

PIPELINE SAFETY

For Community Planning



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

Western Midstream™

**For more information, please contact
Western Midstream at:
pipelinesafety@westernmidstream.com**

Western Midstream's highest priority is the safe and reliable transportation and delivery of natural gas and petroleum products.

It is essential to know the facts about pipeline safety and be aware of pipeline locations and operations. This brochure contains important information about pipeline identification, safety, and damage prevention. We encourage you to review the information, fill out, and return the enclosed questionnaire, which will help us continuously improve how we communicate about pipeline safety.

Pipeline purpose and reliability

The U.S. has the largest pipeline network in the world, and according to data collected by the U.S. Department of Transportation, pipelines are one of the safest ways to transport natural gas and petroleum products. The natural gas and petroleum products in pipelines are ultimately used by residential, commercial, industrial and storage facility customers.

Climate change and greenhouse gas emissions

At Western Midstream, we believe that climate change is a significant challenge. Our environmental compliance efforts reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across our operations, which protects the environment and helps us operate safely and efficiently. For example, we reduce emissions across the oil and gas value chain through our direct-from-wellhead pipeline infrastructure and operational innovations, which reduces the need for equipment at the wellhead and minimizes GHG emissions at our customers' facilities. Additionally, we follow industry-leading practices to reduce direct emissions, leaks, and overall energy use, including implementing leak detection and repair systems.

How we keep our pipelines safe

Western Midstream operates petroleum and natural gas pipelines across our assets within New Mexico, Texas, Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming. The products we transport are an essential part of the economy and our daily lifestyle. As a member of the community, the safety of the public and the environment is our top priority when it comes to the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of our pipelines. These pipelines are regulated by federal, state, and local entities, which oversee operations. They often include training, regular maintenance and testing, corrosion protection, and inspections to check for and address leaks or other damage.



How do you know where a pipeline is located?

Since most pipelines are buried underground, pipeline markers are used to indicate their approximate location along the route. Markers cannot be relied upon to indicate the exact position of the pipeline. The markers can be found where a pipeline intersects a street, highway or railway. These markers display the pipeline operator name, emergency number, and the product being transported.

Pipelines are located in right-of-ways. Rights-of-way should be clear of any structures and/or trees and allow access to pipeline operators for maintenance, ground and aerial inspections, and testing.

The location of Western Midstream's transmission pipelines can be found at the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS) website: **www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov**

Right-of-way encroachment prevention

Pipeline rights-of-way must be kept free from structures and other obstructions to provide access to the pipeline for maintenance and in the event of an emergency. Trees or high shrubs should not be planted on the right-of-way.

Please help us prevent encroachment of rights-of-way by having the pipeline marked and the rights-of-way staked before digging, building, storing, or placing anything near the rights-of-way.



How you should respond to and report a pipeline emergency

The following guidelines are designed to ensure your safety and the safety of those in the area if a natural gas or petroleum product pipeline leak is suspected or detected.

- Secure the area around the leak.
- Evacuate the public to a safe distance, if necessary.
- Contact the appropriate operator as soon as possible.
- Establish a command center.
- Control ignition sources. If the pipeline leak is not burning, take steps to prevent causing any open flame or another potential source of ignition, such as an electrical switch, vehicle ignition, lighting of a match, etc.
- Do not use a cell phone or two-way radio near the suspected emergency area.
- Do not attempt to put out natural gas or liquid fires. If burning, control the secondary fires.
- Do not operate any pipeline valves or equipment.

In the event of a pipeline leak, only properly trained persons equipped with self-contained breathing apparatus and hydrogen sulfide monitors should enter areas where hydrogen sulfide levels exceed ten parts per million (ppm). If you have special equipment or procedures for handling these types of emergencies, we would like to know about them.

How does Western Midstream respond to an emergency?

In the event of a pipeline emergency involving one of our pipelines, Western Midstream will respond and assist in controlling the situation. Our trained personnel are expected to:

- Arrive at the site of the emergency and stop or reduce product flow to the area.
- Notify and work with the appropriate public safety officials.
- Repair the pipeline and restore the service as soon as possible.
- Thoroughly investigate the cause, and/or support the investigation of the appropriate regulatory agency.



Potential hazards of a pipeline release

The chart below provides general information about the products shipped in Western Midstream's pipelines.

PRODUCT	LEAK TYPE	VAPORS	HEALTH HAZARDS	FIRE HAZARDS
Natural Gas	Gas	Lighter than air	Extremely high concentrations may cause irritation or asphyxiation - possible presence of H ₂ S, a toxic gas.	Extremely flammable and easily ignited by heat, sparks, or flames.
Liquid Petroleum	Liquid	Heavier than air	Respiratory tract irritant; may cause central nervous system effects such as drowsiness or asphyxiation.	Extremely flammable liquid or vapor; vapors are heavier than air and may accumulate in low areas and travel a considerable distance to an ignition source.

Look, listen and smell for signs of a natural gas pipeline release

- Discolored or dead vegetation
- Flames coming from the ground
- A cloud of vapor, fog or mist
- A pool of liquid on the ground or bubbling in a wet, flooded area
- Dirt blowing in the air
- A rainbow or sheen on the water
- An unusual hissing or roaring noise coming from a pipeline
- An unusual odor or scent of gas or petroleum

Some gases are odorless, and odorant cannot always be added. Use all of your senses to detect a natural gas pipeline release.



Planning for your community

Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance (PIPA) has been formed to help public officials develop practices to assist in making decisions about what, where and how to build safely near transmission pipelines. The PIPA website is:

<https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/pipa/landuseplanning.htm>



Tips for proper community and land development near pipelines

- Establish consultation zones to require developers and pipeline operators to communicate.
- Restrict certain types of land use and development.
- Require specific design or construction features.
- Ensure adequate emergency response and evacuation.

Preventing pipeline damage - **Call 811 before you dig**

External damage caused by accidentally striking a pipeline while digging is the leading cause of pipeline accidents. Follow these steps to help prevent damage to pipelines:

- **Call 811 prior to digging.**
- **Wait for the state-required amount of time for all utility companies to mark the location of their underground utility lines (see chart below).**
- **Respect the utility markers and dig carefully.**









This free call can help protect you and others around you from potential harm which could result from damage to buried pipelines. By calling 811 before prior to starting any project, you can play an essential part in keeping pipelines safe.



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



Utilities location and coordination council uniform color code

Proposed excavation		 Communication
Temporary survey		 Potable water
Electric		 Reclaimed water and irrigation
Gas, oil, steam, and petroleum		 Sewer and drain lines

Helpful websites

American Petroleum Institute – Pipeline Information
www.pipeline101.org

National Pipeline Mapping System
www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov

Safe Digging – 811
www.call811.com

For additional information on Western Midstream,
visit www.westernmidstream.com



Western Midstream™

**For more information, please contact
Western Midstream at:
pipelinesafety@westernmidstream.com**