

# NATURAL GAS PIPELINE SAFETY

*a public service of Fayetteville Public Utilities*

**This following information is provided by Fayetteville Public Utilities and as required by the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 for the education and benefit of the residents of Lincoln and Giles County, Tennessee.**

While natural gas has one of the best safety records of any energy form, it can, if proper care isn't used, cause possible hazards to the public. Fayetteville Public Utilities urges everyone to take note of the following safety issues in order to continue an exceptional safety record which we, as a public-owned company, have established and maintained for many years.

We strongly encourage you to use the statewide toll-free Tennessee 811 Call Before You Dig number to report any planned excavation of any type anywhere in the FPU service area. Simply call 811 or 1-800-351-1111. The Tennessee 811 service will locate underground utility lines prior to your excavation to help keep you safe. Calling for a professional locate of underground utility lines before you dig is required in the state of Tennessee. If you fail to have underground utility lines located and marked, and you cause damage to underground utility lines, penalties do apply.

Some of the hazards that could occur within the unintended release of natural gas may include an explosion or fire. These potential hazards can be greatly reduced by calling Tennessee 811 before digging or excavation of any type.

***Should an unintended release of natural gas occur, some of the indications would be:***

**The blowing up of dirt or dust in the area of an excavation, as well as bubbles on the ground or on facilities where water may be standing.**

**A hissing sound that may be heard in addition to the smell of the natural gas odorant.**

**An odor similar to the smell best described as rotten eggs. FPU injects this special odorant into all natural gas sold in our system as a safety measure for the public.**

***Should any or all of these indications of a natural gas release be present, the following steps should be taken immediately for your safety:***

**Evacuate the area to a safe distance, and if possible, keep others from entering the area until help arrives.**

**Extinguish any open flame, and do not operate switches of any kind.**

**Do not drive a vehicle into or near the area of concern. Never ignite a lighter or match if a gas release is suspected.**

**If you suspect a natural gas release, do not use a cellphone in the immediate area of the suspected gas release.** Go to a neighbor's house away from the area of concern to call for help. Call FPU at (931) 433-1522 to report the suspected incident.

**If ignition has occurred or if the suspected gas release appears to be of a sizeable nature, immediately call 911 to notify the fire department in your area.**

Help us keep natural gas a safe and reliable source of energy. If you have questions about natural gas pipelines in your area, or if you'd like more information about natural gas service in general, please call FPU at (931) 433-1522.



**FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC UTILITIES**  
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