

Be safe



There are natural gas high-pressure transmission pipelines near your residence or work location



Your safety is important to us

San Diego Gas & Electric® (SDG&E®) operates natural gas transmission pipelines and facilities near your home or business. These high-pressure pipelines and facilities help deliver natural gas to customers across the county in a safe manner. However, there are times when their safety could be compromised.

Digging or demolition near underground pipelines can lead to serious bodily harm, project delays and financial consequences, such as heavy fines that may exceed \$50,000. Something as simple as denting or scraping

a pipeline can lead to a dangerous break and result in a leak. You can help prevent pipeline damage and keep your neighborhood and workplace safe by understanding the information in this brochure.

STAY SAFE



Report suspicious individuals or activities around pipelines immediately to **1-800-411-7343** or **911**.

Putting safety first

• **We routinely perform pipeline safety tasks**, including patrolling, testing, repairing and replacing pipelines. Our employees also have ongoing technical training and testing. Our Integrity Management plans outline our continuous safety and maintenance activities and are available for review. We also maintain ongoing relationships with emergency response officials to prepare for and respond to any pipeline emergency.



- To perform maintenance and inspections and to respond to pipeline emergencies, **SDG&E must be able to access its pipeline right-of-way**. We urge property owners to not place obstructions such as trees, shrubs, buildings, fences, structures or any other encroachments on our pipeline right-of-way.
- **Report suspicious individuals or activities** around pipelines immediately to **1-800-411-7343** or **911**.
- For more information, visit sdge.com/dig.

Contact 811 before you dig

Did you know pipelines may be located anywhere, including under streets, sidewalks and even private property? **Sometimes, pipelines are located just inches below the surface.**

For your safety, and the safety of those around you, it's important to know where pipelines are before you begin any type of digging. Whether you're planning to build a major development or just landscaping your yard, contact **811** or submit a location request at digalert.org at least two working days before you dig to have lines marked.

The service is free and can help prevent injury, costly property damage and loss of utility service.

Even a slight gouge, scrape or dent to a pipeline, electric line or their coating may eventually cause a dangerous break or leak. That's why it's important to know where pipelines and electric lines are buried before you begin any type of digging. Regardless of the size and scope of the work you're planning, keep yourself and those around you safe by following these important steps:



It's a free service

- **MARK** out your proposed excavation area in white paint or provide other suitable markings.
- **CONTACT** DigAlert at least two working days before digging at **811** or submit a location request at digalert.org. SDG&E as well as other local utilities, will mark the location of all utility-owned lines free of charge.
- **WAIT** to allow the utilities two working days to mark utility-owned gas and electric lines (and indicate material and diameter) or to advise you the area is clear of their lines before you dig.
- **CONFIRM** utilities have marked the proposed work area – yellow for natural gas; red for electricity. If no buried utilities are in your work area, you may get a call, email or see written on the ground: "no conflict," or "no natural gas" or "no electricity."
- **USE ONLY HAND TOOLS** within at least 24 inches of each marked utility line to carefully expose the exact locations of all lines before using any power excavation equipment in the area.

Even if you've hired a contractor, make sure the contractor contacts 811 so utilities can mark the location of their lines before any digging takes place.

If you damage a pipeline or suspect a natural gas leak:

- **IMMEDIATELY and SAFELY EVACUATE** the area and, from a safe location, call SDG&E at **1-800-411-7343**, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- **CALL 911** promptly after leaving the area if the damage results in a natural gas leak that may endanger life or cause bodily harm or damage to property.
- **DO NOT** turn electrical devices or light switches on or off; or use any device, including a phone, that could cause a spark.
- **DO NOT** smoke or light a match, candle or other flame.
- **DO NOT** operate machinery, start an engine or use any equipment or vehicles that could cause a spark. Motorized and electrically powered equipment and vehicles may be an ignition source for leaking natural gas. Safely abandon any motorized or powered equipment and vehicles.
- **DO NOT** attempt to control the leak or repair the damaged pipe or meter. Natural gas leaking from plastic pipes can create static electricity that can ignite the natural gas.
- **REPORT** any pipe damage by calling SDG&E immediately at **1-800-411-7343**. No damage is too small to report. Even a slight gouge, scrape or dent to a pipeline, its coating or any component attached to or running alongside the pipe, such as a wire, may cause a dangerous break or leak in the future.

IMPORTANT



If you suspect a gas leak, call SDG&E at **1-800-411-7343** right away from a safe location. Call **911** promptly after leaving the area if the damage results in a natural gas leak that may endanger life or cause bodily harm or damage to property.

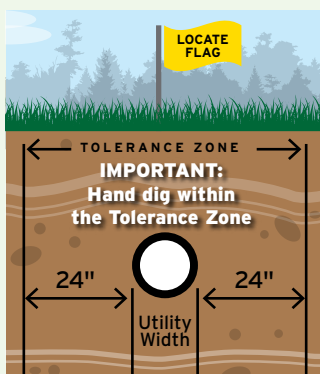
Tolerance Zone

MINIMUM OF 24 INCHES

The tolerance zone is an additional safety buffer for an underground facility, which is at least 24 inches on each side of the marking. However, underground facility operators may have more stringent requirements.

To determine the minimum tolerance zone, please see California Government Code 4216(u).

An excavator must determine the exact location of the facility using hand tools before using any power-driven excavation or boring equipment within the tolerance zone.



How to recognize a pipeline leak

Your sense of sight, hearing or smell can alert you to a gas leak. Signs of a possible gas leak may include any of the following:



See

- A damaged connection to a gas pipeline or appliance
- Dirt, water or debris being blown into the air
- Dead or dying vegetation (in an otherwise moist area) over or near pipeline areas
- A fire or explosion near a pipeline
- Exposed pipeline after an earthquake, fire, flood or other disaster



Hear

- An unusual sound, such as a hissing, whistling or roaring sound, near a gas pipeline or appliance



Smell

- The distinctive odor* of natural gas
- * Some persons may not be able to smell the odor because they have a diminished sense of smell, olfactory fatigue (normal, temporary inability to distinguish an odor after prolonged exposure to it) or because the odor is being masked or hidden by other odors that are present, such as damp, musty, chemical or cooking odors. In addition, certain conditions in pipes and soil can cause odor fade—the loss of odorant so that it's not detectable by smell.

How to locate major pipelines near you

Pipeline markers indicate the locations of most major pipelines near you. Since most pipelines are buried underground, pipeline markers are intended to let you know the approximate locations of major pipelines and include our emergency number. **However, markers don't indicate the depth or number of pipelines in the area or their exact locations.**



Online maps of major pipelines

We also provide an online map that shows the location of our transmission and higher-pressure distribution pipelines.

Access our online map at:

sdge.com/safety/gas-safety/natural-gas-safety-map.

You can view the location of all transmission pipelines in the United States through the National Mapping System at <https://pvnpm.phmsa.dot.gov/PublicViewer/>.