

Value	A\$38,600,000
Start Date	September 2000
Completion	October 2001
Client	Transco



Newbury Pipeline

NEWBURY, UNITED KINGDOM

Transco (formerly British Gas) awarded McConnell Dowell the contract for the engineering, procurement and construction of 23 km of 900 mm diameter welded-steel gas pipeline from Ipsden, Berkshire to Scotland. The pipeline included extensive horizontal directional drill (HDD) crossings including of the River Thames, the M4 Motorway and the River Pang. The longest, under the Thames, was 570 m. In addition to the challenges of the HDD crossings, the project was constrained by many environmental considerations. These included installing a 4 km section of the pipeline through a breeding area for the stone curlew, a rare bird of which there are only approximately 200 nesting pairs throughout Great Britain. The construction also occurred during the foot and mouth outbreak in the UK. A key priority throughout the project was the reduction of environmental impacts wherever possible. McConnell Dowell worked closely with Transco on outcomes such as recycling one third of all waste generated on the project. Difficult ground conditions were encountered in many areas, requiring engineered

solutions to stabilise ground conditions and ensure safe and timely pipeline installation. The project, MacDow's first in the UK, was completed in only 13 months from project approval by Transco. The MacDow team overcame the many challenges of route selection; design; securing land easements; and construction to fast track the project and complete it five days early.

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