

Construction of the Chiba-Kashima line

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Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.

Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd. (Mr. Norio Ichino, President) has decided to initiate studies and confer with concerned administrative institutions with a view to constructing a new high-pressure gas pipeline to promote the further spread of natural gas utilization. Known as the "Chiba-Kashima Line," the new pipeline is to link the city of Chiba in Chiba Prefecture with that of Kamisu in Ibaraki Prefecture. Its commencement of operation is targeted for 2010.

We at Tokyo Gas have been striving to promote utilization of natural gas in the aforementioned two prefectures through regular (retail) supply to customers in our service area and wholesale supply to other city gas companies (including Chiba Gas, Keiyo Gas, Otaki Gas, Tobu Gas, and Narashino Municipal Gas). While the northeastern part of Chiba Prefecture and the southeastern part of Ibaraki Prefecture have not been equipped with a supply infrastructure for natural gas thus far, the mounting concern for the environment and energy conservation in recent years is being reflected in rising needs for a shift to natural gas as the most effective measure to these ends. In response, we intend to make natural gas available to industrial customers and local gas companies along the route of the Line and in the industrial waterfront zone in the Kashima district of Ibaraki. For this purpose, we decided to embark on in-depth studies for construction of a new high-pressure gas pipeline from the city of Chiba to that of Kamisu as noted above, to be placed into service in 2010. In parallel with our in-house studies of matters including the installation route, we plan to make presentations of the project to the concerned authorities of the Chiba and Ibaraki prefecture governments as well as the concerned local authorities.

Outline of the Chiba-Kashima Line

1. Start and terminus: Chiba, Chiba Prefecture - Kamisu, Ibaraki Prefecture
2. Pressure and diameter: high-pressure (7 MPa), 60 cm diameter
3. Extended length: about 80 km
4. Period of construction
 - Start: 2006
 - Targeted commencement of service: 2010