

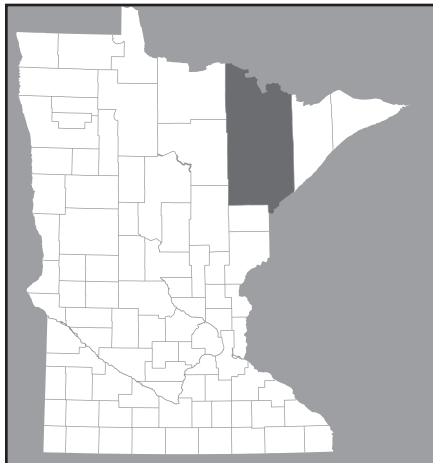
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COMMITMENT TO SAFETY, HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT

Hibbing Public Utilities is committed to public safety, protection of the environment, and operation of its facilities in compliance with all applicable rules and regulations. The Hibbing Public Utilities pipelines fall under the regulatory oversight of the Office of Pipeline safety in the U.S. Department of Transportation. Hibbing Public utilities is proud of its safety record and follows many regulations and procedures to monitor and ensure the integrity of its pipelines.

Visual inspections of Hibbing Public Utility pipeline right-of-way are conducted by vehicle surveillance on a regular basis. The right-of-way is a narrow strip of land reserved for the pipeline. Above ground marker signs are displayed along the right-



of-way to alert the public and contractors to the existence of the pipeline.

Cathodic protection is a technology designed to protect steel pipelines from external corrosion through the use of an electrostatic current. The small electrical charge is applied to our steel pipelines, which have an eternal protective coating.

Hibbing Public Utilities public education program is designed to prevent third-party damage to its pipelines. Additionally, the company is a member of numerous “call-before-you-dig” programs or “one-call” systems across the United States, which are designed to help the public contractors and others identify the location of pipelines before excavation or digging projects to prevent damage to pipelines and protect the public. The leading cause of pipeline accidents is third-party damage caused by various types of digging and excavation activities.

Emergency preparedness and planning measures are in place at Hibbing Public Utilities in the event that a pipeline incident occurs. The company also works closely with local emergency response organizations to educate them regarding our pipelines and how to respond in the unlikely event of an emergency.

Pipelines are the most efficient and safest method by which to transport and deliver natural gas and they are inherently safer than other modes of transportation such as rail, barge and truck. While the amount

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PRODUCTS/DOT GUIDEBOOK ID#/GUIDE#:		
Natural Gas	1971	115

**MINNESOTA
 COUNTIES OF OPERATION:**

St. Louis

Changes may occur. Contact the operator to discuss their pipeline systems and areas of operation.

of natural gas being used in the U.S. continues to increase dramatically, the industry’s safety performance in recent years has improved significantly and serious accidents are rare. Pipelines help ensure a plentiful supply of natural gas to heat homes and businesses and generate electricity. There are well over one million miles of natural gas and product pipelines in the U.S.

