

MAUI PIPELINE CRITICAL CONTINGENCY UPDATE 7.30pm Update

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

- Excavation has revealed a short split next to a seam weld and a crease on the Maui pipeline, the source of the gas escape.
- The issues on the pipeline are potentially due to land movement.
- The damaged area of pipe will need to be cut out and replaced.
- Four certified welders are on standby, ready to be mobilised.
- All of our efforts at this stage are focused on restoring service. An assessment is also being undertaken to determine measures to ensure the long term protection of the pipe.
- A number of different repair scenarios have been developed. Over the next 24 hours we hope to begin implementing repairs and have an estimate of the time it will take to repair the pipeline.
- Weather forecast for the next two days (Wed/Thur) is for rain. This may slow progress.
- Site management and safety are very good. The site is also protected by security guards to restrict public access as this is a potentially hazardous worksite.
- **Next steps on site:**
 1. Further excavations and assessment at the site
 2. Cutting the damaged area of pipeline
 3. Develop a plan for final repair in conjunction with geotech analysis and GPS data and estimate time to complete repairs

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