

Towngas Pipeline Survey Results

(3 May 2006) The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (Towngas) conducted a special inspection of its network following the gas leak at Jordan Valley North Road a few weeks ago. A survey of all pipes of the same type involved in the incident was completed within three weeks on 1 May.

Nine inspection teams carried out the survey using advanced instruments and covered 450 km of pipeline. The survey was audited by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD).

The surveyed found three pinhole-size minor leakages at three locations - Wong Chuk Hang Road near the junction with Nam Long Shan Road, Prince Edward Road West and Lai Yiu Street at Lai Chi Kok. Out of more than 200,000 pipe joints, 30 were found to have minor seepage and this has been subsequently rectified. In addition, Towngas engineering staff performed maintenance work on 18 Towngas above-ground installations.

“We are satisfied with the results of this special survey,” Towngas Managing Director Chan Wing-kin remarked. “It shows that our pipelines are safe and well-maintained. The survey has enabled us to accurately identify gas leaks, even at very low levels, so that remedial action and preventative measures can be undertaken promptly.”

Chan continued, “This was a pre-emptive survey. However, we will not be complacent, and will in future double the frequency of our regular network inspection from three times to six times a year to further reassure the public of our network’s safety.”

“In future, our regular inspection will also cover public utility and drainage manholes near our pipelines to check for any sign of gas ingress,” Chan concluded.

Towngas has submitted its special survey results to the Gas Standards Office of the EMSD. The Company will continue to closely collaborate with the EMSD to ensure gas network safety.

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