

Excess Flow Valve Customer Notification

INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS & AFFECTED PUBLIC

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A new federal regulation concerning natural gas pipeline safety requires York County Natural Gas Authority (YCNGA) to notify its customers of their right to request the installation of an Excess Flow Valve (EFV) on their existing natural gas service line.

What is an Excess Flow Valve (EFV)?

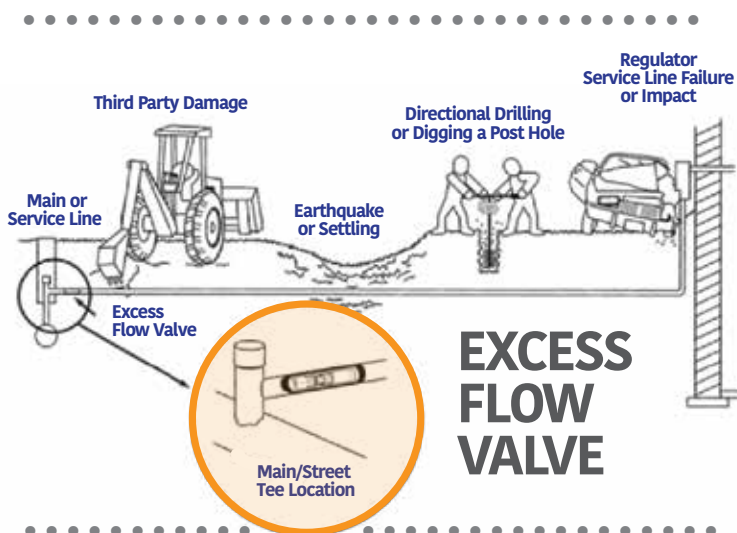
An EFV is a device that is installed as part of the service line and is designed to stop the flow of gas if the service line is broken, for example, by an excavation accident. Stopping the flow of gas from a broken service line significantly reduces the risk of natural gas fire, explosion, personal injury and/or property damage.

What you need to know about Excess Flow Valves

EFVs are mechanical shut-off devices that can be installed in the gas pipe extending from the main to the gas meter at your property (the “service line”). An EFV is designed to stop the flow of gas if the service line is broken, for example, by an excavation accident.

EFVs are not designed to close if a leak occurs beyond the gas meter (on house piping or appliances). EFVs also may not close if the leak on the service line is small.

If additional gas equipment is installed by the customer that significantly changes the gas load, this added gas flow may cause the EFV to close, interrupting gas service. This may require digging up the EFV and replacing it with a larger size.



Excess Flow Valve Installation & Replacement Costs

There are costs associated with installing and/or replacing an EFV on your property.

Because the EFV is an option, the cost of installation (labor and materials) on an existing service line is the responsibility of the customer. At your request and on a case by case basis, YCNGA will complete a site survey and provide a quote to you for installation. Residential installation costs of an EFV are likely to exceed \$500 and Commercial costs are likely to exceed \$1,000, but the actual installation cost will depend on the difficulty of the installation. We will provide you with a quote before you make the final decision to have the EFV installed.

There may be a time when the EFV needs to be replaced. For example, EFV replacement may be necessary if you add additional gas equipment that exceeds the capacity of the EFV. Also, EFV replacement may be necessary if the EFV malfunctions (sticks open or closed). It should be noted that based on industry experience, EFVs rarely malfunction.

If a failure occurs with the EFV and it becomes necessary to replace the EFV on your service line, YCNGA will replace the EFV at no charge to you if the cause of the failure was based on a faulty device. If the malfunction was due to added equipment, you will be billed for the actual cost of the EFV replacement. The cost to replace an EFV varies and may exceed \$500. Actual cost will depend on the difficulty of replacement.

Excess Flow Valve Installation Restrictions

Excess Flow Valves cannot be installed on some service lines due to high gas flow, low pressure or other factors. If you request an EFV but your service line cannot accommodate an EFV we will let you know.

Typical Excess Flow Valve Installation

The diagram (left) illustrates a typical installation of an Excess Flow Valve. Notice that the EFV is installed near the main line and is designed to shut off the flow of natural gas if a sudden increase in flow occurs between the EFV and the regulator installed at the meter.

For More Information Contact Customer Service: 803-323-5304 or 866-578-4427

