

## Safe Operations & System Reliability

### Iroquois' Integrity Management Program focuses on detecting potential issues as soon as possible.

The importance Iroquois places on safe operations and system reliability is reflected in the use of current technology – not only for our upgrades and expansions, but also in our ongoing Integrity Management Program which focuses on detecting potential issues (or areas of concern) as soon as possible. Iroquois' program, in compliance with the safety initiatives of the U.S. Department of Transportation, currently includes the following activities:

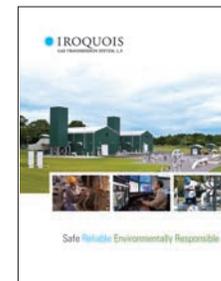
- Iroquois contractors walk the land sections of the pipeline with

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 that help us detect metal loss, dents, or deformation from outside sources.

Our Engineering Services Department evaluates information from all

these sources to determine if remedial action is required. High priority is given to zones considered to be High Consequence Areas (HCA) such as areas close to hospitals, schools, prisons, playgrounds, religious facilities and highly populated areas.



To learn more about Iroquois' operations, we invite you to view our new informational brochure available in pdf format on our website at

[www.iroquois.com/safety-resources.asp](http://www.iroquois.com/safety-resources.asp) or email [ruth\\_parkins@iroquois.com](mailto:ruth_parkins@iroquois.com) to request a print copy.

## Walking the Line to Conduct Close Interval Surveys

Many tools and techniques are utilized in Iroquois' Integrity Management Program to ensure the ongoing safety and reliability of our pipeline. Every year, Iroquois technicians and/or its contractors don their protective gear and head out to walk the land portion of our Right-of-Way looking for unusual activity, signs of ground disturbance and invasive species. They also test the operation of the pipeline's cathodic protection system that is designed to protect the buried pipeline from corrosion.

In addition to the annual walk, Iroquois periodically performs Close Interval Surveys (CIS) of its entire line on an ongoing and staggered basis. The CIS, performed by specialists who are qualified to engage in the practice of corrosion control, is an indirect assessment used to determine the adequacy of the cathodic protection system.

A CIS crew typically consists of three technicians, each with a specific task. One technician is responsible for taking the lead in identifying the exact location of the buried pipeline and recording GPS coordinates for all easily identifiable features such as rock walls, road crossings, streams, etc. This allows Iroquois to return to a precise location if follow up testing is required.

The second technician follows directly behind. With a very fine gauge wire trailing behind him that is connected to the pipeline via the existing testing points, he records cathodic protection voltages every 5 feet while walking directly over the pipeline. The voltage measured between the trail wire and a portable reference electrode placed on the soil above the pipe, can be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the pipeline's cathodic protection system.

The third technician is responsible for picking up the survey wire as soon as the survey section has been completed. Depending on the terrain, a survey crew can be expected to survey between three to five miles per day.

The data obtained from the CIS survey is used to identify locations where the pipeline coating may have deteriorated, or locations where additional cathodic protection may be needed.



## Right-of-Way Work Planned

As occurs every year, Iroquois will conduct cathodic protection and pipeline integrity surveys along Iroquois' Right-of-Way. We anticipate this work may be conducted in several phases. All Iroquois field crews and contractors will carry identification authorizing their presence on our Right-of-Way. Please contact the ROW representative listed below should you have any questions or require additional information.

### 2015 PLANNED ACTIVITIES:

- In Spring, an internal inspection will be conducted on segments of the pipeline. Surveyors will flag way-points along the route for mapping and tracking of the inspection tool.
- Spring to early Summer, Iroquois contractors will walk along the pipeline route with detectors checking for leaks as part of our Annual Leak and Test Lead Post Survey.
- Beginning early Spring, Iroquois contractors will conduct a Close Interval Survey (CIS) on Long Island and in Connecticut.
- In late August, mowing activities will begin in upstate New York.
- In the Fall, a calibration dig will be done to verify data obtained from the internal inspection device with actual measurements.
- Technicians will be repairing, replacing and installing additional pipeline markers in New York State.
- Additional rectifiers will be installed where needed to provide continuous cathodic protection to the pipeline.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**Gas Emergencies: 1-800-888-3982**

Landowners' Hotline

Non-Emergency: 1-800-253-5152

Spencer Robinson  
ROW Manager  
915 Schoharie Turnpike  
Athens, NY 12015  
518-669-9748  
spencer\_robinson@iroquois.com

CONNECT WITH US



## Creating Awareness for Pipeline Safety

Providing valuable safety information to all our pipeline stakeholders – landowners, public officials and local emergency responders – is an essential part of Iroquois' Public Awareness Program. Every Spring, Iroquois produces this newsletter to create awareness of our pipeline and inform our neighbors as to how we can partner together in pipeline safety.

### Hazard Awareness and Prevention

Iroquois operates a 416-mile natural gas transmission pipeline. Natural gas transmission pipelines are considered to be one of the safest and most secure methods of transportation. However, as with all forms of energy, natural gas must be handled properly. Iroquois works diligently to ensure the safety of our pipeline through a variety of measures including:

- Participation in One-Call and Dig-Safe programs
- Integrity management
- Public education
- Pipeline markers and facility mapping
- Communication and coordination with city and municipal agencies
- Security measures

### Help Prevent Pipeline Damage

The greatest risk for pipeline damage is unintentional third party intrusion or excavation. Being aware of the presence of the pipeline, and use of the One-Call notification system, are paramount to avoiding such a situation. Ways you can help include:

- Call 811 or your local one-call center at least two full working days before you start digging.
- Report unauthorized excavation or suspicious activity at any pipeline facility to 800-888-3982.
- Notify Iroquois immediately if you become aware of or suspect you have

caused damage to the pipeline. It is imperative that Iroquois inspect or repair (if necessary) the problem as any damage, even if it appears to be minor, may lead to a future leak or failure.

### Leak Recognition and Response

A natural gas leak is usually recognized by smell, sight or sound.

**SMELL:** Natural gas is colorless and odorless. Typically, a distinct and recognizable odorant is added to natural gas so that people detect and recognize it immediately.

**SIGHT:** A dust cloud, mist, fog, bubbles in standing water, or vegetation that appears to be dead or dying for no apparent reason.

**SOUND:** An unusual noise like roaring, hissing or whistling.

### If you suspect a leak:

**MOVE** to a safe location.

**CALL** local emergency responders at 911 and Iroquois' Gas Control at 800-888-3982.

**DO NOT** strike a match, use land or cell phones, operate engines and motors, switch lights or appliances on/off, or even turn on a flashlight in the area where you smell gas. These items can produce sparks that might ignite the gas and cause an explosion.

### What Emergency Personnel should do if they suspect a gas leak:

**SECURE** the site and take steps to eliminate ignition sources.

**EVACUATE** the general public from the vicinity of the leak.

**CONTROL** secondary fires.

**DO NOT** try to extinguish a gas burning fire unless there is a threat to life.

**CONTACT** Iroquois at 800-888-3982.



## Call Before You Dig Numbers

Nationwide: 811

New York State: 1-800-962-7962

Connecticut: 1-800-922-4455

Long Island & New York City: 1-800-272-4480