



The Pipeline Safety Pulse

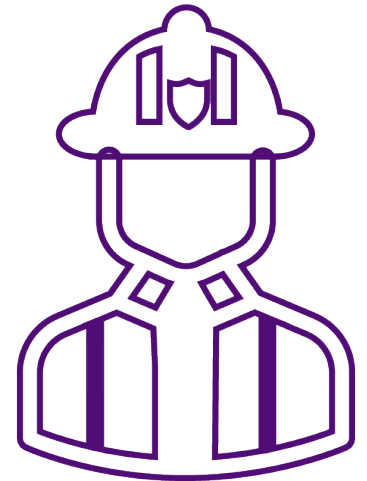
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In every issue of *The Pulse*, we are exploring an element of our National Grid Pipeline Safety Management System (PSMS), which is a structured framework designed to enhance Gas Business processes and procedures to reduce and eliminate pipeline safety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

Our Pipeline Safety Management System: Element 8

Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR)



Element Purpose:

National Grid's Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Plan provides trained personnel and adequate resources to be deployed quickly and effectively in the event of an emergency. The EPR process is designed to protect customers, communities, employees, contractors, emergency responders and external agencies who might be impacted by an emergency event.

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Our Pipeline Safety Management System: Element 8

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Key expectations

- An Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan is in place that is documented and communicated to key personnel. At minimum, this plan includes the following elements:
 - A process for determining the types of emergencies that could occur
 - An internal and external emergency notification process
 - Identification of response resources, roles and responsibilities, and interfaces, including local emergency responders
 - Use of Unified Command/Incident Command Structure
 - Incorporation of safety, health and environmental protection within response plans
 - A communication plan
 - Ongoing gas emergency response plan-based training, drills and exercises
 - An improvement process to ensure effective incorporation of lessons learned from actual events and exercises
 - Periodic reviews and updates to the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan
- An automated gas emergency notification process is documented that provides effective communication and timely awareness to key personnel of emerging and ongoing gas events.
- A documented process is established to identify customers affected by a gas system outage.
- A system is in place to document customer shut-off and relight information that is linked with the work management system.
- A reporting process is deployed that evaluates customer and gas restoration information to provide timely reporting to support operational awareness, outbound external customer communication and reporting to municipalities.





Inclusion and diversity



Inclusion and diversity dates to remember

March

- **March 1–31:** Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, Ethnic Equality Month, Gender Equality Month, National Women’s History Month
- **March 4:** Employee Appreciation Day
- **March 8:** International Women’s Day
- **March 25:** International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade

April

- **April 1–30:** Autism Awareness Month, Celebrate Diversity Month, National Child Abuse Prevention Month, National Volunteer Month
- **April 2:** Equal Pay Day
- **April 21–23:** Gathering of Nations – more than 500 Native American tribes celebrate traditions and cultures
- **April 22:** Earth Day – Theme: “Invest in Our Planet”
- **April 23:** National Day of Silence (LGBTQIA+)



Celebrate Diversity Month

April is Celebrate Diversity Month. It’s a great time to learn about an unfamiliar culture, lifestyle or perspective from a new friend, a book, a movie, food, music or dance. Explore and celebrate the diversity around us. Share your own culture by inviting friends to see a documentary or share a dinner representing your cultural heritage. Talk with them about your traditions and values; ask them about theirs. Celebrate the differences and the similarities. Start a new tradition together.



National Grid's outreach to first responders

In addition to our emergency preparedness efforts described in **Element 8**, designed to help us comply with the American Petroleum Institute's (API) RP 1173, National Grid also delivers an extensive program of natural gas pipeline safety communications and education to emergency officials and other first responders. We comply with API's RP 1162 Public Awareness Programs for Pipeline Operators through annual mailings to emergency officials that provide critical safety information, including:

- Damage prevention awareness, gas leak recognition and response
- How to access the National Pipeline Mapping System
- Emergency preparedness information and more



In addition, we go beyond compliance with RP 1162 to regularly communicate natural gas safety advice to first responders through quarterly emailed Tips of the Trade, more detailed e-Bulletins and flyers. These focus on vital safety education, such as gas leak warning signs and aerial equipment safety; incident response topics, such as responding to transmission pipeline or solar photovoltaic systems emergencies; as well as directing first responders' attention to pipeline markers and engaging their help to protect our ROWs.



Thousands of first responders throughout our service territory have learned to safely and confidently respond to incidents involving natural gas or electricity-related hazards by taking the free National Grid e-Learning certification course online at firstresponder.ngridsafety.com.

Through these efforts, we are investing every day in building effective working relationships with emergency officials and first responders. We know these relationships are key to our emergency preparedness and the safety of our employees and our communities.

April is National Safe Digging Month. Preventing damages to underground utilities is up to all of us.



Know what's below. 811 before you dig.

Digging safely is not just the rule for third-party contractors. The law requires DIYers to notify 811 every time before you dig or move earth in any way, too. No digging job is too small or too shallow.

If you don't notify 811 before digging, you risk contacting a buried utility line. Hitting a buried electric line can cause outages and serious shock injuries or fatalities. Hitting a gas line can lead to a fire or explosion. You can avoid property damage, personal injury, and possible fines and repair costs by notifying the 811 service before you dig.

Dial 811 or enter an online request at least 72 hours before digging in Massachusetts (excluding weekends and legal holidays) and at least two full working days in New York (excluding the date of your request, weekends and legal holidays). Wait the required time for the utilities to be marked before you dig.



Safety awareness

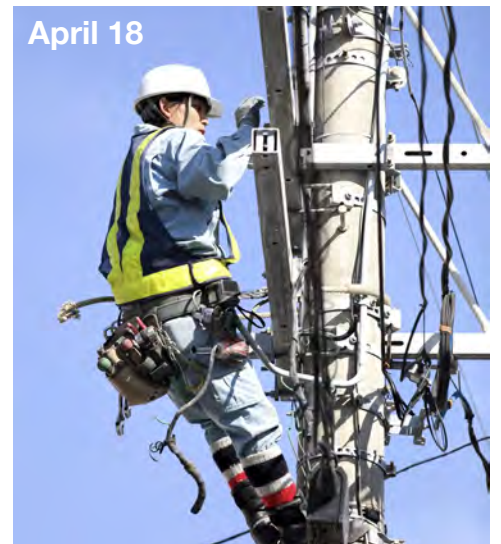


NATURAL GAS UTILITY WORKERS' DAY

On March 18, **National Gas Utility Workers' Day**, we honor our gas utility colleagues for their hard work and commitment to community. March 18 was the date of the disastrous New London, Texas, school explosion in 1937 that led to the widespread odorization of natural gas and an increased emphasis on safety. Our industry has come a long way since 1937, and at National Grid, we celebrate each of you and your ongoing efforts to keep our communities safe and healthy.



April 18





Stakeholder engagement



Congratulations to the East Providence Police Department!

The entire East Providence Police Department completed National Grid's First Responder Utility Safety e-Learning Program. As a result, they each earned a personalized Certificate of Completion for themselves, and the department received a plaque from National Grid, recognizing their achievement and honoring their commitment to keeping themselves, their crew and their Rhode Island community safe.



East Providence Police Department (left to right): Cpl. Charles F. Collins, Deputy Chief Barry Ramer, Chief Christopher Francesconi, Capt. Mark Cadoret and Lt. Michael Masaitis.



Pipeline safety spotlight recognition

Company news



Diana Manteria, Lead Stakeholder Engagement Specialist

Diana has been very active in keeping her colleagues informed over the last couple of years during the incredible amount of change and chaos we have faced (world events, pandemic, internal organizational changes, etc.). Through all of it, Diana strives to keep us informed of what is going on with the Common Ground Alliance (CGA), NY811, Change Network, LinkedIn Learning, among other items.

Diana's actions are aligned with National Grid's values. Keeping her colleagues informed, having our voices heard, continually improving our skills are all good things that have come from Diana's initiative to go above and beyond in finding a better way in a most difficult time.



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. Please complete [The Pulse Spotlight nomination form](#), then email the completed form to Lead Communications Specialist Lisa Callahan at lisa.callahan@nationalgrid.com.

