



firmus energy

Eighth Annual Development Plan

1st October 2012 – 30th September 2013

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1. Introduction

This Annual Development Plan (ADP) has been developed in accordance with Condition 3.2 of firmus energy's licence for the conveyance of gas in Northern Ireland.

The ADP sets out progress up to 30th September 2013 and complies with the conditions set out in the General Development Plan – Annex 3, Part 3.

This ADP also sets out firmus energy's network development plans for the next three years, until 30th September 2016.

2. Development of the Network

This plan outlines the development of the gas network in accordance with the General Development Plan annex 3, Part 3.

All towns along the North West transmission pipeline including Ballymena, Ballymoney, Coleraine, Limavady, Londonderry, Portstewart and Bushmills have live gas.

In the South North towns, including Antrim, Armagh, Banbridge, Ballyclare, Lurgan, Portadown, Craigavon, Newry, Warrenpoint and Bessbrook live gas is also available. The focus of the engineering activities continues to be gas mains laying that will support industrial and residential conversions to natural gas.

The gas network is being developed based on identified gas loads for Industrial & Commercial customers, Councils, new build housing developments and to facilitate the NIHE's Heating Replacement Programme.

Where owner-occupier properties are readily connectable to the network, a gas supply may also be offered. firmus energy continues to work with a number of key stakeholders to target fuel poor households via our Toasty Homes scheme.

These stakeholders include:

- Bryson Energy;
- Department for Social Development;
- Energy Saving Trust;
- H+A Mechanical;
- National Energy Action;
- Northern Ireland Energy Agency; and
- Northern Ireland Housing Executive

2a. Development Target

firmus energy has exceeded its development targets. These targets are set out in Annex 2 to Part 3 in the Licence for the Conveyance of Gas in Northern Ireland.

The number of premises that are readily connectable to firmus energy's gas network is 67,709.

2b. Connections to firmus energy's network

Connection Type	Network Connections
Non-domestic	2,018
Domestic	18,662
Total	20,680

2c. Network Construction (Cumulative)

To date c.830 km of distribution gas mains have been constructed.

- **Derry**

The gas network extends from Coolkerragh AGI throughout the city as far as the Newbuildings area south of the city and Drumahoe to the east. There have been infill mains laid in streets within the NIHE areas of Carnhill, Bloomfield Park, Bligh's Lane, Ederowen Park.

Mains laid – 173 km

- **Coleraine**

The gas network extends from Macfin AGI via Loughan village, throughout the town as far as Portstewart to the north where several new build housing sites have availed of gas connections.

The gas network has been extended to Bushmills to connect the distillery and to make gas available to the town centre.

Mains laid – 84 km

- **Limavady**

The gas network extends from Ballymully AGI throughout the town and to the Industrial and Commercial sites at Windyhill and Aghanloo located north of the town.

Gas mains have been laid in Drumachose Park and Anderson Crescent areas.

Mains laid – 27 km

- **Ballymoney**

The gas network extends from Macfin AGI through the town centre with gas connections to Industrial and commercial customers and schools.

Mains laid – 19 km

- **Ballymena**

The gas network serves an area stretching from the village of Broughshane, east of the town to Ahoghill in the west, where a number of NIHE properties have been connected.

The network has been extended to make gas available to Northstone Quarries, various schools in the area and residential properties.

Mains laid – 103 km

- **Craigavon**

The distribution network in Craigavon is providing natural gas from Ballymagaraghan AGI, near Magheralin to Maghaberry, Moira, Lurgan, central Craigavon and Portadown.

Further mains have been laid to facilitate NIHE heating replacement schemes in Lurgan Tarry, Drumgor, Limegrove and Larkfield Square.

Mains laid –156 km

- **Armagh**

The network extends from Derryhale AGI, situated west of Portadown. This station supplies Armagh City and Tandragee in addition to providing a secondary supply for Craigavon.

In Armagh City gas mains have been laid in the Ballinahoe, Ardmore, Banbrook, Dukes Grove and Longstone areas.

In Tandragee the feeder main has been extended through the town centre to facilitate future housing and Industrial and Commercial connections.

Mains laid – 44 km

- **Banbridge**

The gas network extends from Kernan AGI through the town centre to the NIHE areas of Primrose Gardens, Edenderry, Hillhead estate, Forthill and Cline Road NIHE.

The network has been extended along the Main Street, making gas available to a number of commercial customers.

Mains laid – 32 km

- **Newry**

The gas network extends from Tullyhappy AGI through the city centre. Gas mains have been laid in the North Street, Shandon Park and Rooney Meadows areas to supply residential and commercial premises.

The network has been extended to Warrenpoint where low pressure mains have been laid to supply the commercial area in the town centre and medium pressure mains installed to connect residential areas and industrial customers.

Mains laid – 79 km

- **Antrim**

The gas network extends from Moyadam AGI throughout Antrim town and south to the Aldergrove area.

The network has been extended from Doagh and into Ballyclare to supply residential properties in Erskine Park and Ollardale Park.

Mains laid – 114 km

2d. Capital Programme

firmus energy’s capital build programme has delivered natural gas to Antrim, Armagh, Ballyclare, Ballymena, Ballymoney, Banbridge, Coleraine, Craigavon, Londonderry, Limavady, Newry, Portstewart, Warrenpoint, Bushmills and Bessbrook.

The build programme has been targeted so that the “spine” main network is able to service Industrial & Commercial customers, Northern Ireland Housing Executive estates and New Build developments and existing residential properties readily connectable to the network.

The capital expenditure programme for the year to 30th September 2013 is outlined below:

	Capex - £ million
Antrim	1.3
Armagh	1.2
Ballymena	1.4
Ballymoney	0.1
Banbridge	0.1
Coleraine	1.6
Craigavon	1.5
Derry	2.7
Limavady	0.3
Newry	1.4
Total	11.6

3. Network Development to 30th September 2016

firmus energy will continue to extend the gas network in line with its Development Plan. firmus energy will engage with stakeholders including Gas Safe, the Energy Saving Trust, Carbon Trust, Bryson Energy, H&A Mechanical, the Northern Ireland Energy Agency and the

Northern Ireland Housing Executive to promote the installation of high efficiency natural gas systems to homes and businesses where it is economically viable to do so.

4. Conclusion

firmus energy aims to become the first choice energy provider in Northern Ireland for industrial, commercial and residential customers by delivering a first class customer service offer.

We have recently received NIAUR approval to extend our network to the Crumlin and Glenavy area.

Our service excellence continues to be underpinned by low levels of customer complaints.

We have Distribution Codes of Practice in place, covering Marketing, Complaints Handling and Consumer Information. In addition, we have also signed up to the Consumer Council's Financial Remedy Framework – a testament to the focus our business places on delivering against its promises to customers.

This customer service focus, together with the environmental benefits of natural gas as a clean, efficient and affordable fuel source, will help ensure that gas volumes in our Development Areas are optimised.