

National Grid Transco River Severn Bore Project Morrison sets European record for Horizontal Directional Drilling

Value; £1.5m

**Contract; Pipeline Construction
- Horizontal Directional Drilling**

Duration: 6 months

Location; Gloucestershire

Description:

Background -

This £1.5million River Severn directional drill project was undertaken as a joint venture between NGT, Morrison and Stockton Pipelines.

For over 40 years, the 3.8km pipeline project in Gloucestershire had been deemed not feasible, but after three years of detailed planning, the project went ahead in 2002. Construction of the pipeline was required to reinforce the supply of natural gas to the Forest of Dean. This planning culminated in a new European record being set for Horizontal Directional Drilling.

This 3.8km project was achieved by laying 1.6km of 300mm steel pipeline 50 feet under the River Severn, crossing the Sharpness to Gloucester ship canal and the Cardiff to Gloucester railway line. This was connected to 600m of 315mm polyethylene pipeline laid across fields on the Sharpness bank and 1600m of 315mm polyethylene pipeline across fields on the Lydney bank either side of the Severn Estuary.



Gas

Gas

Morrison undertook all site preparation works regarding access roads, compounds, hard standings and pipe delivery. Morrison procured and managed the drilling subcontract to undertake the river crossing and worked closely with Stockton pipelines to successfully complete this challenging project

The pipe stringing along the easement on the Lydney side, coating, testing, horizontal directional drilling and pipe pulling operation was undertaken by Stockton Pipelines.

The key success of this project was due to the detailed and thorough planning undertaken by all parties. As with many major engineering achievements of this nature, the project was some considerable time in the feasibility and planning phases and relatively short in the construction phase on site.

