

PIPELINE

Awareness

Safety Information for Public Officials

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PIPELINE ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC AWARENESS

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Are There Pipelines In Your Community?

Pipelines are the most efficient way to transport our nation's energy resources. Each year, more than 66% of our oil, natural gas and hydrocarbon resources are moved using a vast network of pipelines. Despite pipelines being the safest means of transportation for these resources, pipeline safety is everyone's responsibility.

This newsletter is an effort by the Pipeline Association for Public Awareness to provide you information about the pipelines in your community and steps to prevent, or if necessary, react to a pipeline incident. Information is also provided on the efforts pipeline operators take to ensure the safe operations of their facilities.

More extensive information on the purpose, location, daily operations and integrity of pipeline facilities can be found throughout this newsletter and on the Association's web site at www.pipelineawareness.org.

The top priority of pipeline operators is to operate our nation's pipeline infrastructure safely. We sincerely hope the information provided here will be helpful to you in your responsibilities as a community leader.

Sincerely,

Jeff Farrells
President,
Pipeline Association for Public Awareness

On the inside...

- Know what's below
- Recognize and respond to an emergency
- Communication with emergency responders
- Managing risks and ensuring integrity

Locating Pipelines Near You

People who live and work near pipelines need to be aware of the presence of the facilities. Transmission pipelines tend to be larger in diameter and transport high volumes of natural gas and petroleum products. Smaller diameter pipelines gather natural resources from production fields or distribute natural gas to homes and businesses.

The existence of a pipeline's presence is not always obvious. Some pipelines are noticeable because of an apparent pipeline right-of-way (ROW). A transmission pipeline ROW should be clear of vegetation, buildings and other structures. However, it is less common to find markers designating a distribution pipeline's route.

Pipeline markers come in variety of sizes, shapes and colors. The information on the marker will always tell you the name of the pipeline operator, the commodity being transported and the emergency contact information for the operator. The sign will also include the word "danger," "caution," or "warning."

Markers are normally placed within sight of each other. Markers will also designate where a pipeline crosses a roadway, bridge, railroad or waterway and mark where a pipeline emerges from the earth at pumping or compressor stations, terminals or other above ground facilities.

Pipeline markers do not illustrate the precise location of a pipeline, only the general route. To ensure the safety of you and others, always remember to call 8-1-1 before you dig.

Steps to Manage Encroachments

One of the greatest dangers to the integrity of a pipeline facility is encroachment by human activity. You can take the following steps in your community to manage pipeline encroachment.

1 Require developers and planners to work with pipeline operators when developing plans for housing projects, schools, shopping centers or other infrastructure.

2 Use land-use practices that take into consideration pipeline facilities and the potential activities around those areas.

3 Be aware of existing pipelines and other underground facilities. Keep records of the facilities on official planning maps.

4 Notify the pipeline operator when work will be done near facilities.

5 Coordinate local emergency response plans with pipeline operators.

6 Keep open lines of communication with pipeline operators.

Communications and Emergency Preparedness

Pipeline operators work closely with emergency response officials in the communities in which pipelines operate. At least once per year, representatives from the pipeline communicate with local fire fighters, law enforcement officers, medical technicians and emergency response coordinators to discuss their respective roles in the event of a pipeline incident.

One of the best ways in which a community can prepare for a pipeline related emergency is to host a mock drill with potentially impacted stakeholders. Mock drills provide an excellent opportunity to increase communications between pipeline representatives and the emergency responders who would be called on to respond in the event of an incident.

If you are interested in setting up a mock drill in your community, or you would like more information or materials on emergency response preparedness, notify your local pipeline operator or visit the Association's web site at www.pipelineawareness.org for their contact information. You can also visit the National Association of State Fire Marshals' web site on pipeline emergencies at www.pipelineemergencies.com.

Emergency responders receive information on how to:

- Respond to a pipeline emergency
- Assess hazardous situations
- Include pipelines in Incident Command System
- Protect the safety of persons and the environment
- Contact pipeline personnel during an emergency

Know What's Below, Call Before you Dig!

Making a one-call just got easier — just dial 8-1-1 when you need to make an underground facility locate request.

State and federal laws require a person to call their area one-call center at least two days, and in some cases three days, prior to beginning excavation. Excavators can now use the national designated three-digit number, 811, or continue to use individual state one-call numbers to reach their local one-call center.

Pipeline operators, along with other underground facility owners and operators, one-call centers and regulatory agencies are promoting the number through

a nation-wide media campaign. You may have already seen the logo of the number 811, a shovel, and the slogan, "Know what is below. Call before you dig."

Free materials, including posters, stickers, logos and advertisements, for all stakeholders involved in damage prevention and excavation activities, are available through the Common Ground Alliance, a non-profit organization dedicated to underground damage prevention.

For more information on the 811 program and media campaign, please visit www.call811.com.

**ALWAYS CALL
BEFORE YOU DIG**



Responding to a Pipeline Emergency

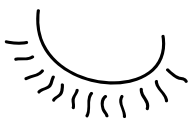
Knowing how to recognize and respond to a potential pipeline emergency is critical. There are key signs that you should be familiar with in order to properly recognize a potential pipeline related emergency.

Using your senses is the best way

to recognize a potential problem. The smell of petroleum or rotten eggs may be present.

Unusual pooling of liquids, vapor clouds, a fire, or the presence of blowing dirt or dead vegetation may also be the sign of a pipeline leak.

You may also hear a hissing or a roaring sound from the area.



If you come across one or more of these signs, leave the area immediately on foot. Move upwind and up hill. Do not attempt to investigate the situation or make contact with the leaking or exposed pipeline or product.

Once in a safe location, call 911 and the pipeline operator, then warn others to stay away from the area. Do not engage in any activity that could create heat or sparks including turning on or off machinery, lights, or making a phone call, unless from a safe area.

Managing Risks and Ensuring Integrity

Operators use a combination of advanced technology and management processes to identify and mitigate risks that may cause harm to a pipeline. Risks can occur from natural conditions and outside forces. Pipeline operators address each of the risks in different ways, following industry best practices and regulatory requirements.

Pipeline operations are monitored by control centers that constantly monitor the pressure, volume and throughput of the pipeline system. Pipeline rights-of-way are also inspected on foot and via the air to check for any unsafe conditions or evidence of a pipeline leak.



Operators run an electrical current, also referred to as cathodic protection, along the outside of the pipeline. This current repels negative ions that could potentially lead to external pipeline corrosion. This current is low-voltage only affecting the metal of the pipeline, not humans or animals.

Operators conduct on-going education to landowners and communities found along the rights-of-way to assist with preventing the building of facilities on or too close to underground pipeline facilities. Operators also work with city planners, developers and others involved in land-use decision-making to address safety and emergency response issues.



Internal inspection devices, sometimes referred to as "smart pigs," travel through the pipeline and record numerous details about the condition of the pipe. The device can detect corrosion, possible leaks, dents, and other potential integrity issues. The pipeline operator uses the information gathered to address any potential defects.

In areas that are deemed to be more sensitive to a pipeline release, operators are required to have supplemental integrity management and public awareness programs. Contact your local pipeline operator for more information on their integrity management program.



Additional Pipeline Information Resources

- www.pipelineawareness.org
- www.pipeline101.com
- www.phmsa.dot.gov
- www.napsr.org
- www.safepipelines.com
- www.commongroundalliance.org

P.I.P.E.S. Act Passes

In late 2006, Congress passed the Pipeline Improvement, Protection, Enforcement and Safety Act, or the PIPES Act of 2006. The legislation builds on existing requirements for operators regarding the manner in which pipelines are designed, operated, maintained and protected.

Provisions in the Act relating to damage prevention, also referred to as “call before you dig,” do not include any exemptions. Years ago, specific entities like municipalities, local and state transportation departments and specific industries were exempt from making a one-call locate request, but that is no longer the case. The Act included additional fines and penalties for persons who do not make a one-call, especially those who damage a facility.

The PIPES Act also took action to address the potential of human error by those manning pipeline control rooms. Each operator will be required to submit a plan to address human factors. Like other industries, pipeline control room operators will be limited in the number of hours they work in a given time period.

A provision was also included in the Act that will require most low-stress hazardous liquid pipelines to be regulated in the same manner as higher-stress hazardous liquid pipelines. The provision was in response to a pipeline integrity failure on the north slope of Alaska.

For more information on federal pipeline regulations, visit www.phmsa.dot.gov/regulations.

National Pipeline Mapping System

The National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS) provides maps of transmission pipelines. Immediately after September 11, access to the system was limited to only those stakeholders who needed information on critical pipeline infrastructure. However, a decision was made in early 2007 to make parts of the mapping system available to the public.

Visitors to the NPMS web site can view maps of transmission pipelines. They can also learn the name and contact information for the pipeline operator, the type of products being transported, and the status of the line.

To learn more about the transmission facilities in your area, go to www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov and click on “NPMS Public Map Viewer” and then follow the instructions.

Local and state officials may gain access to information on critical transmission pipeline infrastructure. By securing clearance through the NPMS web site an official can receive pipeline transmission information, not available to the public, in an electronic format that can be posted on a GIS web site or used during community planning activities.

The Pipeline Association for Public Awareness is supported by:

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