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## First home connected with gas at Armstrong Creek

SP AusNet has finished building the natural gas network that will service an estimated 20,000 new homes in the burgeoning Armstrong Creek area near Geelong.

Responsible for the gas network in western Victoria, SP AusNet has spent 12 months building the seven kilometre gas network.

SP AusNet's Planning Engineer, Mark Baker, said that a handful of new homes will shortly start using gas supplied through the network.

"The Armstrong Creek area has been labeled as one of the largest growth areas in Victoria, providing housing for an estimated 55,000 to 65,000 people," Mr Baker said.

"With more than 20,000 new houses expected in the area in next 20 years, we're pleased to provide new residents to the area with a safe and reliable supply of natural gas for purposes such as cooking and heating.

"Right now, SP AusNet has commissioned the initial stages of gas reticulation for new houses in the development area in with many more to come online as houses are completed over the next few months," he said.

The new gas network uses a modern polyethylene high-pressure pipe that is reliable and efficient compared to older materials.

In the last 12 months, SP AusNet has replaced 82 kilometres of low-pressure pipe with high-pressure pipe, commissioned 147 kilometres of new gas pipelines and connected 18,514 new gas customers.

"Our low-pressure pipe replacement program and other initiatives have helped reduce the minutes off supply (USADI) for our gas customers by 11.2 per cent," Mr Baker said.

**Ends...**

### **About SP AusNet**

SP AusNet is the largest diversified energy infrastructure business in Victoria, owning and operating a state-wide electricity transmission network, along with an electricity and gas distribution network.

SP AusNet delivers natural gas to more than 607,000 businesses and households via 9,900 km of gas pipelines in a network area (60,000 sq km) in outer western metropolitan Melbourne and Victoria's west.