

# Natural Gas Master Meter Operator Public Awareness Plan

Facility Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## **PUBLIC AWARENESS PLAN**

A continuing education program to enable occupants, in recognizing a natural gas pipeline emergency for the purpose of reporting it to the master meter operator, Fire Department, or Local Gas Supply Company.

This plan is being provided pursuant to compliance with the minimum Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations 49 CFR Part §192.616 Public Awareness. (**Name of Operator**) is by definition a natural gas master meter operator purchasing natural gas through one main gas meter. (**Our Gas Supplier**) owns the gas piping up to and including the one main gas meter and is not responsible for the maintenance of the gas piping supplying gas to all the buildings on our property. (**Name of Operator**) is responsible for all the natural gas piping after the gas meter, both above and below ground, and therefore must comply with the minimum Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations 49 CFR Part §192.

The plan material shall include, but is not limited to:

- 1 Information about gas properties.
- 2 Recognition of gas odors.
- 3 What to do and not to do when there is a strong gas odor.
- 4 Liaison with Public Officials and provide appropriate contact telephone numbers, to obtain information or report an emergency.

The operator must develop and implement a written procedure to provide its customers public awareness messages **twice annually**. If the master meter gas system is located on property the operator does not control, the operator must provide similar messages twice annually to persons controlling the property. The public awareness message must include:

- (1) A description of the purpose and reliability of the pipeline;
- (2) An overview of the hazards of the pipeline and prevention measures used;
- (3) Information about damage prevention;
- (4) How to recognize and respond to a leak; and
- (5) How to get additional information by the following but not limited to: Bulletins; Meetings; Hand-outs; Scratch & sniff pamphlets

A record shall be maintained of the public education program and related activities.

## **GAS PROPERTIES**

Natural gas normally is non-toxic, tasteless, colorless and odorless. For your safety, an acrid chemical, is added to the natural gas so that you will recognize it immediately, should there ever be a leak. This chemical makes natural gas smell like sulphur, or rotten eggs.

**RECOGNITION OF GAS ODOR**

If you smell natural gas...Leave the building immediately, taking everyone with you (including pets), and leave all doors and windows open behind you. Don't re-enter the home to open doors and windows.

**Do Not:**

- 1 Use phones, computers, appliances, elevators or garage door openers
- 2 Touch electrical outlets, switches or doorbells
- 3 Smoke or use a lighter, match or other open flame
- 4 Position or operate vehicles or powered equipment where leaking natural gas may be present

**Do:**

- 1 From an outside location call the gas company at 000-000-0000 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Hearing & Speech Impaired: Dial 711.
- 2 From an outside location call other emergency contact persons

**EMERGENCY CALL LIST**

Fire Department: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gas Supply Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Operator Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
Police Department: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pipeline Safety: \_\_\_\_\_  
Blue Stakes: \_\_\_\_\_

**DAMAGE PREVENTION**

No person or company shall begin any excavation on the operator's properties before notifying the operator. When notified of an excavation, the operator will locate their natural gas lines as local rules require. All marks for gas lines will be yellow in color. Location requests will be documented.