

## **MAUI PIPELINE CRITICAL CONTINGENCY UPDATE** **1pm Update**

### **The following is an update of the Maui pipeline event in the White Cliffs area of New Plymouth.**

As a result of further modelling undertaken at the instruction of the Gas Industry Company, gas supply has been restored to Band 5 customers. This includes essential services and most of the dairy factories. This restoration is a dynamic situation and will depend on all customers, including residential users, being conservative in their use until further notice.

Regulatory protocols are established by the Gas Industry Company in respect of curtailment categorise customers by band. Band 1 is large use gas-fired electricity generators and Band 5 is essential services.

In the meantime, work continues at the pipeline site at Taranaki. The pipeline is being managed by a specialist team. Care has to be taken with any excavation work to ensure there is no damage to the Vector 200 pipeline running parallel to the Maui pipeline. It will however, be a matter of days to effect a repair.

We will issue further regular updates.

A press conference will be held today at 4.30pm at the Auckland Policy Office, Level 6, Tower Centre, 45 Queen St, Auckland.

### **About:**

**Maui Developments Limited** – the owner of the Maui Pipeline

**Gas Industry Company** – regulatory body of the gas industry, with responsibilities including the development of administration and Critical Contingency Curtailment protocols including customer prioritisation in the event of a critical contingency.

**Critical Contingency Operator** – independent manager employed to administer the GIC's critical contingency protocols. Vector currently fulfils this role under contract to GIC.

**Vector** – technical operator of the Maui pipeline

---

### **Fact Sheet**

- Gas supply restored to Band 5 customers – including essential services and most of the dairy factories. All customers including residential are urged to be conservative in their use of gas until further notice.
- The pipeline is owned by Maui Developments Limited (MDL is owned by Shell, OMV and Todd Petroleum). Vector is the technical operator of the Maui pipeline.
- The Maui pipeline was confirmed as the source of the gas escape early Tuesday.

- The GIC makes the decisions regarding curtailment, including customer prioritisation.
- GIC has instructed curtailment directives be issued to all but Band 5 commercial customers and residential customers on the Northern pipeline (north of Morrinsville and the Bay of Plenty). Residential customers are being asked to limit their use of gas wherever possible.
- Issue is complex and is being managed with in accordance:
  - health, safety and environmental standards
  - compliance with pipeline management standards
  - other requirements such as resource management and civil aviation.
- A full team of Vector staff and contractors have been on site since the incident was notified, working through the last two nights to manage the process, enable excavation and assess the nature of the damage to Maui Developments Limited's pipeline and manage the process of repairing the pipeline.
- Geotechnical engineers were called to site and have been assessing soil conditions to enable excavation to take place as quickly and as safely as possible. It is important to proceed carefully and methodically to ensure that no further issues arise that compound the integrity of the pipeline or surrounding area.
- Once the excavation is complete, Vector should be in a position to notify the Critical Contingency Operator the extent of the repair and as a result of this the CCO will update gas supply models to assess available gas for impacted customers.
- Vector's pipeline, that runs adjacent to the Maui Developments pipeline is fully operational and is currently supplying residential customers in Auckland, Waikato and Bay of Plenty.