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Columbia Gas of Kentucky, headquartered in Lexington, Kentucky, is one of the six energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). NiSource is one of the largest fully-regulated utility companies in the United States, serving approximately 3.2 million natural gas customers and 500,000 electric customers through its local Columbia Gas and NIPSCO brands. Columbia Gas of Kentucky serves approximately 135,000 customers in 30 Kentucky counties and has approximately 2,500 miles of pipeline. More information about Columbia Gas of Kentucky is available at [www.columbiagasky.com](http://www.columbiagasky.com). More information about NiSource and its other subsidiaries is available at [www.nisource.com](http://www.nisource.com).

**PIPELINE SAFETY**

Each day, the underground network of over a million miles of pipeline safely carries natural gas from supply areas to customers’ homes, businesses and factories across the country. While the natural gas industry has a proven record of safety, an on-going working relationship with excavators, contractors, emergency responders and public officials is essential to maintain the safe operation of this important energy delivery system.

At Columbia Gas of Kentucky, providing safe reliable service to the communities we serve is a top priority. We are committed to keeping the public and our pipelines safe. Our gas control and monitoring center offices operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We regularly patrol our pipeline rights of way and conduct regular inspections of our pipeline system. In addition, we make a significant investment each year to replace and upgrade our pipeline infrastructure.

Our operations employees receive regular training and are qualified under U.S. Department of Transportation standards for natural gas pipeline operators and are on-call at all times to respond to any contingency.

**CALL BEFORE YOU DIG**

Pipeline damage is most frequently caused by excavation projects conducted without prior location of underground utility lines and failing to protect buried utility lines during excavation. Don’t take chances! Dig-ins may result in property damage, costly repairs, personal injury or even loss of life. Call Kentucky811 at 811, 800-752-6007 or visit [Kentucky811.org](http://Kentucky811.org) in advance of any excavation project, or if you’re planning to cross pipeline rights of way with heavy equipment or to perform blasting in the vicinity of any pipelines.

If you expose, hit or touch a pipeline or other natural gas equipment, call 911 and our emergency number at 800-432-9515 immediately. Even if it looks minor at the time, a scratch, scrape, gouge, dent or crease to the pipe or coating might cause a safety problem in the future. It’s important that we inspect any potential damage, whether or not it’s apparent.



**SAFETY IS IN YOUR HANDS.  
 EVERY DIG. EVERY TIME.**

**RECOGNIZING GAS LEAKS**

While third-party damage is the largest single cause of pipeline failures, gas leaks due to corrosion or other causes can occur. Look, listen and smell to detect gas leaks.

Look for:

- dirt being blown or appearing to be thrown in the air
- water bubbling or being blown into the air in a creek, pond or river
- fire coming from the ground or appearing to burn above the ground
- dead or dying vegetation on or near a pipeline right of way in an otherwise green area
- a dry or frozen spot on the right-of-way

**EMERGENCY CONTACT:  
 1-800-432-9515**

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

**KENTUCKY  
 COUNTIES OF OPERATION:**

Bath	Knott
Bourbon	Lawrence
Boyd	Lee
Bracken	Letcher
Carter	Lewis
Clark	Madison
Clay	Martin
Estill	Mason
Fayette	Montgomery
Floyd	Nicholas
Franklin	Owsley
Greenup	Pike
Harrison	Robertson
Jessamine	Scott
Johnson	Woodford

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

Listen for hissing, blowing or a roaring sound. And, use your sense of smell to detect the familiar “rotten egg” or sulfur-like smell of natural gas. If you suspect a natural gas leak, leave the area immediately and call our emergency line at 800-432-9515 from a safe location.

**OPERATION OF GAS VALVES BY  
 EMERGENCY RESPONDERS**

Do not operate above or below ground main line valves when responding to an emergency. Strict procedures must be followed prior to and during the operation of any main line gas valve in order to achieve the desired affect on the system and to assure safety of the public and employees. Operating a gas valve can further worsen an incident. Gas valves on city gates and supply lines, regulator stations, and gas mains should only be operated by Columbia Gas of Kentucky and under the supervision of Columbia Gas Operations and Engineering Departments.

Similarly, never attempt to squeeze-off a plastic (polyethylene) pipe with improvised equipment such as the jaws-of-life or actual squeeze-off jacks in an attempt to shut off the flow of gas.

Please report these actions to Columbia Gas of Kentucky immediately so that appropriate follow-up safety checks can be conducted. Do not assume that closing a meter or service line valve has eliminated a hazardous condition – leakage upstream of the valve could be migrating. It is absolutely vital to monitor the situation and any concentrations of natural gas in the vicinity. **Columbia Gas of Kentucky operations personnel will perform the necessary safety checks and restore service when safe to do so.**

**PIPELINE MARKERS & RIGHTS-OF-WAY**

Natural gas pipelines are sometimes identified by markers placed at intervals along pipeline rights-of-way. Markers display 24-hour emergency telephone numbers and might provide other

identifying information. Pipeline markers may be round, flat, or triangular. The tops of markers may be yellow or orange with black text.



They are generally placed wherever needed to indicate the presence of a pipeline, such as where a pipeline easement intersects a street, railroad or river and in heavily congested areas. Line markers are not always directly over the main but indicate that a gas pipeline is in the area. The absence of above-ground markers DOES NOT

indicate that there are no gas lines in the area.

While markers are helpful in indicating the presence of pipelines in the area they do not show the exact location, depth or how many pipelines are in the rights-of-way or easement, so always contact 811 before digging.

**NATIONAL PIPELINE MAPPING SYSTEM**

Visit the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)\* website at [phmsa.dot.gov](http://phmsa.dot.gov) for more information and to view pipeline locations using the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS)\*\* public map view.

\*PHMSA is the federal agency that regulates safety aspects of the natural gas industry.

\*\*NPMS data is for reference purposes only. It should never be used as a substitute for always contacting 811 prior to excavation activities.

# Columbia Gas of Kentucky Service Area

