



STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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CONSUMER ASSISTANCE AND SAFETY DIVISION – BULLETIN 24-01

June 5, 2024

Dear Propane Operator:

The Maine Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) Consumer Assistance and Safety Division is contacting Maine propane dealers with this bulletin concerning a recent law change.

The Maine Legislature recently amended 23 MRSA § 3360-A (Protection of underground utilities) to exempt certain facilities from the requirement to register with Dig Safe and comply with MPUC Chapter 895: Underground Facility Damage Prevention Requirements. **The change is effective August 9, 2024.**

This change means that propane facility operators need not register with Dig Safe, locate and mark, or provide excavator notifications for any system that serves a residential lot with no more than one structure to a single source of supply, where the structure contains no more than two dwelling units *and* where the container is located 25' or less from the structure. For operators who have already registered these facilities, Dig Safe Inc. has offered to remove the now exempt facilities for no charge. operators are also free to register or keep registered all propane systems with underground components - this exemption does not prohibit operators from registering all propane systems with underground components.

Prior to this change, **all** LPG facilities with underground components were required to be registered with Dig Safe, and operators of these facilities were required to comply with MPUC Chapter 895.

The legislation that resulted in the law change also clarified certain statutory definitions regarding liquefied propane gas facilities. More information on the legislation is available at: <https://legislature.maine.gov/billtracker/#Paper/2245?legislature=131>

The MPUC Damage Prevention Staff enforces State regulations governing pipelines that transport hazardous gas in Maine. The intent of this enforcement is to protect the public and ensure safe and reliable operation of facilities. More information, including copies of regulations, training resources, and important links, are available at: <https://www.maine.gov/mpuc/safety/dig-safe>.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan Dore".

Nathan Dore
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