



London City Island

Location

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Background

Over the course of its 18 years in business, Squire Energy has worked on some of the most unique and prestigious sites in the UK's capital, including the recently completed London City Island.

The new mixed-use riverside development has created an innovative 12-acre neighbourhood on one of London's best-connected sites. With 1,700 new apartments, stunning al fresco spaces and a number of bars, restaurants and boutique shops, the area has been dubbed a 'mini-Manhattan', which bridges the business might of Canary Wharf and cultural energy of East London. The site is also the new home of the English National Ballet, and boasts an exceptional private club, completely exclusive to residents.

The brief

The process of turning Ballymore's futuristic vision into reality got underway in 2014 when construction began on the first, of what would eventually become twelve, residential towers. The introduction of so many new buildings brought the need for a new gas infrastructure. The scope of the work required included installation of a new medium pressure gas connection and PE pipe, as well as the extension of the low pressure gas network around the site to nine meters, to include the Energy Centre and a number of retail facilities and restaurants.

The project

Squire Energy's work on the site began a year into the project, in the third quarter of 2015, when construction was already well underway. It was clear from the outset the existing low pressure network would not have the capacity to supply the new apartments and businesses that make up the development so a new medium pressure (MP) 200mbar gas connection would be required.

Having worked on many large-scale modern residential developments, the Squire team recognised the importance of reducing the visual impact of any gas infrastructure for the

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residents, and opted to install an external pit-based twin stream governor, connected by a 250mm PE pipe to reduce the new medium pressure connection to low pressure (LP).

Due to the sprawling size of the London City Island development, another element of the work involved extending the existing low pressure network to cover nine meters, to include the new Energy Centre and retail and restaurant facilities.

Given the sheer scale of the project, clear communication and co-operation between all contractors was essential. With different elements of the construction being carried out at the same time, and only one narrow entrance providing access to the area, the logistics had to be carefully coordinated to ensure essential materials and infrastructure

like pipes and cables could be delivered to the site in an efficient manner. Consequently, to the client's delight Squire's work on the development was completed on time in 2019.

"It's been fantastic to work with Ballymore on this exciting new development in the city of London," said Squire Energy's Senior Project Manager, John Clifton. "The size and location of the project posed some additional challenges, so communication was key and the SEL team worked tirelessly to coordinate with other contractors - sending over 1000 emails throughout the course of the project - to ensure the gas works were completed on schedule. We are also pleased to have subsequently been engaged by Ballymore to work on London City Island's sister project, Goodluck Hope - a new residential development on the banks of the Thames in East London"

