March 17, 2016

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY NATURAL GAS PIPELINE FACILITIES

Dear students, faculty and staff,

We want to provide you with information regarding Wright State University’s natural gas pipeline facilities. These pipeline facilities are located underground and above ground within the campus areas and are used to provide natural gas to the campus facilities. To ensure the natural gas pipeline facilities are safe and reliable, Wright State University Physical Plant Department follows a regular operation and maintenance program.

A hazard that you could potentially encounter with the pipeline facilities is leakage that is caused by deterioration of the facilities over time or outside forces. Wright State University’s regular operation and maintenance program should address any deterioration of the facilities before they become a leak or problem. Pipeline leakage caused by outside forces (i.e., digging into the underground pipeline and damaging it, causing a leak) can be prevented by calling Wright State University’s Engineering and Construction department before you do any digging (i.e., planting flowers, installing swing set posts, etc.) within the campus and residential areas. Application for dig permits must be initiated on the WSU Engineering and Construction web page at http://www.wright.edu/admin/construction/. The engineering office can be reached at 937.775.4142. We will mark the location of the underground pipeline facilities with paint or flags and/or show you the location of the underground pipeline facilities in the area you will be digging.

If a leak does occur, Wright State University feels it is important for you to be able to recognize it. Natural Gas cannot be seen, nor can it be smelled unless treated with an odorant. The natural gas at Wright State University is treated with an odorant and you should be able to smell it. Be alert for the following “telltale” signs of a leak:

1. A distinctive (gas) odor – rotten egg smell;
2. A shrill blowing or hissing sound;
3. Dirt being blown or thrown into the air;
4. Bubbles coming from or water being blown into the air at a puddle, pond, creek or river;
5. Fire apparently coming from the ground or burning above the ground;
6. Patches of brown vegetation in grassy areas; or
7. Dry dirt spots in grassy areas.

If you suspect a gas leak inside or outside of your WSU residential facility or at a main campus building please do the following:

1. Notify Wright State University at 937.775.2111 so the leak can be verified and corrective measures taken.
2. Avoid open flames or other ignition sources, including operating light switches, operating garage door openers and operating motor vehicles.
3. Evacuate the area.

Wright State University would like to point out that 937.775.2111 should be called any time you suspect a leak or feel that there is an emergency with the natural gas pipeline facilities. This number is answered 24 hours a day 7 days a week. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding Wright State University natural gas pipeline facilities, please call Greg Phillipp, Project Supervisor, Physical Plant at 937.775.4129.

Thank You.