# iroquois report

April 2018 Spring Safety Issue

## **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 on-going integrity monitoring program that 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:

• Technicians walk the land sections of the pipeline 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.

 Internal inspections of the 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. Extra measures are taken to protect zones considered to be High Consequence Areas (HCA) such as areas near hospitals, schools, prisons, playgrounds, religious facilities and highly populated areas.

For additional information on HCAs located in your community, contact Mike Kinik, Director of Engineering Services at 203-925-7223 or michael\_kinik@iroquois.com.

# **Iroquois President Jeff Bruner Elected Chairman of INGAA**



Iroquois President Jeff Bruner was recently elected chairman of the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America (INGAA) for a one-year term.

INGAA's membership, comprised of the vast majority of interstate natural gas pipelines in the United States and Canada, collectively deliver natural gas safely, reliably and efficiently throughout North America by way of more than 200,000 miles of underground pipeline.

Prior to being named president of Iroquois in 2013, Bruner was vice president, general counsel at Iroquois for over 20 years. As INGAA chairman, Bruner's priorities include creating awareness of natural gas as

an essential part of a diverse mix of complementary energy resources that will meet our nation's current and future needs, presrving the integrity of the interstate natural gas pipeline permitting process, and promoting INGAA members' commitment to safe and responsible pipeline construction and operation.

"We must increase public awareness of the attributes of natural gas—a clean, reliable, affordable and domestically abundant fuel that has helped reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 11 percent over the past 12 years at the same time as domestic natural gas production increased 50 percent" said Bruner.

To learn more about natural gas and the interstate pipelines that transport it, visit the INGAA website at www.ingaa.org/Pipelines101.aspx

In addition to heating our homes, natural gas generates much of the nation's electricity and is used to manufacture products we use every day.

America's Energy Link, an INGAA initiative, offers insight into how natural gas helps spur our economy, and how Americans benefit from having such a reliable link to abundant natural gas supplies.

Read the facts, learn about the benefits of natural gas, and join the conversation at:

www.ingaa.org/energylink/





### **Right-of-Way Work Planned**

As occurs every year, Iroquois will conduct its 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.

### **2018 PLANNED ACTIVITIES**

#### **SPRING to SUMMER:**

- Iroquois contractors will walk along the pipeline route with portable leak detection equipment as part of our Annual Leak Survey. At the same time, we will conduct our annual Test Lead Post Survey and Close Interval Survey verifying the effectiveness of our cathodic protection system.
- Digs will be done at various locations in upstate New York to verify data obtained from the internal inspection device and to assess the pipeline coating condition.
- Inspections of the pipeline at major river crossings will be conducted.
- Mitigation devices will be installed along sections of the pipeline that are co-located with high-voltage electrical lines in upstate New York.

#### **SUMMER:**

- Repairs will be made to a small stream crossing in upstate New York.
- An internal inspection will be conducted on a 36 mile offshore segment of the pipeline in Long Island Sound.

#### **LATE SUMMER to FALL:**

- A section of pipe in New York will be vented to install facilities to serve the Cricket Valley Energy Center.
- Vegetation maintenance activities will begin in Connecticut around October 1st.

#### IMPORTANT REMINDER

The use of the Right-of-Way is exclusive to the Iroquois Pipeline Operating Company and the landowner. Iroquois cannot grant permission to a 3rd party to use the Right-of-Way for any use, including but not limited to walking, biking or the use of recreational vehicles such as ATV's and motorized bikes. Any use of the Right-of-Way without permission from either Iroquois or the landowner is considered trespassing.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

Landowners' Hotline Non-Emergency:

1-800-253-5152

Spencer Robinson, ROW Manager 915 Schoharie Tpk, Athens, NY 12015 518-669-9748

spencer\_robinson@iroquois.com

### **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.

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### **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

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