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Northern employees at all levels are committed to providing the leadership, dedication and resources necessary to provide for an outstanding public awareness program. Northern operates its 16,000 miles of natural gas pipelines, in portions of eleven states, in strict compliance with all financial, legal, regulatory, and environmental requirements. Northern requires all employees to follow the highest level of ethical conduct and fair dealing in every business transaction. Northern takes specific measures to operate a safe pipeline system and educates the public and others on what they need to do in case of an emergency and how they can do their part to keep pipelines operating safely.

Northern has high standards, policies, and procedures designed to ensure the safety of the public, excavators, emergency responders and public officials that live or work around our pipelines. Our procedures have been developed to ensure that Northern meets the requirements of the federal Pipeline Safety Improvement Act and incorporates guidance from the industry consensus standard called API's recommended practice 1162.

These guidelines will aid in identifying methods to continually improve our program by measuring and evaluating its effectiveness. In addition, Northern actively participates in national organizations such as the group called the Common Ground Alliance, sponsored by the Office of Pipeline Safety. This group brings together various stakeholders to focus on damage prevention best practices across the country.

Northern also provides strong support to damage prevention programs such as state One Call Centers and other cooperative groups being organized at the state and local level. Encourage meeting with a Northern Natural Gas representative to ask questions and strengthen the partnership that it takes to continue living safely with natural gas pipelines.

Our highest priority at Northern Natural Gas is safety. We strive to operate and maintain our facilities in a manner that provides the highest level of protection to our employees and the public. We believe that an accident-free work environment is an achievable goal. At Northern Natural Gas, we run our business based upon these fundamental concepts:

- We hold the protection of safety and health as our highest core value.
- Safety performance is a key indicator of organizational excellence.
- Safety will not be compromised for any reason.
- We recognize that safe and healthy employees are productive employees. Protecting the safety and health of our employees in the workplace, and promoting a safe and healthful lifestyle outside of the workplace, is good business.
- Safety is a shared responsibility of everyone in the organization.
- Audits are essential to ensure that the safety and health management system is functioning effectively. Audits will be conducted on a routine basis.
- Executive management will lead the process to continually improve our safety and health management system so that it provides the highest level of protection to our employees from injuries, illness and occupational diseases.
- Training is essential to the success of our safety and health management system. Employees will be trained to recognize safety and health hazards and the appropriate protective measures to protect them from these hazards.
- Employees are empowered and obligated to take immediate, corrective action in response to any unsafe work practices and conditions.
- Safety and health must be considered in the design and maintenance of our facilities.
- An accident-free workplace is an achievable goal.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT:**  
**1-888-367-6671**

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

**NEW MEXICO  
 COUNTIES OF OPERATION:**

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

Northern Natural Gas, along with all of the Berkshire Hathaway Energy companies, believes responsible environmental management is good business; it benefits our customers and improves the quality of the environment in which we live. Our policy establishes the environmental RESPECT principles that guide our corporate commitment to the environment.

All levels of management are responsible for integrating environmental management programs into business processes in order to measure and improve environmental performance. All employees are responsible and accountable for understanding and incorporating environmental compliance requirements into their daily work activities with the obligation to bring issues and concerns forward for resolution.

We will responsibly use natural resources and pursue increased efficiencies that reduce waste and emissions at their source. We will develop sustainable operations and implement environmental projects designed to leave a clean, healthy environment for our children and future generations.

We will respect our natural resources and take care in balancing the needs of customers with our obligation to future generations. We will seek opportunities to preserve, restore, protect and improve our natural surroundings.

We will set challenging goals and assess our ability to continually improve our environmental performance. Through the strategic management of our assets, we will improve the environment and contribute to our business success. We will perform audits to evaluate our environmental compliance and use the results to improve our operations and their impact on the environment.

We will foster open dialogue and informed decision making through communication of environmental information with management, employees and the public. We will work with governments and others in creating responsible environmental laws and regulations reflective of sound public policy.

We will provide the training necessary for our employees to perform their environmental responsibilities. We will encourage and provide opportunities for employees to learn more about the environment and foster an atmosphere of creating cost effective solutions that go beyond compliance. Northern incorporates a system of continual monitoring, inspection, and ongoing evaluations to improve on processes and procedures.

The Department of Transportation, or DOT, keeps safety statistics on the transportation of natural gas through pipelines and other modes of transportation like railroads, aviation, trucking, waterways, as well as, public transportation like highways.

Statistics show that pipeline transportation is the safest form of transportation available. Although pipelines provide the safest form of transportation available, a partnership between Northern Natural Gas, the public, excavators, farmers, ranchers, emergency responders and public officials is necessary to assure a safe environment.

A majority of pipeline incidents are the result of encroachments, usually excavation or farm equipment striking our pipeline. On rare occasions, incidents are the result of mechanical failure such as leaks or ruptures.

Northern Natural Gas has developed several processes to help do our part in keeping pipelines safe. For example, we are participating members in all eleven state One Call Centers where our facilities are located.

- Name of system – Northern Natural Gas
- Name of owner and operator – Northern Natural Gas (a Berkshire Hathaway Energy Company)
- Type of system – gathering, transmission, etc. - - High pressure transmission.
- Physical area covered by system (moves from x location to y location) – Southeastern Lea County.
- Length of system – Approximately 75 miles.
- List of products transported in system – Natural gas
- Range of diameter of pipelines in system – Ranging from 6”- 26”
- Northern Natural Gas wants to provide the public with how to identify our facilities and how to recognize and report a natural gas emergency.
- Since the majority of a pipeline system lies underground, Northern wants to show the public ways to recognize that our facilities may be in the area.
- The most common method is our pipeline marker signs that come in various shapes and sizes, such as an aerial type “tent” marker that allows aircraft to flyover and follow the pipeline route. It is important to note that the pipeline may not lie in a straight line between pipeline signs. The route may take bends and turns between signs. Never assume a pipeline sign is directly over the pipe, call the One Call Center for a line locate.
- Aboveground valves are placed at strategic intervals along the pipeline. These valves serve the purpose of isolating certain segments of the pipeline allowing alternatives to delivery routes and provide for routine maintenance without service interruption.
- Town Border Stations, also known as TBS’s are typically the transfer point between our transmission pipeline system and the LDC. These buildings contain regulators, pressure limiting devices, meters and recorders.
- Environmental and economic considerations may make it more feasible to have our pipelines hang from bridges crossing over large rivers.
- One common method we use to monitor our pipelines is to conduct regularly scheduled leak surveys using sophisticated gas detection instruments.
- Other methods to identify potential

pipeline issues can be used by everyone. For example:

- Sound – leaking or blowing gas may make a sound varying in intensity from a low hissing sound to a loud roaring sound similar to that of a jet engine.
- Sight – leaks from pipelines running under bodies of water may be detected by the presence of bubbles rising to the surface. Dying or dead vegetation starved of oxygen and located over a pipeline may be an indicator of a leak below. Fire at or just above ground level. A dry spot in otherwise moist earth. Possibly dirt being blown into the air.
- Smell – Most of the gas in our pipeline system is not odorized, check with your local Northern Natural Gas representative. However, if a leak were to occur you may be able to detect a slight oily or petroleum odor. Of course, if the pipeline does happen to be odorized you may smell the tell tale odor of “rotten eggs” commonly associated with natural gas and the chemical used to odorize the gas.
- When a problem is reported we fix it immediately. To report a suspected natural gas pipeline/facility incident, or suspicious activity call 911, your local sheriff, police or the appropriate law enforcement agency in your area. Then give us a call at 1-888-367- 6671. This number dials into our 24-hour Operations Communication Center or OCC. Trained OCC coordinators will immediately send local technicians to assess the situation.
- It is important to remember the two simple steps you should take when someone has damaged a pipeline or you suspect a gas leak. One - Leave the area immediately and warn others to stay away. Two - once you are in a safe area, stay there and then notify 911 and Northern Natural Gas at 1-888-367-6671.

Northern Natural Gas employees walk, patrol, drive, inspect, maintain, manufacture and construct our facilities to meet or exceed regulatory standards. We provide special coating on the pipe and add cathodic protection that prevents the pipe from corrosion. It is important to note that any scratch, gouge, dent or puncture must be reported to us immediately. Damage such as this could cause immediate release of natural gas or lead to future problems if corrosion develops which could cause a leak or

rupture long after the damage may have occurred. Northern Natural Gas also sends out brochures to excavators, public officials and those that live along the right of way. In addition, employees meet face to face with emergency responders and participate in industry sponsored public education meetings. Northern is also an active member of One Call systems.

Frequencies of prevention measures vary from weekly, monthly, semi-annual, and annual depending on factors such as population density and the specific type of measure. Northern's gas control center is located in Omaha, Nebraska. It is operated around the clock, every day of the year. Critical field facilities have remote sensing devices that transmit pressures and other specific data into Gas Control automatically. Gas control operators continually monitor this data to maintain a safe, well run pipeline system.

Northern developed an Integrity Management Program framework that outlines a formal, comprehensive process to identify, assess, remediate, and continually evaluate threats to the integrity of pipeline segments that, in the event of failure, could impact High Consequence Areas. The plan is comprised of five essential elements: integrity management, performance measurement, communications, management of change, and quality management; and will rely on cross-

functional participation to systematically address the requirements of each essential element.

The Integrity Management Program (IMP or program) is Northern's system for controlling physical risk to its pipeline facilities. When implemented, IMP will better ensure that risks associated with pipeline integrity are more effectively managed and that the public, Northern's employees, and the environment are better protected from pipeline incidents. While the processes, programs and procedures set forth in this program only apply to pipelines located within high consequence areas, Northern will work diligently to incorporate IMP into its existing programs, procedures and standards for managing risk elsewhere on its system. This fusion will take place as more understanding is gained through application of the IMP in high consequence areas.

Northern is committed to protecting the public, its employees and the environment; improving the performance of its pipeline business; protecting its reputation as a reliable provider of natural gas transportation services; enhancing its risk profile; and, ensuring compliance with all applicable state and federal integrity management regulations. As such, executive management has approved the processes and procedures within the program, and has mandated adherence to them. Employees at all levels of the organization are responsible for leading and engaging in tasks to meet IMP goals and objectives.

In the future, the program will be made available on Northern's website.

## COMPANY'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE CONDITION

- Public safety officials must take whatever steps are necessary to safeguard the public in the event of a pipeline emergency. The following suggestions are offered as a guide:
- Notify the appropriate pipeline company. Report the type (leak, rupture, fire) and the location of the emergency. If it's a Northern Natural Gas pipeline, call our toll-free 24-hour emergency telephone number: 1-888-367-6671 and call 911.
- Establish a safety zone around the emergency site and control access. This may include evacuating people within the safety zone.
- If gas is not burning, avoid doing

anything that may ignite it. Be aware of wind direction and potential ignition sources.

- If gas is burning, control secondary fires, but do not attempt to put out pipeline fires. Do not attempt to operate pipeline valves.
- While emergency response agencies are doing their part, our pipeline employees will do what needs to be done to protect lives and property.
- They will first protect people from injury by removing all persons from the danger zone. If a fire doesn't already exist, they will remove any sources of ignition.
- They will help person(s) in distress.
- They will eliminate the natural gas source. If it is possible to do so from the location of the emergency, they will. In many cases, the natural gas must be shut off at a remote location. It's important for you to know that our employees are responsible for operating the valves that isolate the affected facilities.
- Is your group or agency interested in a presentation or additional information? Call our emergency number at 1-888-367-6671 and ask to establish a public education liaison. Together we will determine the appropriate Northern Natural Gas field location nearest you and then provide a means to contact their local representative for more details.

For further information about Northern Natural Gas, please contact:

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