

## Pipeline Safety ... We Are In It Together

This special edition of the **iroquois report** has been created as part of our Public Awareness Program. Iroquois strives to provide safe, reliable and environmentally sound transportation of natural gas into the Northeast region.

Iroquois annually distributes a useful reference guide to the general public, landowners, public officials, and emergency responders within our pipeline communities. It is important that Iroquois reach out and help our neighbors understand pipeline risks and ways to improve safety.

### How to identify the location of our pipeline



The Iroquois pipeline is marked and identified by 4' white markers with blue writing and trim.

These markers, which are mostly located at road crossings near where the pipeline is buried, display our name as well as our Emergency Contact Number (1-800-888-3982) on them.

### How to minimize pipeline damage

The greatest risk for pipeline damage is unintentional 3rd party intrusion or excavation. The importance of being aware of the presence of the pipeline and using the One-Call notification system (also known as Call Before You Dig) is paramount to avoiding such a situation.

Should you have any questions regarding restrictions to excavation activities within the vicinity of our

pipeline, or if you are aware of any excavation activities in the vicinity of our pipeline, they should be directed to an Iroquois Right-of-Way Agent.

To minimize the risk of excavation damage, underground utility damage prevention laws were established to promote the use of one-call centers. An excavator, who is anyone that uses power tools to break the ground surface, must place a call to 811 or their One-Call Center at least two (2) days before they start work.

The One-Call Center will automatically notify the owner(s) of underground utilities registered in the area of the excavation. Upon notification to Iroquois, a representative will mark the location of our facilities that could potentially be affected by the excavation.

There is no charge to the excavator for calling prior to excavation. However, an excavator who does not make the call can be subject to heavy penalties.

### How to recognize & report pipeline emergencies

There are three ways in which you may detect a pipeline emergency – through smell, sight and sound.

**SMELL** Since natural gas is colorless and odorless, typically a distinct and recognizable odorant is added so that people can recognize it quickly. That distinct odor is characteristically associated to the smell of rotten eggs.

**SIGHT** Visually a pipeline leak can be recognized by a cloud of dust, mist, fog, bubbles in standing water or vegetation that appears to be dead or dying for no apparent reason.

**SOUND** Any unusual noise like roaring, hissing or whistling can signal escaping gas.



### Know what's below. Call before you dig.

Call **811** or your local One-Call Center indicated below, at least (2) two working days before you start digging. This is a free service.

New York State: 1-800-962-7962  
Connecticut: 1-800-922-4455  
Long Island & NYC: 1-800-272-4480

### ACTION

- 1) First and foremost you should move to a safe location and warn others to do so as well.
- 2) Call your local emergency responders by dialing 911 and call Iroquois' Gas Control at 1-800-888-3982.
- 3) Within or around the area that you smell gas, do not strike a match, use telephones, operate engines and motors, or switch on/off appliances or even a flashlight. These items could produce sparks that might ignite the gas and cause an explosion.

**Have you moved? Sold your property? Rented to a new tenant? Please notify us so we may update our records:** Iroquois Gas Transmission System, L.P., Change of Address Notification, Right of Way Department, One Corporate Drive, Suite 600, Shelton, CT 06484. You may also use our toll-free Landowner Hotline at 1-800-253-5152, option 2; please speak clearly and include your old and new addresses and a contact number.

# Protecting High Consequence Areas

**The U.S. Department of Transportation requires pipeline operators to evaluate their pipelines and protect the public in High Consequence Areas. Iroquois created its Integrity Management Program to ensure our neighbors' safety.**

## Identifying HCAs

High Consequence Areas, also known as HCAs, dot the length of Iroquois' 411-mile pipeline route. A *High Consequence Area*, according to the DOT, is the zone within a potential impact circle containing 20 or more buildings intended for human occupancy or an *Identified Site*. An *Identified Site* means each of the following areas:

- An outside area or open structure that is occupied by 20 or more persons on at least 50 days in any 12-month period
- A building that is occupied by 20 or more persons on at least 5 days a week for 10 weeks in any 12-month period
- A facility occupied by persons who are confined, are of impaired mobility, or would be difficult to evacuate

Iroquois employed a number of methods to identify HCAs to meet the Department of Transportation's (DOT) mandate, including reviewing aerial photography, sending questionnaires to emergency response officials, reviewing business registrations, and searching data warehouses.

## Early Detection is Key

Our Integrity Management Program focuses on detecting potential issues (or areas of concern) as soon as possible. In addition to participating in one-call systems:

- Technicians walk the land sections of the pipeline with hydrocarbon

sniffers to detect underground leakage.

- Pilots and Technicians perform aerial or ground surveillance of the pipeline right-of-way to spot disturbance or activity near the pipeline by third parties.
- Technicians monitor our cathodic protection system to be sure the system is operating properly and protecting the pipeline from corrosion.
- Skilled industry experts perform periodic internal inspections of our pipeline, which help us detect metal loss, dents, or deformation from outside sources.

Our Engineering Services Department evaluates information from all these surveys to determine if remedial action is required.

## For Further Information

Iroquois' continued emphasis on operational safety, ongoing monitoring, maintenance, and regular inspections of the right-of-way ensures we are in compliance with the DOT's safety initiatives. *If you would like further information on the High Consequence Areas in your location or the steps taken to ensure the continued safe operation of the Iroquois pipeline, contact Brian Wolf, Manager, Engineering Services, 203-944-7021, brian\_wolf@iroquois.com.*

## Sample HCAs

- Beaches, playgrounds
- Recreational facilities, including those near a body of water
- Camping facilities, 4-H facilities
- Religious facilities
- Areas outside a rural building, such as a religious facility
- Office buildings, community centers
- Hospitals, prisons
- Schools, daycare facilities
- Outdoor theatres, stadiums
- Roller-skating rinks
- Retirement facilities, assisted-living facilities

## Right-of-Way Work Planned

This spring and throughout the year Iroquois will continue to monitor the reliability and integrity of its pipeline system. As they do every year, field crews will conduct cathodic protection and pipeline integrity surveys along Iroquois' right-of-way. These activities are part of our ongoing effort to ensure the safety of our pipeline system. We anticipate this work may be conducted in several phases. All Iroquois field crews will carry identification authorizing their presence on our right-of-way. Please contact your ROW representative if you have any questions or require additional information.

## Right-of-Way Agent Contact Information

**All Emergencies:** 1-800-888-3982  
**Landowners' Hotline**  
**Non-Emergency:** 1-800-253-5152

### Northern New York District

Agent: Phil McDonald  
7267 Old State Road  
Croghan, NY 13327  
315-346-1615 ext. 228

COUNTIES COVERED:

NY: St. Lawrence, Lewis, Oneida, Herkimer, & Montgomery

### Southern New York District/Long Island and Connecticut

Agent: Spencer Robinson  
915 Schoharie Turnpike  
Athens, NY 12015  
518-945-2685 ext. 226

COUNTIES COVERED:

NY: Schoharie, Schenectady, Albany, Greene, Columbia, Dutchess, Suffolk (Long Island), & Bronx

CT: Fairfield, Litchfield, & New Haven

## Additional Safety Information

We also encourage you to read our brochures "Guidelines for Landowners, Developers and Contractors" and "An Important Safety Message for Contractors and Excavators" Both of which are available on Iroquois' web site at [www.iroquois.com](http://www.iroquois.com) or contact Paul Amato, Director of Field Operations and Right-of-Way, Iroquois Gas Transmission System, L.P., One Corporate Drive, Shelton, CT 06484, 203-925-7267, or [paul\\_amato@iroquois.com](mailto:paul_amato@iroquois.com).