

## 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 414-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:

- Emergency responder outreach
- 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.

### Emergency Preparedness

During 2023, Iroquois will be reaching out to emergency responders and local fire departments that serve its pipeline communities in Long Island, as well as Montgomery, Schoharie, Schenectady, and Albany counties in New York to schedule in person Natural Gas Pipeline Safety and Emergency Response Presentations. In addition, we are offering virtual presentations to any emergency response organization that would like to receive this safety training. Please contact Spencer Robinson at 518-669-9748 for more information or to request a meeting.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

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

## Right-of-Way Work Planned

Each year, Iroquois conducts cathodic protection and pipeline integrity surveys along its Right-of-Way (ROW). This work may be conducted in several phases. All Iroquois field crews and contractors will carry identification authorizing their presence on our ROW. Please contact Iroquois' ROW Manager should you have any questions or require additional information.

### 2023 PLANNED ACTIVITIES

#### SPRING/SUMMER:

- An aerial inspection of the pipeline land route will be performed as part of our Annual Leak Survey. In addition, technicians and contractors will walk sections of the pipeline to conduct an annual Test Lead Post Survey verifying the effectiveness of our cathodic protection system.
- Pipeline integrity digs will be done at various locations in upstate New York and Connecticut to verify data obtained from inspection assessments.
- An in-line integrity inspection (ILI) will be conducted on the Zone 1 30" mainline pipe in upstate New York.

#### LATE SUMMER/ FALL:

- Vegetation maintenance activities will begin in upstate New York in August.
- Technicians and contractors will walk sections of the pipeline in upstate New York to conduct a Close Interval Survey verifying the effectiveness of our cathodic protection system.
- ROW ground repairs will be performed at various locations in Connecticut.

### 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](mailto:spencer_robinson@iroquois.com)

**Have you moved, sold your property or rented to a new tenant?** Please notify us so we may update our records: Iroquois Gas Transmission System, L.P., Change of Address Notification, Right-of-Way Department, One Corporate Drive, Suite 600, Shelton, CT 06484. Or, call our Landowner Hotline at 1-800-253-5152, option 2.

## 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:

- Aerial inspections of our pipeline land route are performed 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, Engineering Services at 203-925-7223 or [michael\\_kinik@iroquois.com](mailto:michael_kinik@iroquois.com).

## Excavator Safety Conferences

Iroquois sponsored a Call Before You Dig (CBYD) Underground Safety Conference on March 7, 2023.

Attendees learned about Connecticut state regulations, best excavating practices, and the CBYD damage protection program.

In addition, Iroquois sponsored March UDIG NY "Spring into Safety" events in Oneida and St. Lawrence counties. These events serve as an annual refresher course for excavators who have already completed the UDig NY Certified Excavator Program.

Iroquois maintains membership with, and is actively involved on, many state and national organizations focused on the damage prevention of underground utilities.



*Iroquois Field Operations employees Mark Llanos, Jim Plungis, Tom Bashaw and Ralph Krohne.*

Iroquois Director of Field Operations Tom Bashaw is past president of CBYD and several of our field personnel serve as representatives on the boards of UDIG NY Damage Prevention Councils of the Northeast, Capital Region, Central New York, Mohawk Valley and Hudson Valley; DigNet of Long Island and NYC.



### Call Before You Dig Numbers

Nationwide: 811 / [www.safeexcavator.com/811](http://www.safeexcavator.com/811)

Connecticut: 1-800-922-4455 / [www.cbyd.com](http://www.cbyd.com)

New York State: 315-457-7394 / [www.udigny.org](http://www.udigny.org)

Long Island & NYC: 1-800-272-4480 / [www.newyork-811.com](http://www.newyork-811.com)