



A  Sempra Energy utility®

# Be safe

*There are natural gas  
transmission pipelines near you*



## Your safety is important to us

You've received this brochure because San Diego Gas & Electric® (SDG&E®) operates natural gas transmission pipelines near where your home or business is located. Generally, transmission lines are large diameter, high-pressure pipelines that deliver natural gas into the local distribution system. You can help prevent pipeline damage and keep your neighborhood and workplace safe by understanding the information in this brochure.

## Putting safety first



- We routinely perform pipeline safety tasks, including patrolling, testing, repairing, replacing pipelines, and have an ongoing technical training and testing of employees. Our Integrity Management plans are available for review and outline our ongoing safety and maintenance activities. We also maintain an ongoing relationship with emergency response officials, in order to prepare for and respond to any pipeline emergency.
- In order to perform maintenance, inspection and respond to pipeline emergencies, SDG&E must be able to access its pipeline right-of-way. SDG&E urges property owners to not place obstructions such as trees, shrubs, buildings, fences, structures or any other encroachments on our pipeline right-of-way.
- Report suspicious individuals or activities around pipelines immediately to **1-800-411-7343** or **911**.

## How to locate major pipelines near you



Pipeline markers indicate the locations of most major pipelines near you. Since most pipelines are buried underground, pipeline markers are intended to let you know the approximate locations of major pipelines and include our emergency number. **However, markers don't indicate the depth or number of pipelines in the area, or their exact locations.**



## Online maps of major pipelines

We also provide an online map that shows the location of our transmission and higher pressure distribution pipelines. Access our online map at [www.sdge.com/safety/gas-safety/natural-gas-safety-map](http://www.sdge.com/safety/gas-safety/natural-gas-safety-map).

You can view the location of all transmission pipelines in the United States through the National Mapping System at [www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/PublicViewer](http://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/PublicViewer).



These maps only indicate the general location of pipelines and should never be used as a substitute for calling Underground Service Alert at **811** at least two working days before digging.

*(Continued inside)*

## How to recognize a pipeline leak

Your sense of sight, hearing or smell can alert you to a gas leak. Signs of a possible gas leak may include any of the following:



### Look

- A damaged connection to a gas pipeline or appliance.
- Dirt, water or debris being blown into the air.
- Dead or dying vegetation (in an otherwise moist area) over or near pipeline areas.
- A fire or explosion near a pipeline.
- Exposed pipeline after an earthquake, fire, flood or other disaster.



### Listen

- An unusual sound, such as a hissing, whistling or roaring sound near a gas pipeline or appliance.



### Smell

- The distinctive odor\* of natural gas.
- \* Some persons may not be able to smell the odor because they have a diminished sense of smell, olfactory fatigue (normal, temporary inability to distinguish an odor after prolonged exposure to it) or because the odor is being masked or hidden by other odors that are present, such as cooking or damp, musty, or chemical odors. In addition, certain conditions in pipe and soil can cause odor fade—the loss of odorant so that it's not detectable by smell.

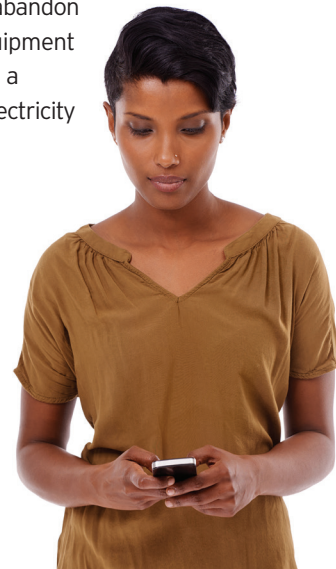
## Damage to a pipeline or meter

Leaking gas from any damaged pipeline or gas meter could cause a fire, explosion, property damage and serious bodily injury.

Follow these guidelines if you encounter a leaking gas pipe or meter:

- **Remain** calm.
- **Don't** smoke, or light a match, candle or other flame.
  - Don't turn electrical devices on or off, including light switches.
  - Don't start an engine or use any device, including a telephone, cell phone or garage door opener which could cause a spark.
- **Immediately evacuate** the area, and from a safe location, call us at **1-800-411-7343**, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- **Call 911** promptly after evacuating the area if the damage results in a natural gas leak that may endanger life or cause bodily harm or property damage.
- **Don't** attempt to control the leak or repair the damaged pipe or meter. Don't use or turn off any equipment that could cause a spark. Motorized or electrically powered equipment or vehicles may create an ignition source if a gas leak is present. Safely abandon any motorized or powered equipment or vehicles. Gas leaking from a plastic pipe can create static electricity that can ignite the gas.

*If you suspect a gas leak,  
call SDG&E at 1-800-411-7343  
right away from a safe location.*



## Underground utilities color code

The following color code is used by utilities for marking excavation sites and underground facilities in conflict with an excavation.

Red	Red: Electric	Purple	Purple: Reclaimed water
Yellow	Yellow: Gas, oil, steam	Green	Green: Sewer
Orange	Orange: Communications	Pink	Pink: Temporary markings
Blue	Blue: Water	White	White: Proposed excavation

## Call 811 before you dig. It's free.

Pipelines may be located anywhere—including under streets, sidewalks and private property, **sometimes just inches below the surface.**



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

For your safety, and the safety of those around you, it's important to know where pipelines are before you begin any type of digging. Whether you're planning to build a major development or just landscaping your yard, call **811** or submit a location request at [call811.com](https://www.call811.com) at least two working days before you dig to have SDG&E mark its lines.

The service is free and can help prevent injury, costly property damage—and loss of utility service.

Please be aware that SDG&E does not mark customer owned natural gas lines, which typically run from the natural gas meter to the customer's natural gas equipment and/or appliance. To have customer-owned lines located and marked before a project, SDG&E advises customers to contact a qualified pipe-locating professional.

**Even if you've hired a contractor, make sure the contractor calls 811 to have lines marked.**

## What you should do before you dig

- **Mark out** your proposed excavation area in white paint or provide other suitable markings.
- **CALL** Underground Service Alert at **811** from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) or submit a location request at [call811.com](https://www.call811.com) at least two working days before digging.
- **Wait** until we either mark our gas pipelines and indicate pipe material and diameter, or advise you the area is clear of our pipes, before you start digging.
- **Remember** that we use only yellow paint, flags or stakes to mark out the location of our gas pipes. Other utility owners use other colors to mark their telephone, communications, water or other underground lines. Note that we do not mark gas lines owned or installed by you.
- **Use only hand tools** within 24 inches of each marked utility line to determine the exact locations of all lines before using any power excavation equipment in the area.
- **Report** any pipe damage by calling SDG&E immediately at **1-800-411-7343**. **No damage is too small to report.** Even a slight gouge, scrape or dent to a pipeline, its coating, or any component attached to or running alongside the pipe, such as a wire, may cause a dangerous break or leak in the future.



## ***Important contact information***

Call SDG&E at **1-800-411-7343** to report a pipeline emergency. For speech or hearing impaired, call TDD/TTY **1-877-889-7343**.

**Call Underground Service Alert (USA) at 811 or submit a location request at [call811.com](http://call811.com) at least two business days before digging.**

Visit **[sdge.com/safety](http://sdge.com/safety)** for more safety information.

.....

### **About SDG&E®**

SDG&E is a regulated public utility that provides energy service to 3.4 million people through 1.4 million electric meters and 860,000 natural gas meters in San Diego and southern Orange counties. Our service area spans 4,100 square miles.

SDG&E monitors natural gas for quality and a distinctive odor is added to help detect leaks. We deliver it through pipelines to our residential customers for cooking and heating and to commercial and industrial customers for manufacturing of products and generation of electricity.

.....

Para recibir este folleto en español llamar al  
**1-800-311-7343**.



P.O. Box 129831 | San Diego, CA 92112-9831 | 1-800-411-7343  
Connect at **[sdge.com](http://sdge.com)**