



Natural Gas Awareness and Safety

The City of Kings Mountain owns and operates a natural gas system that provides service to industrial, commercial, and residential customers in and around the city limits of Kings Mountain for use in manufacturing, space heating, water heating, and cooking, etc. Kings Mountain's Natural gas pipelines quietly, reliably and efficiently deliver natural gas throughout the country for domestic and industrial use. As part of the greater industry's 2.6 million miles of natural gas and liquid pipelines, Kings Mountain operates a natural gas distribution system that safely delivers large quantities of energy to fuel the economy and keep us warm every day. Pipelines are the safest and most cost effective way of delivering energy in existence. The City of Kings Mountain would like to inform residents about the accident prevention efforts that are undertaken to maintain the excellent pipeline safety record of the industry. Kings Mountain inspects mains and services that are excavated as well as monitors above-ground piping for corrosion. We apply and monitor corrosion prevention measures to prevent steel from deteriorating below ground and they regularly patrol surface conditions for hazards to the pipelines. We also use leak detection equipment that can detect the tiniest quantity of gas to determine whether a leak may exist below ground. Equipment is inspected and maintained regularly as well include below-ground emergency valves.

We ask you to review this information and share it with others. During our Presentation we hope you:

- Understand the purpose of the pipeline
- Understand the potential pipeline hazards and preventative measures for safe pipeline operations
- Know how to work around pipelines
- Identify pipelines
- Recognize a natural gas leak
- Understand steps to take in case of an Emergency

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

The City of Kings Mountain performs the following preventative efforts to maintain the pipeline safety:

- Inspect Mains and Services during Excavation
- Monitor and Patrol pipeline surface conditions for hazards to the pipeline
- Apply Corrosion Prevention Measures
- Inspect belowground emergency valves regularly
- Use Leak Detection Equipment to detect whether a leak exists on the pipeline
- The Equipment used by the City of Kings Mountain is inspected and maintained regularly

How TO RECOGNIZE A PIPELINE LEAK

- Fire or Explosion near a pipeline
- Smell for an unusual odor, often described as "rotten egg"
- Listen for hissing or roaring sound
- Discoloration of vegetation in close proximity to pipeline
- Unusual blowing of dirt or dust
- Persistent bubbles in water



WHAT IS A PIPELINE EMERGENCY?

A Pipeline Emergency is any of the Following:

- Fire or explosion near or directly involving a pipeline or pipeline facility
- A leaking pipeline
- A damaged or weakened pipeline
- A natural disaster affecting the pipeline such as an earthquake, flood, or soil erosion

IN CASE OF A PIPELINE EMERGENCY?

Procedures to follow during a Pipeline Emergency are:

- Immediately walk away
- Warn others to stay away or leave the area
- Do not expose the area to open flames, cell phones, pagers, motor vehicles or any other item that may ignite the gas
- From a safe location contact the City of Kings Mountain at 704-734-4516
- In an emergency call 911

The leading cause of accidental releases of gas is due to damage of a below ground line by someone performing excavation or earth moving. The "ONE-CALL" system was setup to help prevent this hazard. If you dig, please contact NC One-Call Center toll-free **811** or log on to the website <http://www.nc811.org> to request a location of underground utilities. The North Carolina STATE LAW requires that excavators give **at least 3 Day Notice** prior to excavation.

If you have any other questions or concerns about the City's natural gas system, pipeline safety, or how to recognize a pipeline leak please give our office a call at 704-734-4516 between 7:30 am and 4:00 pm.

Sincerely,

Wayne T. Ledbetter III

Wayne Ledbetter

Energy Services Director