

EXCESS FLOW VALVE NOTICE

Natural gas is a non-toxic, clean and reliable source of energy. A key beneficial safety characteristic of natural gas is being lighter than air. Typically, natural gas that accidentally escapes in the open will dissipate harmlessly into the air. In addition, increased federal and state regulatory requirements coupled with the dedicated efforts of natural gas utilities over past decades have led to an increase in public awareness and a decline in pipeline incidents.

A new Federal Pipeline Safety Regulation requires the City of Blakely Natural Gas Department to extend to each of its natural gas customers the opportunity to have an Excess Flow Valve (EFV) installed on an existing natural gas service line.

An EFV is a mechanical shut-off device that can be installed in the natural gas service line running to the gas meter. It is designed to restrict the flow of natural gas automatically if it senses a sudden excess flow of natural gas, for example, a rupture of the service line between the mainline and the customer's meter. The EFV significantly reduces the risk of personal injury and/or property damage. However, installation of an EFV will not protect against small leaks, such as those located on the customer-owned line or appliances, and may potentially shut off gas supply under heavy system demand, such as under severe weather conditions.

Installation of EFV on existing service lines is not mandatory. Customers may request that the City of Blakely Natural Gas Department install an EFV on the service lines to their property. They cannot be installed on some service lines due to high gas flow, low pressure or other factors. If an EFV can be installed and the customer chooses to have it installed the City of Blakely Natural Gas Department will provide an estimated cost to install the device and payment must be collected prior to installation. The City of Blakely Natural Gas Department will work with the customer to determine a mutually-agreeable date for installation. The customer is responsible for all future maintenance cost associated with the installation. These include, but are not limited to, excavation cost, repair, or replacement cost, and restoration costs.

If you would like to request EFV on your service line please contact the City of Blakely Natural Gas Department at 229-723-3677 during business hours.

Thank you,

City of Blakely Natural Gas Department