal interests are in the transmission and distribution of electricity and gas in the UK and US.

We own the high-voltage electricity system in England and Wales and operate the system across Great Britain. We also own and operate the high pressure gas transmission system in Britain, and the country's largest gas distribution network serving 11 million customers. In the Northeastern US we have electricity transmission systems and distribution networks in the northeastern region, and gas customers in upstate New York and Rhode Island. In early 2006 we announced the acquisition of KeySpan, the largest gas distribution company in the Northeast US. Completion is expected in mid-2007.

We also have interests in related markets, including metering services, liquefied natural gas facilities and property in the UK, as well as electricity interconnectors in the UK and US. More information is available at [www.nationalgrid.com](http://www.nationalgrid.com)

National Grid photography can be found at [www.newscast.co.uk](http://www.newscast.co.uk).

## **20C**

20C is the only supplier, owner and operator of completely integrated lifecycle-managed geo-pressure systems for generating carbon-free electricity. Its technology captures the energy given off as natural gas pressure is reduced at pressure reduction stations across the country and uses it to produce green electricity.

Because it's not using the gas, but the geo-pressure of the gas, to produce power, it's a renewable source. 20C provides a commercial, innovative way to use an existing renewable resource to bridge to a sustainable energy future.

[www.20c.co.uk](http://www.20c.co.uk)