

Black Hills Energy conducts a pipeline public awareness program on behalf of these companies or towns:

- Absolute Energy, LLC
- Ag Processing, Inc. – Mason City, IA
- Ag Processing, Inc. – Algona, IA
- Archer Daniels Midland Company/Fremont
- Arkalon Ethanol, LLC
- City of Abbyville, KS
- City of Attica, KS
- City of Waukee, IA
- Corn LP
- DuPont
- Flint Hills Resources
- Green Plains Ethanol
- Haven Steel
- Homeland Energy
- Mid-Kansas Electric Co
- POET Bio-refining
- Sioux City Brick & Tile
- SIRE, LLC
- Sunflower Electric Power Co
- Town of Aguilar, CO

**Important numbers:
Always have them handy**

Black Hills Energy emergency number	800-694-8989
Public service emergency number	911
Black Hills Energy Customer Service	888-890-5554
Black Hills Energy Customer Service (Cheyenne, WY)	866-264-8003
National One-Call (Call Before You Dig!)	811

Additional information

- For a list of natural gas service providers and pipeline operators in your area, visit www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov.
- For a land-use checklist developed by the Pipeline and Informed Planning Alliance, visit <http://1.usa.gov/11Mpajm>.
- For a summary of initiatives that encourage communication between pipeline operators, contractors and land developers, visit <http://1.usa.gov/11ABp5b>.
- Learn more about our gathering, transmission and larger distribution pipelines, including un-odorized line segments, in relation to the address you specify at www.pipelinesnearby.org.
- Visit our website at www.blackhillsenergy.com.
- For more information about pipelines, compressor stations, or storage facilities in your community, contact us at **888-890-5554**.
- For excavation practices near underground facilities, visit www.commongroundalliance.com.

**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**



**Know what's below:
Call before you dig.**

If you smell gas, call Black Hills Energy's emergency number at **800-694-8989**.

BBHE-PO



Gas Engineering
1102 East First Street
Papillion, NE 68046

Natural gas pipeline safety
Information for local leaders, public works, permitting and planning officials

Permitting, planning and excavation decisions impact individuals living and working near pipelines.



Pipeline purpose and reliability

Natural gas pipelines are the safest way to move natural gas from place to place. In the United States, a vast network of pipelines delivers the many benefits of natural gas energy to millions of consumers nationwide.

Gathering lines transport gas from the production site to processing facilities and connect to transmission lines that carry gas from one part of the state to another. Our distribution lines run throughout neighborhoods and connect to homes and businesses. Pipeline operators follow stringent safety standards with regard to design, construction, operation, maintenance and security. For safety's sake, we regularly patrol our pipelines and follow a carefully planned maintenance and replacement schedule.

Natural gas has been a proven, popular solution to our country's energy needs for more than a century.

Natural gas is:

- An abundant source of energy, with U.S. supplies projected to last at least another 100 years.
- The cleanest fossil fuel, placing it at the forefront of green energy initiatives.
- A domestic source of energy found throughout North America, therefore helping to reduce our dependence on foreign oil.
- A reliable source of energy, with outages seldom occurring, usually confined to a relatively small area, and generally lasting less than a few hours.

Hazard awareness and prevention measures

Natural gas is a clean-burning, efficient fuel that is colorless, tasteless and lighter than air. It's also odorless in its natural state. So to help people detect leaks, utilities add a foul-smelling odorant to the fuel before sending it to all urban and most (but not all) rural consumers.

Natural gas is mostly methane, which has a high ignition temperature and a narrow range of flammability. That said, even the smallest of sparks can cause a fire or explosion if the right circumstances exist. To protect the pipelines and communities we serve we perform employee training, regular maintenance and testing, corrosion protection, and inspections to check for leaks and damage.

Product	Leak Type	Vapors	Health Hazards	Fire Hazards
Natural gas	Gas	Lighter than air	Extremely high concentrations may cause irritation or asphyxiation	Extremely flammable and easily ignited by heat, sparks or flames. Explosive in enclosed areas

Emergency preparedness

We maintain close relationships with local emergency response officials and provide them with detailed information about responding to a gas-related incident. The information that we provide includes our priority to public safety first, emergency contact information, how to access our emergency response plans, and the availability of emergency drills and exercises. Our partnerships help prevent incidents and keep us constantly prepared to respond immediately and effectively in the unlikely event of an emergency.

Our first priority is to protect life, second to protect property and third to maintain service. If a pipeline emergency occurs in your community, call 911 first and then notify our 24-hour emergency number.

Damage prevention and One-Call requirements

Call Before You Dig! It's SAFE, it's FREE and it's the LAW!

As a public official, you serve a critical role in helping to prevent pipeline incidents. It is imperative that you take every opportunity to promote Call Before You Dig. Prevent a potential disaster by stopping anyone from digging on unmarked land, and make sure that law enforcement and emergency response personnel are aware of the Call Before You Dig law and remain vigilant.

Has your city or county crew damaged a pipeline?

Pipeline damage most often occurs during excavation. Everyone, including you, is responsible for keeping the natural gas system safe. If our pipeline has been hit, dented or scraped or someone suspects a leak, call 911 and Black Hills Energy at **800-694-8989**.



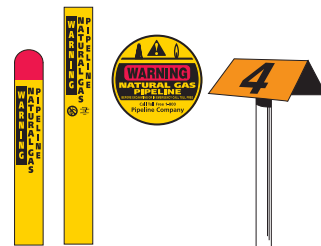
www.call811.com
Remember – Call 811 Before You Dig!

A quick call to this free service is an absolute must. Safeguard property, avoid a costly repair bill and, most importantly, protect lives.

One-Call requirements: Call Before You Dig!

Members of your community can avoid a costly repair bill and, more importantly, keep the community safe, by doing the following. Please help us to promote the following steps.

1. Call your state's One Call center at least two full business days before you plan to dig. This free service will notify all utilities in your area of your plans to dig. The toll-free, nationwide Call Before You Dig number is 811.
2. Pre-mark the excavation area using white paint or flags. Within two business days, someone from each utility will arrive at your site to mark the approximate location of buried lines with paint or flags at no cost to you.
3. Dig with care! Lines cannot be exactly pinpointed and the depth can't be precisely determined. Please use extreme care when digging anywhere near the markings.
4. Call to have the locations remarked for free if the original ones are disturbed or your project will be delayed by more than seven days. (Don't forget, you need to call at least two full business days before work does begin).



Pipeline location information

Most natural gas pipelines are buried out of sight. But they should never be out of mind.

Pipeline signs, as shown, are placed where pipelines intersect public roads, river crossings and railways.

They explain what the pipeline carries and provide the pipeline operator's name and phone number in case of an emergency.

Pipeline signs do not indicate the exact location or depth of the pipeline and may not be present in certain areas. Always call 811, even when you're digging by a marked pipeline.

Integrity management and high consequence areas

Your role as a public official

Our integrity management plan focuses on areas our industry defines as high consequence areas. These are places people congregate, including playgrounds, hospitals, churches, schools, daycare facilities, retirement homes and correctional facilities. Our integrity management plan is designed to provide a safe and reliable transmission pipeline system by monitoring and acting upon threats to pipeline safety in a systematic way. The plan provides for an initial assessment of pipeline integrity and periodic confirmation of the pipeline's integrity through continuous inspection, testing, and assessment of historical data.

For a one-page overview of our integrity management plan, please go to www.blackhillsenergy.com/pipeline-integrity

The right-of-way

In your role as a public official, we need your help to protect the rights-of-way that all utilities are granted by agreement with local officials. These rights-of-way provide utilities with access to work on their lines so they can respond effectively to emergencies.

Please help us to maintain the rights-of-way by informing the public of right-of-way rules and limitations and ensuring that rights-of-way are kept clear of obstructions such as trees, shrubs, overgrowth, buildings, fences, structures or any other encroachments that might interfere with access to the pipeline. Encroachments on the right-of-way inhibit the company's ability to reduce third-party damages, provide right-of-way surveillance, and perform routine maintenance and required federal/state inspections. Maintaining a pipeline right-of-way free of encroachments is an essential element of maintaining pipeline integrity and safety.

Decisions public officials make about public or private use of land along the right-of-way can impact public safety. Pipeline incidents present risks that may impact public welfare, property, the environment and local economy far beyond the edges of the right-of-way. Contact us with any questions about the right-of-way or if you plan to dig or build where the right-of-way could be involved.