

April Is National Safe Digging Month

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 the safest and most secure method of transporting natural gas. 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

Know what's below.
Call before you dig.



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 your 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 activities 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.

Emergency Preparedness

Iroquois provides training and maintains a continuing relationship with emergency responders and local officials within our pipeline communities to prevent and prepare for emergencies. For those interested in attending a safety presentation, please contact one of our right of way agents listed on reverse side.

Iroquois Employee Honored by Dig Safe New York

John Keefe, a Multi-Skilled Technician at Iroquois' Dover, NY facility, is the recipient of the 2010 Outstanding Service Award by Dig Safe New York (DSNY) Hudson Valley Council. John was selected by his peers to receive this special award in recognition of his outstanding service and significant contribution to the council.

In addition to John's involvement, Iroquois maintains membership on many state and national organizations focused on the damage prevention of underground utilities -- such as Common Ground Alliance (CGA), creators of the nationwide 811 Call Before You Dig number. Our right-of-way personnel work closely with these groups and serve as representatives on the boards of DSNY's Damage Prevention Councils of the Northeast, Capital District, Central New York and Hudson Valley; Call Before You Dig (CBYD) Connecticut, Dig Net of Long Island and New York City; as well as CBYD's Damage Prevention & Education Committee.

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 help ensure our neighbors' safety.

Identifying HCAs

High Consequence Areas, also known as HCAs, dot the length of Iroquois' 416-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. These *Identified Sites* include:

- 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 employs 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

If you would like further information on the High Consequence Areas located in your community, contact Mike Kinik, Manager, Engineering Services, 203-925-7223, or mike_kinik@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.

2011 MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES: Mowing activities in Southern New York are scheduled to begin in late August and end late Fall.



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

Southern New York District/Long Island and Connecticut

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

Call Before You Dig Numbers

Nationwide: 811
New York State: 1-800-962-7962
Connecticut: 1-800-922-4455
Long Island & NYC: 1-800-272-4480