

LIMERICK GASWORKS REMEDIATION PROJECT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT WORKS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT AT THE FORMER GASWORKS SITE AT DOCK ROAD?

Gas Networks Ireland (GNI) is working to clean-up the former Limerick Gasworks site at Dock Road.

The intention is to remediate as much soil on-site as possible with minimal waste material taken off site.

Murphy International Limited is working on behalf of GNI to deliver this project

WHY ARE THESE WORKS BEING CARRIED OUT?

The site was used in the past to in the coal gas' manufacturing process which in turn was used for heating and lighting. The 'coal tar' by-product was then stored in underground tanks. Residual coal tar remains on site in Limerick from this process, which needs to be remediated.

The clean-up or remediation works chosen for Limerick, are in line with European directives, and offer the most advanced, sustainable and least invasive approach available throughout Europe and the US. The clean-up of other gasworks sites at Cork and Dublin has allowed regeneration of the site and the surrounding area.

WHY IS THERE AN ODOUR?

Work on the site in 2017 as part of the Phase 1 contract removed over 80,000 litres of coal tar from the site, however small amounts remain.

The current soil stabilisation contract essentially binds the remaining coal tar to the soil.

To do this the soil must be excavated, screened and mixed with a binder before it is replaced on the site.

Disturbance of the soil during the excavation and screening process gives rise to some odour from the coal tar – this has an odour like tar or petrol. This odour is not harmful to health, however, these are restricted under the EPA licencing conditions and can disturb residents in proximity to the site.

To minimise this odour, there have been odour control measures in place from the outset of the soil stabilisation works.

I CAN SEE GAS SPRAYING ON THE SITE – WHAT IS THIS?

To minimise the odour from the coal tar, the Contractor is using an odour control system, in the form of a mist. We would like to reassure you that this mist is not harmful to health.

The mist is made up of an odour neutralising additive that is mixed with water to make a fine mist or spray. This is then sprayed at the boundary of the site, to assist in minimising odours and dust. Similar to how an air freshener would be used in the home.

The odour neutralising additive is non-toxic and biodegradable and not harmful to health.

WHAT HAVE GNI DONE TO MANAGE ODOUR FROM THE SITE?

GNI is working proactively with our delivery partners to ensure that our construction works are carried out in a controlled and safe manner, in keeping with Government and HSE guidelines to protect workers, their families and the broader community.

In response to odour complaints from neighbours in January, a drop in information evening was held in early February to discuss residents' queries and concerns. Some concerns were related to the odour suppression system itself.

We provided information on the odour suppression measures that were in place on site, which look like a steam or a mist being sprayed within the site.

Additional odour control equipment has been installed on site, additional independent monitoring staff has been employed and site activities are immediately reviewed at times when odour is detected outside the site boundary or when complaints are received to the information numbers: **(061) 337220 or (021) 4239466**

WHAT ARE GNI DOING NOW?

GNI is committed to ensuring all works undertaken to clean up the site of the former Gasworks on the Dock Road in Limerick, will be undertaken in a safe, sustainable and environmentally responsible manner and we are liaising with the EPA on a regular basis to ensure this is the case.

The health, safety and well-being of those working on our sites and members of the public is a key priority for GNI.

Prior to works being suspended in March as a result of the pandemic, and following the feedback received at our drop-in information session in February we have been actively adjusting our works and mitigation measures to minimise noise and odour nuisance.

In response to some continued local concerns raised with respect to noise and odour associated with our works we have:

- **Provided additional odour and noise mitigation measures. We actively adjust these depending on the site activity and in response to changes in weather, wind direction, regular odour measurements and local odour complaints;**
- **Expanded our letter drop area to ensure that neighbours within this wider boundary are aware of our works and the communication channels where your queries and/or concerns will be answered ;**
- **Provided additional channels to update neighbours and the community in relation to ongoing works, as face-to-face interactions are limited at this time in keeping with guidance in relation to Covid-19**
- **Committed to providing weekly updates on these additional digital channels in relation to the remaining works**

HOW CAN I CONTACT THE PROJECT TEAM?

If you have concerns or a complaint with respect to the works, please do not hesitate to contact the Project Team:

By Phone: (061) 337220 or (021) 4239466

By Email: LimerickGasworksRemediation@gasnetworks.ie

Text Alerts

We have set up a text alert number to keep you up to date on the weekly works over the remaining weeks

You can also register for text alerts by texting **LGR to 50015**

Email Notifications

You can register for email updates or contact the Project Team by emailing LimerickGasworksRemediation@gasnetworks.ie

Website

There will be weekly updates on the remaining works on our website at: www.gasnetworks.ie/limerick-gasworks-remediation