

Pipeline Safety

For Emergency Response

A Federal and State Regulated Pipeline Safety Message

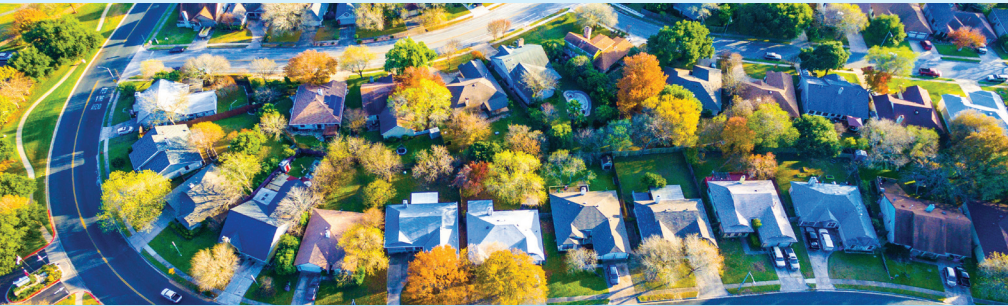


You received this material because Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District operates a pipeline in your jurisdiction.

**to report a natural gas emergency immediately notify
Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District at 800-449-3338.**

For more information on our Emergency Response Plan call
251-246-2428.

Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District (CMC Gas) owns and operates 150 miles of natural gas transmission pipelines as well as 452 miles of natural gas distribution pipelines supplying service to approximately 6,500 residential, commercial, and industrial customers. CMC Gas's system is supplied from six interstate/intrastate pipeline connections in seven southwest Alabama counties (Clarke, Mobile, Washington, Baldwin, Choctaw, Escambia, and Wilcox). Additional supply connections include American Midstream and Big Escambia Creek production plants as well as a connection to Bay Gas Storage.



Pipeline Purpose and Reliability

The United States has the largest pipeline network in the world. Pipelines deliver the raw materials processed into the fuel that powers our lives. Gathering lines transport products from the production site to processing facilities and then connect to transmission lines carrying the products from one part of the state to another. Distribution lines run throughout neighborhoods and connect to homes and businesses.

According to pipeline data related to personal injuries, data collected by the U.S. Department of Transportation, pipelines are the safest and most cost-effective means of transporting these products. We are committed to safe and reliable operation of our pipelines in your community. Once designed, tested and installed, pipelines are operated and maintained according to all federal and state requirements. We conduct regular patrols over our pipelines. We also follow a carefully planned maintenance and inspection schedule.



Hazard Awareness and Prevention Measures

The information here addresses hazards, consequences, and preventative measures in general. More specific information can be obtained by visiting www.cmcgas.com or by calling **251-246-2428**.

Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District pipelines transport natural gas. Natural gas is a clean-burning, efficient fuel. 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.

LEAK TYPE	VAPORS	HEALTH HAZARDS	FIRE HAZARDS
Gas	Lighter than air	Extremely high concentrations may cause irritation or asphyxiation when displacement of oxygen occurs in enclosed spaces.	Extremely flammable and easily ignited by heat, sparks, or flames.

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.

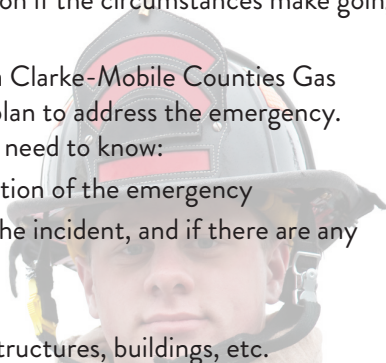
For more information on our Integrity Management Plan, please call us at **251-246-2428**.



Responding to a Pipeline Emergency

The following guidelines are designed to ensure the safety of those in the area if a leak is suspected or detected:

- In the event of an incident involving ground disturbance, such as a train car derailment, you may call 811 to identify and notify underground utilities that an incident has occurred in the vicinity of their buried facilities.
- Secure the area around the leak to a safe distance. Because vapors from the products carried in pipelines can migrate great distances, it is important to remove all ignition sources from the area. If safe, evacuating people from homes, businesses, schools, and other places of congregation, as well as controlling access to the site may be required in some incident scenarios. Sheltering in place may be the safest action if the circumstances make going outdoors dangerous.
- Establish a command center. Work with a Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District representative as you develop a plan to address the emergency. Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District will need to know:
 - Your contact information and the location of the emergency
 - Size, characteristics, and behavior of the incident, and if there are any primary or secondary fires
 - Any injuries or deaths
 - The proximity of the incident to any structures, buildings, etc.
 - Any environmental concerns such as bodies of water, grasslands, endangered wildlife and fish, etc.
- Evacuate or shelter in place. Depending on the level of product, and whether or not it was released, or other variables, it may be necessary to evacuate the public or have the public shelter in place. The evacuation route and the location of the incident will determine which procedure is required, but both may be necessary. Evacuate people upwind of the incident if necessary. Involving Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District may be important in making this decision.
- **DO NOT** attempt to operate any pipeline valves yourself. You may inadvertently route more product to the leak or cause a secondary incident.
- If the pipeline leak is not burning **DO NOT** cause any open flame or other potential source of ignition such as an electrical switch, vehicle ignition, lighted match, etc. **DO NOT** start motor vehicles or electrical equipment. **DO NOT** ring doorbells. Knock with your hand to avoid potential sparks from knockers. **DO NOT** drive into a leak or vapor cloud at any time.
- If the pipeline leak is burning, attempt to control the spread of the fire, but **DO NOT** attempt to extinguish the fire. When extinguished, product or product vapors could collect and explode if reignited by secondary fire.





911 Dispatch

911 Dispatch personnel play a critical role in effective response to pipeline incidents. Knowing Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District's contact information, and the products transported in your respective jurisdiction is important for prompt and correct responses in the case of a pipeline incident. Dispatchers' actions can save lives, direct the appropriate emergency responders to the scene, and protect our nations' infrastructure from additional issues that can be caused by improper response. Follow these simple guidelines in the case of a pipeline incident:

- Gather the proper information (if possible): company, product, and release characteristics
- Know the appropriate response to natural gas
- Know the wind direction at the time
- Warn of ignition sources if possible
- Dispatch appropriate emergency responders
- Contact Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District





Where are the Pipelines

Since pipelines are located underground, Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District uses line markers to identify the proximity of the pipeline. Pipeline markers are placed above ground along the pipeline right-of-way and at above-ground pipeline facilities, at street crossings, and at railroad crossings to indicate the approximate location of the pipeline.

The marker will typically provide the pipeline operator's name, the contents of the pipeline, and an emergency phone number. If an emergency is suspected or discovered call the number on the pipeline marker. While markers play an important role in identifying pipelines, they are not used to give depth or exact locations. The location of transmission pipelines can be found at the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS) website: www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov.



Security

You are our first line of defense against unauthorized excavation and other such activity in the right-of-way. You can help by contacting us of suspicious activities.

Please help us by following the suggestions below.

- Become familiar with the pipelines in your area (look for pipeline markers).
- Become familiar with pipeline facilities in your area (look for fence signs at gate entrances).
- Record the operator name, contact information, and any pipeline information from nearby pipeline marker signs or facility signs. Keep this information in a permanent location near a telephone.
- Be observant for any unusual or suspicious activities, any unauthorized excavations taking place within or near the pipeline right-of-way or pipeline facility.
- Report such activities to the pipeline operator.

**To report a natural gas emergency
immediately notify Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District
at 800-449-3338.**



Additional Information

- For a list of transmission pipeline operators in your area, visit: www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov.
- For NENA recommended dispatcher protocol for pipeline emergencies (Standard 56-507), visit: www.nena.org.
- For the PHMSA Emergency Response Guidebook, visit: www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/library/erg.
- Please attend our local emergency responder liaison meetings in your area. These meetings will provide you with more information about pipeline safety, as well as the opportunity to develop a relationship with local pipeline operators.



**To report a natural gas emergency immediately notify
Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District at 800-449-3338.**

For more information on our Emergency Response Plan
call **251-246-2428**.