



HIGH PRESSURE GAS PIPELINE INCIDENT

OVERVIEW

During the erection of a High Voltage Pole on Wednesday the 28th of August 2024, contact was made with a 15 inch High Pressure (HP) Gas Pipeline. Fortunately, the pipeline was not ruptured and nobody was injured.

A Very Serious Incident investigation has been started to determine the root causes. This alert is to highlight the need for all staff involved in planning or undertaking of excavations or ground penetrating activities e.g. driving stay rods, of the requirement to thoroughly check for HP Oil and Gas Pipelines in the vicinity of the work area.

DETAIL

An Overhead Line Team were undertaking a project to relocate a High Voltage Pole. During the boring of the pole hole, they encountered a HP Gas Pipeline. The team immediately stopped work and escalated the incident. SGN (Scotia Gas Networks), the operator of the pipeline, attended site to ensure that the immediate danger was assessed. Further works are being undertaken to excavate the pipeline for a thorough inspection.

HP Oil and Gas Pipelines are highly hazardous apparatus and subject to [legislation](#) to prevent damage. Damaging the apparatus can result in serious injuries or death. Everyone involved in the planning, putting people to work and the delivery of work, has an absolute responsibility to ensure that our staff and the public are not put in danger, or that environmental damage is not caused.

[Line Search Before U Dig](#) is an online service that can be accessed for information on the location of HP Oil and Gas Pipelines. If a search identifies apparatus in the work area, you must follow the instructions given and not start work until any required controls are in place.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

All staff involved in the design, planning and delivery of work shall,

- Use [Line Search Before U Dig](#) (LSBUD) to confirm the absence or presence of Oil or Gas Pipelines.
- Consult all maps and plans before starting any excavation or ground penetrating activities.
- Make sure you can identify [pipeline markers](#) and look for them before starting works.
- Follow the Safe Digging guidance [here](#).
- Refer to the [LSBUD Toolbox Talk](#) and the procedure [HSS 01 061 Working in the Vicinity of High Pressure Oil and Gas Pipelines](#) for more information.



Primary communication via Line Manager complete by (X)	2 calendar days	x	5 calendar days		10 calendar days
Additional communication (X)	Stand down briefing	x	1 st 15	x	Team Brief slide

Line management must ensure appropriate employees understand the content of this document within the timescale shown. This document is subject to compliance audits after the communication deadline.