

Natural Gas Transmission Pipeline Public Awareness and Engagement

Pipeline Safety: A Shared Responsibility

Everyone plays a role in pipeline safety, including pipeline company personnel, the federal and state agencies that oversee natural gas pipelines, public safety officials, excavators and the public. Serious accidents on interstate natural gas pipelines are rare, but the natural gas transmission industry is committed to continuing to improve our engagement with the public in order to ensure their awareness of pipelines. Members of the public can help reduce pipeline risks by working closely with pipeline companies.

Public Awareness Key to Reaching Our Core Goal of Zero Incidents

Quality pipeline awareness programs are key to reaching our industry's goal of zero pipeline incidents. These programs inform people who live, work and congregate near pipelines, excavators, emergency responders and public officials on:

- The purpose, need and reliability of underground pipelines
- Pipeline safety and how to recognize, respond to and report abnormal conditions or questionable activities near pipelines
- Potential hazards and prevention measures taken by pipeline operators
- Emergency phone number and notification
- An overview of Integrity Management Plan
- Information on Emergency Response Plans

- National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS) for pipeline locations and contact information
- Pipeline markers
- Development or construction activities that could cause third-party damage or inhibit an operator's ability to respond to potential emergencies

Supporting Public Safety Initiatives

Our industry's commitment to safety is illustrated by our commitment to collaborative programs that help improve public awareness of pipelines. Examples include:



The Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance

which provides a set of recommended practices to allow communities to make risk-informed decisions on land use planning and development near pipelines.



"Call Before You Dig," a federally mandated program that provides the public and workers a toll-free number – 811 – to call before beginning a digging project.



Common Ground Alliance, an association dedicated to reducing damage to all underground facilities through shared responsibility among stakeholders.

Our Journey of Continuous Improvement in Public Awareness and Engagement

