



# The Pipeline Safety Pulse

## Our Pipeline Safety Management System: Element 3



In every issue of *The Pulse*, we are exploring an element of our National Grid Pipeline Safety Management System (PSMS), which is a structured framework designed to enhance Gas Business processes and procedures to reduce and eliminate pipeline safety incidents. It is based on the American Petroleum Institute's RP 1173.

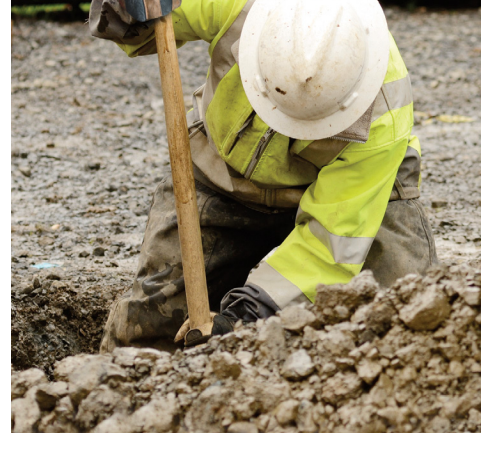
**Element 3: Risk Management** – National Grid understands that recognizing and reducing pipeline safety risk requires a comprehensive approach for gathering data, evaluating threats and preventing and mitigating potential incidents. With inputs and insights from internal and external sources – leadership, regulators, employees, partners and customers – we evaluate the probability and severity of a range of possible hazards, document potential sources of risk and quantify possible impacts.

We apply the term “threat” broadly to include loss in the knowledge and experience of our organization through retirements and attrition, and we are evaluating these and other risks through assessment, prevention and mitigation measures and controls.

This ongoing analysis is informed by the real-world experiences of our business, industry and partners. Post-incident, root-cause analyses, obtained through our incident and Damage Prevention activities, provide valuable tools for evaluating the severity and likelihood of future risk. Our Geographic Information System (GIS), Asset Integrity Management System, and Pipeline Public Awareness Program also provide key inputs to our risk evaluations.

The company's leadership at every level is engaged in the risk assessment process, proactively driving risk control and mitigation. This includes supporting the use of predictive analytics to identify hazards and raise safety concerns. Across the entire enterprise, our teams identify a wide range of hazards to pipeline systems, including corrosion, manufacturing or construction defects, and human error (such as unsafe excavation practices).

Our process also involves continuously monitoring and adjusting controls for preventing hazards and lessening the consequences of hazardous events. We select the most effective controls for specific causes and impacts, creating where possible, multiple controls for layered protection.



## Working smarter



### Stay safe while you DIY this summer

Many of us are looking forward to spring and summer with an eye to tackling those DIY projects that never got done last year. You may be thinking of installing a new deck, replacing worn out landscaping or even building a backyard pizza oven. Maybe you just want to mow the lawn. Whatever you're planning, for your family's safety and the success of your project, be sure to consider its impact on your natural gas meter.

### Give your meter space

To function effectively, gas meters and regulators need space all around,\* and they must be accessible for routine maintenance, replacement and emergencies.

- If you'll be planting shrubs or bushes, keep their mature size in mind and plant them far enough away to allow meter access when they are fully grown.
- Leave plenty of clearance for access and ventilation when you're building a deck or fence, too.\*
- Clear away accumulated soil, debris and vegetation around and under the meter that can block relief valve vents and lead to a dangerous buildup of snow and ice next winter.
- Take care not to hit the meter with your lawn mower. You could damage the meter, causing a leak.
- Always call 811 before you dig. The free one-call service will arrange to have underground utilities marked so you can dig a safe distance away.

\*Check with your local building department for the exact clearance requirements where you live.



## May and June Inclusion and Diversity dates to remember

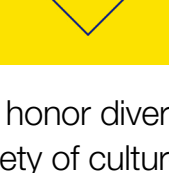
### May

- **April 12–May 12:** Ramadan
- **May 1–31:** Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Jewish American Heritage Month, Mental Health Awareness Month, Older Americans Month
- **May 5:** Cinco de Mayo
- **May 9:** Mother's Day
- **May 16–18:** Shavuot
- **May 19:** Birthday of Malcolm X
- **May 31:** Memorial Day

### June

- **June 1–31:** African American Music Appreciation Month, AIDs Awareness Month, LGBT Pride Month
- **June 15:** Native American Citizenship Day
- **June 19:** Juneteenth, aka Freedom Day or Emancipation Day
- **June 20:** Father's Day

## Company news



One way to honor diversity and the variety of cultures represented in our National Grid workplace is to learn about the holidays, events and people those cultures

commemorate. Take a moment to Google a few of the listings in our Inclusion and Diversity Calendar for May and June. We're confident you will discover something new and fascinating.

To learn more or possibly become an I&D Champion for your department, please feel free to reach out to Asad Akinfolarin at [asad.akinfolarin@nationalgrid.com](mailto:asad.akinfolarin@nationalgrid.com). Formerly a Senior Technical Inspector with the Gas Pipeline Safety and Compliance team, Asad is currently on special assignment, supporting the GBU as the Inclusion and Diversity Program Manager.

## Stakeholder engagement



### Landscaping and fencing – spring and summer safety

The usual spring and summer activities of gardening, tree servicing and fence building create added risks for damage to our pipeline infrastructure.

For this reason, National Grid's outreach to local communities includes promoting pipeline public safety awareness specific to landscaping and fencing. This spring, we proactively distributed more than 25,000 mailers and 16,200 emails to help increase stakeholder awareness of safe, incident-free landscaping and fencing.

For every project, the same public safety principles apply:

1. Contact the local one-call service for a free examination of the jobsite for underground utilities, including natural gas. Every dig requires a call. Just dial 811. Follow your states' guidelines:
  - Massachusetts and Rhode Island: [digsafe.com](http://digsafe.com)
  - Upstate New York: [digsafelynewyork.com](http://digsafelynewyork.com)
  - Metro New York, Long Island and the Rockaways: [newyork-811.com](http://newyork-811.com)
2. Obey the markings left by the locator and work a safe distance away using hand tools and following safe digging practices.
3. Also, look above for potential overhead dangers, such as power lines.

Refer to National Grid's free online public safety awareness resources for more information: [ngrid.safety.com](http://ngrid.safety.com).

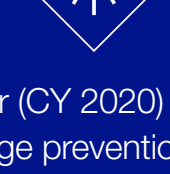


**Know what's below. 811 before you dig.**

On Tuesday, April 20th, Pipeline Safety Stakeholder Engagement Specialist Jerry Stockman had the honor of presenting a plaque to the City of Cohoes Fire Department for achieving 100% completion of National Grid's First Responder e-Learning Training Program. Quite an accomplishment, as they are the fourth department in the State of New York to be presented with this award since 2016. Congratulations to Chief Fahnd and the department.

**nationalgrid**  
National Grid recognizes the  
**Cohoes Fire Department**  
for their service, dedication and commitment to public safety and the community it serves as well as for the successful completion of their First Responder Training.  
March 2021

## Pipeline safety spotlight recognition



Kudos to the **New England Damage Prevention team!** Last year (CY 2020) in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, they achieved target or stretch goals in all damage prevention measures, including system-wide, locator-at-fault and company/contractor damages. The team also reduced the year-over-year overall damage count despite an increased number of locate tickets. This stellar performance is the direct result of several important factors: management and the union working effectively together; collaboration with multiple departments, including Stakeholder Engagement, Construction and others in Gas Field Operations, to increase training and reduce damages; and working closely with the locating contractors to increase accountability and transparency and to drive performance.

So far, this year (CY 2021) is stacking up to be another banner year for the team, as the New England damage count is already down 8% over 2020 despite an increase of 1% in tickets YTD. Congratulations to everyone on the team!

Every quarter, *The Pulse* will feature an article about an employee or team that you nominate for the Employee Spotlight. Nominate an employee, coworker or team who embodies National Grid values, and we will put them in the spotlight for some well-deserved recognition. Email contact information for your nomination and why you believe they are deserving of recognition to Lead Communications Specialist Lisa Callahan at [lisa.callahan@nationalgrid.com](mailto:lisa.callahan@nationalgrid.com).

**At National Grid, we constantly refine and improve our efforts to keep our customers, communities and employees safe. That's our commitment to you.**



**Know what's below. 811 before you dig.**

**Bring Energy to Life**

