



“In our ongoing efforts to better serve you, this valuable information is to inform you of the City's gas pipeline facilities and hazard awareness, because your safety is important to us”.

Mayor Tony E. Marquez, Jr.

Pipeline purpose and reliability

The City of Las Vegas operates 110 miles of steel and plastic gas distribution pipelines that are located in streets and alleys in the City limits, Luna Community College and United World College. These pipelines serve to deliver natural gas to residential and commercial City customers.

The pipelines are regulated by the NM Public Regulations Commission. The City of Las Vegas Gas Department ensures the safety and reliability of the pipelines by routinely performing the inspection and maintenance to keep the pipelines operating safely.

The City strives to ensure safe, reliable natural gas service by complying with all state and federal regulations for the operation and maintenance of City gas facilities.

Summary description of pipeline facilities

The City of Las Vegas owns and operates natural gas pipelines within the city to deliver natural gas to residential and commercial customer. These pipelines are both steel and plastic ranging in size from 1 to 8 inches in diameter. The operating pressures are controlled at pressure regulator stations that are fenced facilities visible at specific locations in the City. The pressure regulator stations are vital to the safe operation of the entire pipeline system and must be properly secured to prevent any unauthorized access to the facilities. Except for these above ground fenced facilities, all pipelines are buried at least 24 inches.

Awareness of hazards and prevention measures undertaken

If you are in the area of a City gas line and you hear a hissing or blowing sound, or if you detect a strong smell like sulfur or rotten eggs you are detecting the signs of a possible gas leak and should leave the area immediately. DO NOT attempt to locate a gas leak. Call the City Gas Department at (505)454-0265, or call 911 if this occurs after 5:00 p.m.

Damage prevention awareness; call before you dig, recognizing and reporting unauthorized excavation

If you intend to dig, New Mexico law require you to notify the New Mexico One Call center at 811 in advance of any excavation. All necessary precautions must be taken prior to, and from the beginning to the end of the excavation process to prevent damage to any underground utility. If you damage a buried steel or plastic gas line, you are prohibited by New Mexico state law to attempt to make any repairs and you are required to promptly notify the City Gas Department at



(505) 454-0265. If the damage results in a gas release, both the utility owner and the City Fire Department, (505)425-6321, must be notified immediately.

Safety is everyone's responsibility. When you see excavation equipment operating in any area within the City of Las Vegas, be observant for yellow markings that indicate a site of approved excavation. If you see what may appear to be unauthorized excavation work in progress, or intended, (no yellow markings visible) please report your observations to the City Gas Department at (505) 454-0265.

Gas leak recognition and response; reporting a potential hazard

Natural gas is lighter than air and can therefore dissipate into the air rapidly. Natural gas has a very narrow range of flammability and will ignite only in a concentration of 4 to 15 percent gas per volume of air. Natural gas will not ignite with a concentration below or above this range.

The physical characteristics of natural gas make accidental combustion difficult, and contribute to its excellent safety record. Nonetheless, helping the public and City gas customers learn safety measures around natural gas is a top priority. If a gas leak should occur on a pipeline it could be identified by a hissing sound and/or by the odor of natural gas which is pungent like sulfur and rotten eggs. If you are in the area of a gas line and you notice such signs of a possible gas leak leave the area immediately and call 911 or the City of Las Vegas Gas Department at (505) 454-0265. DO NOT attempt to locate a gas leak.

The City Gas Department has capabilities to respond to any type of emergency involving its natural gas pipelines. The City maintains communications and coordination in emergency preparedness with emergency response agencies and personnel who will provide assistance in a gas emergency.

How to get additional information

Information regarding any aspect of the City's gas distribution system can be obtained by calling the City Gas Department at (505) 454-0265, or by arranging to meet in person with the Gas Supervisor.

This is a requirement for public awareness by the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission.