

# Media Release



8 May 2015

## Avoca's new gas network now underway

Gas distribution network owner AusNet Services has started construction to extend its underground natural gas network to Avoca.

Under the project, approximately 650 Avoca residents and businesses will have access to natural gas via the convenient and reliable underground network by December 2016.

AusNet Services Program Manager, Geoff Thorn, said the company is committed to delivering the underground gas network on time, safely and with minimal disruption to the community.

"I'm pleased to announce that work has started to supply natural gas to Avoca," Mr Thorn said.

"Crews are preparing to extend the underground pipeline from Greenhill Creek Road along the Sunraysia Highway to Avoca. Once we reach Avoca, we'll then lay more than 16.5 kilometres of pipeline to homes and businesses throughout the town.

"During this construction phase, we're committed to minimising any disruptions to residents and safely delivering natural gas to their properties," he said.

People interested in connecting to natural gas must lodge an application with Energy Australia, Avoca's natural gas retailer, for connection to the network (<http://www.energyaustralia.com.au/residential/electricity-and-gas> or 1800 818 378).

AusNet Services has further information on its website ([www.ausnetservices.com.au](http://www.ausnetservices.com.au)) including FAQs and a map of the initial gas network route.

"Importantly, AusNet Services thanks the State Government for its support in bringing natural gas to Avoca and we look forward to connecting more Victorian's to our natural gas network," he said.

In the last five years, AusNet Services has carried out works costing more than \$580m in operating, maintaining and extending our natural gas network in western Victoria to more than 92,000 homes and businesses.

**Ends...**

### **About AusNet Services**

AusNet Services is the largest diversified energy network business in Victoria, owning and operating around \$12 billion of electricity and gas distribution assets, including the state-wide electricity transmission network. The company also has a non-regulated division, Select Solutions, providing utility services.

Headquartered in Melbourne, Australia, AusNet Services employs more than 2600 people to service 1.3 million consumers and is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX: AST) and the Singapore Stock Exchange (SGX-ST: X04).

For more information visit AusNet Services' website, [www.ausnetservices.com.au](http://www.ausnetservices.com.au).

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