

CONTRACTOR SAFETY INFORMATION

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
1-888-444-6677



**Maritimes
& Northeast**
Pipeline



ABOUT MARITIMES & NORTHEAST PIPELINE

Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline (M&NP) is a natural gas transmission pipeline, regulated by the National Energy Board based in Calgary. We transport natural gas from developments offshore Nova Scotia to customers in Atlantic Canada and the northeastern United States. Natural gas is transported through the M&NP system at high pressure ranging from 500 pounds per square inch (psi) to 1440 psi.

Our pipelines are designed, built and operated to standards that meet or exceed National Energy Board requirements. M&NP employees receive regular and thorough training to operate and maintain our pipeline system to transport natural gas in a manner that is safe for our communities and the general public.

M&NP is committed to safety and we work diligently to ensure the integrity of our pipeline facilities. Despite these efforts, an accidental release of product could occur.

- Damage to pipelines occurs most often when third parties unknowingly dig, ditch, blast, or drill in the area of the pipeline easement.
- If you suspect a pipeline leak or if you have come into accidental contact with the pipeline during excavation, please notify the pipeline company immediately at **1-888-444-6677** so that we can inspect the pipeline, and, if necessary, take corrective action.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

TO REDUCE THE RISKS/HAZARDS

Our pipeline is clearly identified with red and white markers showing the **approximate** pipeline location.

- If you need to conduct activity within 30 metres (100 feet) of the pipeline easement, you must call the toll-free number listed on the sign for a free line locate and authorization. The number is accessible 24 hours per day, seven days per week.
- If you are a contractor operating in the general vicinity of the pipeline, it is your duty to Call Before You Dig and Call Before You Cross the easement with heavy equipment.
- Each piece of equipment to be used in crossing the easement must be reviewed by M&NP personnel for approval of a Crossing Request.

PIPELINE EASEMENTS AND YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

An easement is a type of Right-of-Way that is negotiated by the pipeline company. It is an agreement between the landowner and the pipeline company to allow the construction, operation, and maintenance of the underground pipeline. Its rights and responsibilities “run with the land” or pass on to any future owners. All underground pipelines are either contained within road allowances or company easements.

Not all M&NP facilities are underground. Mainline and lateral valves, regulating and metering stations, and test boxes are an integral part of this system. It is important that if you are considering working near any of these facilities that you be aware of their location and call the M&NP Operations office in your province for permission to work in this area at **1-888-444-6677**.



All activities within the easement are governed by the NEB Act, the Onshore Pipeline Regulations, as well as the easement agreement. This legislation requires completion of an M&NP Crossing Request for any crossing of the pipeline, as well as proper notice of any planned activity such as:

- Excavation within 30 meters of the M&NP easement;
- Construction of a facility across, along, upon or under the easement;
- Construction involving heavy machinery near our easement;
- Use of explosives or power-operated equipment;
- Installation of drainage systems;
- Forestry cutting and removal;
- Paving or changes to existing grades;
- Highway and road reconstruction;
- Fence installation; and,
- Any activity on the easement, or within 30 m of the easement, that disturbs more than 30 cm (12 inches) of ground below the initial grade, and/or reduces the total cover over the pipe.



M&NP Mock Emergency near Sackville, NB, April 12, 2003

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT NATURAL GAS

Natural gas, composed primarily of methane, is colourless and odourless. However, in populated areas, an additive called “mercaptan” is added to the gas causing it to have a rotten egg smell. This smell will be detected long before a natural gas leak reaches explosive limits. Please note that only M&NP’s smaller diameter, lower pressure urban lines contain odourized natural gas product.

Natural gas is a safe fuel alternative. It is lighter than air, allowing it to dissipate. Its explosive range is actually lower than other hydrocarbons. This means that the mixture of natural gas to air must be within 5 percent and 15 percent or it will not ignite. However, high concentrations of natural gas can act as an asphyxiant, reducing ambient oxygen levels in the immediate area.



IF YOU SUSPECT A PIPELINE LEAK

- Avoid any open flames or other sources of ignition. Do not start up or shut down motor vehicles or electrical equipment. Do not use a cell phone. Stay upwind.
- Notify the pipeline company immediately at **1-888-444-6677** so the leak can be verified and, if necessary, corrective measures taken.
- If the pipeline company is not known, call **911** or contact your local fire, police, or RCMP detachment and advise them of the location and nature of the situation.
- Do not attempt to extinguish a natural gas fire.
- Do not attempt to operate any pipeline valves. You may inadvertently route additional gas to the leak.
- Take shelter and/or evacuate (where appropriate).
- Immediately notify M&NP if you have come into contact with the pipe or its coatings.



M&NP Mock Emergency near Sackville, NB, April 12, 2003

WHAT M&NP IS DOING TO REDUCE THE RISKS/HAZARDS

M&NP monitors the flow and pressure in the pipeline 24 hours per day and is able to remotely close isolation valves from our gas control centre if needed. As part of our ongoing damage prevention program we also patrol our pipeline corridor by air and on foot searching for signs of loss of soil cover over the pipeline, unauthorized construction activity or other developments that could threaten safe operations.

If a pipeline emergency occurs, your provincial Emergency Measures Organization will carry out public safety procedures to enable our technicians to directly control the situation. Public safety is our highest priority.





CONTRACTOR COMMITMENTS

- Plan your activity: As a contractor planning work within 30 metres (100 feet) of the pipeline easement, you are required to contact M&NP at **1-888-444-6677** to seek approval for your plans.
- Within two full working days (48 hours) M&NP will complete a free line locate and subsequent authorization if approved by the company representative. M&NP must also be notified within 48 hours prior to any work commencing.
- All heavy vehicle crossings (e.g. forestry equipment, excavators, bulldozers, etc.) must be reviewed and approved by M&NP for each individual crossing location prior to actual crossing of the pipeline.
- For complex crossings (i.e. other utilities; roads which cross our facility or are parallel and in close proximity; or any other ground disturbances posing integrity issues to our facility) NEB regulations allow M&NP up to 10 days for design review and approval. For additional information, please request a copy of M&NP's detailed crossing guideline.
- Be on site when the pipeline is located and know the meaning of the pipeline markers. No mechanical excavation is permitted within 3 metres (10 feet) of the pipeline unless the location is verified by hand-digging or hydro-vac methods.
- Always follow the instructions of the M&NP company representative.

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NB Operations Centre

26 Alison Blvd.
Fredericton, N.B.
E3C 2N3
Call: 1-888-462-4040

NS Operations Centre

80 Terra Cotta Dr.
New Glasgow, N.S.
B2H 6A7
Call: 1-800-952-0552