



DAMAGE PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

Helping to foster a workforce that champions Pipeline Safety and embraces sharing this message with the public. Let's keep our communities safe!!

1st Quarter 2011

Southern Star Commitment to Safety



Transmission Pipeline Mapping



Communicating with the Public



SSCGP-0800 Form

What is a right-of-way and can I build or dig on it?

How Can You Help?

Public Awareness Safety Commitment

Southern Star is proud of its long history of safe and continuous service. We believe that our safety record is successful in large part due to the partnerships we have formed with the public throughout our century of operations. This commitment to communication and teamwork with Southern Star's fellow citizens along its pipeline system will carry us into the next century of safe, secure service. Southern Star considers its employees, key stakeholders, and the citizens of the communities in which it operates as partners in this endeavor. Southern Star realizes that each of these partners play a critical and unique role in helping operate our system safely, so we utilize varied and appropriate communication methods to better ensure that the public is aware of the role we play in creating a safer natural gas transmission and storage network.

Southern Star has historically conducted public awareness programs with the affected public, public safety officials, and excavators. Southern Star's goal is to document the development, implementation, and evaluation of our Public Awareness Program in a continuing effort to increase its effectiveness. In addition, our Public Awareness Program is intended to be compliant with all applicable regulations.

Southern Star's management team is dedicated to safety and supports this Public Awareness Program through appropriate funding, attention to safety matters, and encouraging employees to become Southern Star ambassadors in our communities to assist in the education of the public about natural gas transmission.

Transmission Pipeline Mapping



Considering we all work for a natural gas transmission company, have you ever wondered if you have transmission lines close to your own house? Well you're in luck; the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Pipeline Safety has developed the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS) to provide information about gas transmission and liquid transmission operators and their pipelines. The NPMS Web site is searchable by zip code or by county and state, and can display a county map that is printable. For a list of pipeline operators in your area and their contact information, go to www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/. Operators of production facilities, gas/liquid gathering piping and distribution piping, are not represented by NPMS nor are they required to be.



IT'S FREE, AND IT'S THE LAW

811 is a federally-mandated number designated by the FCC to consolidate all local "Call Before You Dig" numbers and help save lives by minimizing damages to underground utilities. One easy phone call to 811 starts the process to get your underground pipelines and utility lines marked for **FREE**. When you call 811 from anywhere in the country, your call will be routed to your state One-Call Center. Once your underground lines have been marked for your project, you will know the approximate location of your pipelines and utility lines, and can dig safely. More information regarding 811 can be found at www.call811.com

**SSCGP-0800 Form
Physical Evidence of Encroachment Involving
Excavation**



New laws, regulations and ad campaigns are making it tougher for Excavators to dig without putting in a one-call but there are still occasions where digging is occurring on the Southern Star pipeline where no one-call was put in.

Southern Star has added the SSCGP-0800 Physical Evidence of Encroachment Involving Excavation Form to help document when this has happened and to ensure the integrity of the pipeline. This form was designed with the purpose of being used by Southern Star personnel or representatives to find evidence of an encroachment or right-of-way, involving excavation that was not monitored by Southern Star.

Please visit the Operations and Maintenance Manual under Procedure 70.18.01.02 to better understand how this form can be used to document and ensure that Southern Star is operating a safe pipeline.

What is a right-of-way and can I build or dig on it?

Pipeline companies work diligently to establish written agreements, or easements, with landowners to allow for ease of construction and maintenance when they cross private property. Rights-of-way are often recognizable as corridors that are clear of trees, buildings or other structures except for the pipeline markers. A right-of-way (ROW) may not have markers clearly present and may only be indicated by cleared corridors of land, except where farm land or crops exist. County Clerk's Offices also have record of easements which are public record.

Encroachments upon the pipeline ROW inhibit the pipeline operator's ability to reduce the chance of 3rd party damage, provide ROW surveillance and perform routine maintenance and required federal/state inspections. In order to perform these critical activities, pipeline maintenance personnel must be able to easily and safely access the pipeline ROW, as well as areas on either side of the pipeline. Keeping trees, shrubs, buildings, fences, structures and any other encroachments well away from the pipeline ensures that the pipeline integrity and safety are maintained. For more information please visit the Southern Star's "Developers Handbook" at http://www.sscgp.com/safety/Land_Use_Handbook.pdf.

This information provided by Paradigm

How Can You Help

While accidents pertaining to pipeline facilities are very rare, awareness of the location of the pipeline, the potential hazards, and what to do if a leak does occur can help minimize the number of accidents that do occur. A leading cause of pipeline incidents is third-party excavation damage. Pipeline operators are responsible for the safety and security of their respective pipelines. To help maintain the integrity of pipelines and their rights-of-way, it is essential that pipeline and facility neighbors protect against unauthorized excavations or other destructive activities. Here's what you can do to help:

- **Become familiar with the pipelines and pipeline facilities in the area (marker signs, fence signs at gated entrances, etc.)**
- **Record the operator name, contact information and any pipeline information from nearby marker/facility signs and keep in a permanent location near the telephone.**
- **Be aware of any unusual or suspicious activities or unauthorized excavations taking place within or near the pipeline right-of-way or pipeline facility; report any such activities to the pipeline operator and the local law enforcement.**

• This information provided by Paradigm