

Pipeline Safety and Awareness for Public Officials



Steps for Managing Encroachments

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

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.



Emergency Preparedness

We regularly share information with emergency response officials in your community so that we're prepared to jointly respond in the event of an emergency. Emergency responders receive information from PSNC Energy on how to: respond to a pipeline emergency; assess hazardous situations; protect the safety of people and the environment; contact PSNC Energy in the event of an emergency.

In turn, emergency responders provide us with information regarding their response procedures, local resources, overall geography of the area, and appropriate communication channels during an emergency.

Call Before You Dig

State law requires you to notify area utilities before digging, so call NC 811 (dial 811) to have underground utilities marked for free before beginning any excavation work.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**
The 811 logo is a registered trademark of Common Ground Alliance.

Wait. When an excavator's locate request is received by NC 811, utilities have three Business days from 12:01 am of the next business day to mark their underground facilities. For example, if you want to dig on Thursday, you should submit your locate request to NC 811 on Monday. Locate markings are valid for 15 business days starting on the day you call in the locate request. If you accidentally hit a natural gas pipeline, call PSNC Energy immediately at **1-877-776-2427** and call **911**.

Responding to an 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 natural gas leak:

- A rotten egg odor.
- Dead or discolored vegetation over or near a pipeline.
- A hissing, whistling or roaring sound near a gas appliance or the pipeline.
- Dirt or debris being blown into the air.
- Persistent bubbles in streams, ponds or wet areas.

If you detect a gas leak:

- Leave the area immediately.
- Warn others to stay away.
- From a safe place, call PSNC Energy at **1-877-776-2427** and call **911**.

Remember, when you smell gas:

- Do not use your telephone or cell phone.
- Do not start or stop nearby vehicles or machinery.
- Do not do anything that may create a spark.



Potential Hazards of a Pipeline Release

Natural gas is an extremely flammable commodity and is easily ignited by heat, sparks, or flames. Therefore there is potential for a product release to escalate into a fire or explosion that could affect persons and property in the vicinity of a pipeline. A product release from a pipeline could create noise levels that are harmful to human hearing.

Pipeline Integrity Management

PSNC Energy uses 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. We address each of the risks in a different way, following industry best practices and regulatory requirements.

Along our transmission system there are segments that have been determined to be within High Consequence Areas (HCAs). HCAs are identified as locations where a pipeline release could have a significant adverse effect on human health and safety or the environment. Federal regulations require pipeline operators like PSNC Energy to take specific integrity measures for any pipeline within an HCA.



National Pipeline Mapping System

The information in this brochure takes into consideration both higher volume transmission pipelines and lower volume distribution pipelines. Maps of the higher volume transmission pipelines are available through the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS). To learn more about the transmission facilities in your area, visit www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov.

Pipeline Regulations

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

Additional Information

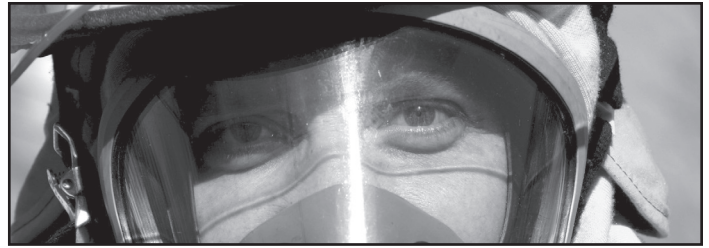
For more information about PSNC Energy's public awareness activities, e-mail us at: psncpublicawareness@scana.com.

A Team Effort

As the natural gas company serving your community, public safety is PSNC Energy's highest priority, and, as a public official, we know you share that commitment to safety.

Having current and accurate information about our natural gas pipeline system is important and is also required by the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002. Therefore, we'll continue to share updates with you about our pipelines and provide a review of how to prevent, recognize or respond to a pipeline incident.

We've included emergency contact information, but please let us know if you'd like to know more about PSNC Energy. For more information on natural gas and pipeline safety, visit www.psnenergy.com/gassafety.



Identifying Pipelines in Your Community

As an essential component of our nation's energy infrastructure, natural gas pipelines are a safe and environmentally-friendly form of fuel transportation.

PSNC Energy transports natural gas to approximately 490,000 customers throughout our service territory, and while pipeline accidents are rare, it's important for those who live and work near pipelines to be aware of these facilities.

The existence of our distribution and transmission pipelines is not always obvious. Some pipelines are noticeable because of clearly visible pipeline markers and an established pipeline right-of-way. PSNC Energy places markers at select locations and intervals along the pipeline right-of-way. These markers are visible where pipelines cross roadways, streams, some property lines and various other locations.

It's important to note that pipeline markers might not identify the precise location of a pipeline – only the general route. And the absence of a pipeline marker does not mean that an underground pipeline isn't present. In cities and towns, our distribution pipelines are often below sidewalks and streets along with other utilities. Therefore, 811 should always be called prior to beginning a digging, excavating or grading project.

