

Network Innovation Competition Full Submission

Supplementary Answer Form

Tick if this answer is Confidential: ☐

Tick if this answer has been provided verbally: ☐

Project code:	SGN_GN_01	Question Number	5
Question date	27 th August 2013	Answer date	29 th August 2013
Submission section question relates to	Section 2		
Topic	Project Description		
Question	Is it in the scope of the project that data collection to assess pipe integrity will be repeated periodically to monitor deterioration over time (similar in principle to the on line inspection policy/procedures that apply to HP transmission pipelines)? If so, is it intended that the robotic equipment insertion/extraction fitting to the main will be made permanent and accessible for this purpose?		
Notes on question			
Answer	<p>The pipe integrity assessment would provide sufficient information to determine the predicted asset life of the inspected pipe. From this it may be determined that there is a requirement to carry out repeat inspections, as part of an ongoing maintenance regime. However one of the key benefits will be to provide a suitably detailed report from the robotic inspection, to gain detailed asset integrity information. Subsequent inspection frequencies will be determined by the initial inspections. It is not anticipated that these inspections would be required on an annual basis and are likely to extend to 20 years and beyond.</p> <p>The development of the determining factors, for the asset integrity report, are one of the fundamental requirements of this innovation project. This report would also drive remediation requirements which may include internal sealing.</p> <p>Once the pipe has been suitably sealed, it is likely that the determined asset life will significantly increase, further reducing the need for frequent inspections. Therefore, assuming that subsequent inspection frequencies will be infrequent, it is not anticipated that installing permanent launch sites would be the norm. If, however, there were specific pipes that were found to be deteriorating, and were not suitable for sealing (for example steel pipes with limited levels of corrosion protection) there may be a case for installing</p>		

	<p>some form of permanent launch arrangement.</p> <p>Such an arrangement would be subject to a cost benefit analysis and would be compared against the relatively simple (but non-permanent) alternative of drilling the mains and installing temporary launch facilities.</p>
Attachments	
Verbal Clarifications (Consultants)	