



APRIL IS SAFE DIGGING MONTH

Know what's **below**.
Call **811** before you dig.

NYC Safe Digging Around Gas Facilities

Susan Montano National Grid

Richard Yurkovic Con Edison



national**grid**

 **conEdison**

April Is Dig Safe Month

This is a friendly reminder that as the weather gets warmer and outside construction picks up it's important to call 811 before you dig. New York State Code Rule 753 (also referred to as Part 753, Industrial Code 53 or Code 53) addresses the protection of underground facilities.

By law, excavators and contractors **MUST** contact New York 811 at least two working days but no more than 10 days (excluding weekends and legal holidays) before beginning any excavation project.

The code also includes detailed information on fines, the tolerance zone, personal property and line marking color codes. Professional excavators are expected to know and obey this code.



Actions for Gas Leaks or Damages

DO

- **STOP!** – All on-site activity. Follow your protocols
- **Evacuate and cordon off the area – make safe**
- **Make all appropriate notifications (911, Utility Company, Etc.)**
- **Communicate any change in condition to Utility Company (Evacuations, Injuries, Ignition, Etc.)**

DO NOT

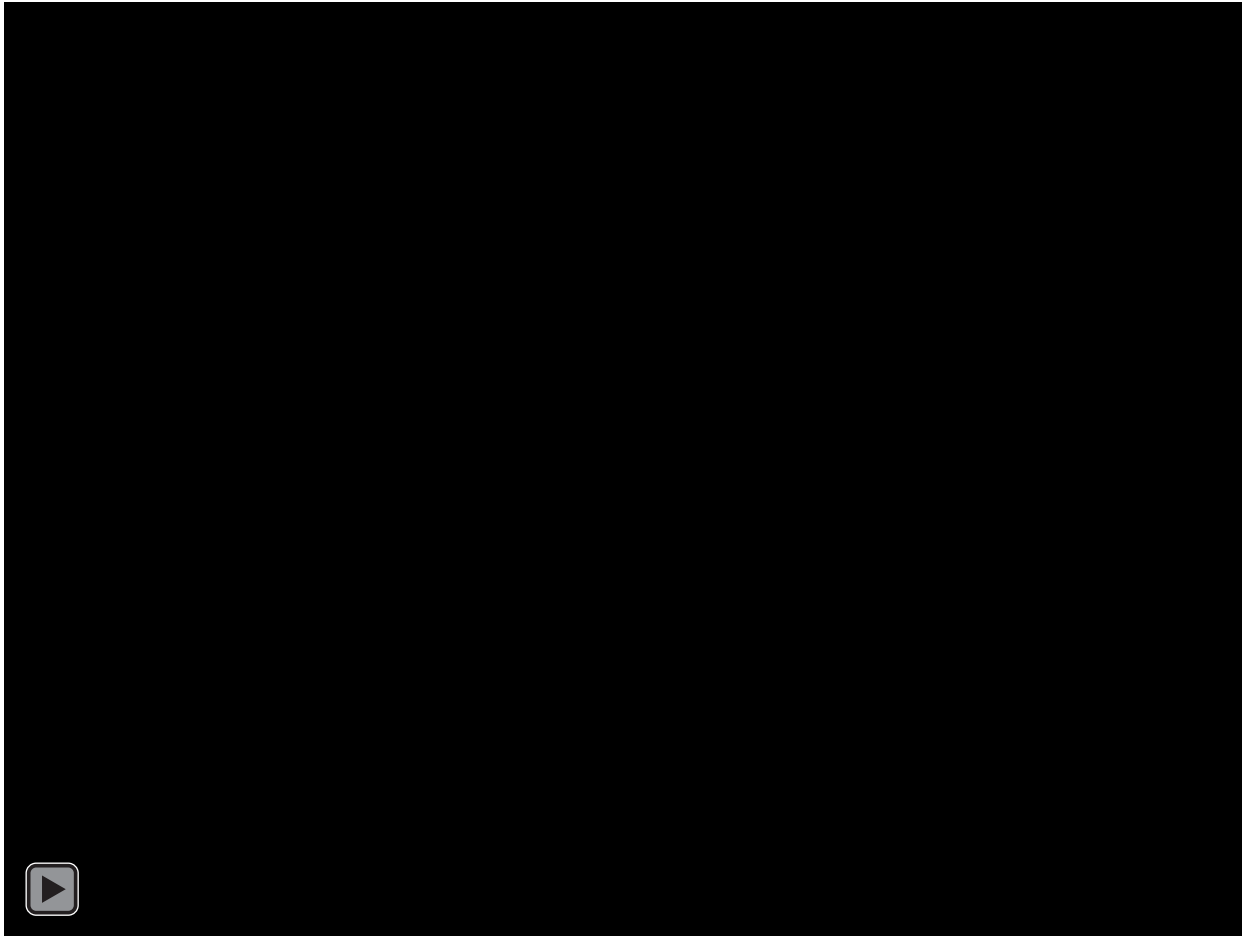
- **Operate any valves**
- **Do not interrupt/block (sand bagging or backfilling) the flow of natural gas to atmosphere in an excavation**
- **Bend or Fold P.E. Pipe**



Natural Gas Incident



MTA Bus Depot Contractor Damage Queens N.Y.



Bayside Outage



Bayside Outage Cont'd

Contractor damage reported by Con Edison Gas crew and F.D.N.Y.

F.D.N.Y. and Con Edison crews quickly confirm contractor damaged 12 inch H.P. gas main

12 main valves were closed to secure the damaged gas main

Interruption to 87 gas services and 237 customers (residential and CO-OP)

World Cup Nursery School & Kindergarten Hunts Lane - New Castle N.Y.

Contractor Damaged 2 Inch H.P. Gas Main

Interruptions on Metro North Harlem River Line

Evacuated School

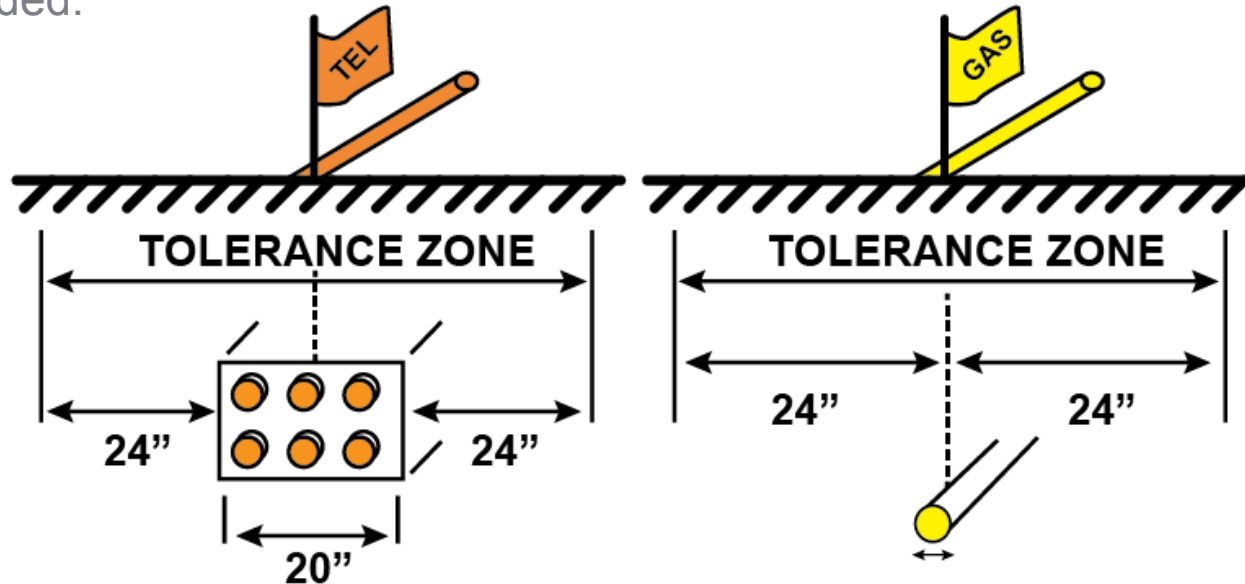
Westchester County Detectives Press Charges Against Contractor



Tolerance Zone – It's The Law!!

TOLERANCE ZONE IS DEFINED AS:

- 2 feet (24") on either side of the designated center line of facility if the diameter is not provided.



- Or, 2 feet (24") from each outside edge if the diameter is provided.
- A good practice is to have a crew perform "test pits" or "pot hole" ahead of the excavation crew to verify the location of the buried utility.

Tolerance Zone – It's The Law

- If excavating parallel to a buried utility “test holes” should be excavated to verify the location of the utility @ 20’-25’ intervals or as required by the utility operator.
- Once the utility has been exposed, the contractor shall not operate any mechanized equipment within 4” of the utility unless it has been agreed upon in writing by the utility operator.
- Once the buried utility has been exposed the contractor is responsible for maintaining, supporting & protecting the utility throughout the excavation including backfilling & final restoration.
- By not adhering to the rules of the tolerance zone, you risk power or utility service interruptions, property damage, job delays, legal problems, fines, injuries or death.

Summary

Call before you DIG

It's the law:

SUBPART 753-1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- 753-1.1 Purpose. The purpose of these rules is to establish procedures for the protection of underground facilities in order to assure public safety and to prevent damage to public and private property, as required by General Business Law Article 36 and Public Service Law Section 119-b. This Part may be cited as Industrial Code 53 or Code Rule 53, in addition to its designation as Part 753.

Remember it can happen in an instant!

Thank You

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Stay Safe