

GAS LEAK / ODOR OF GAS

KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- We shall NEVER restore any gas service.
- Malfunctioning gas equipment can also produce CO. Be vigilant. See CO protocol.
- **DOT numbers** - CNG = 1971 / LNG = 1972 / LPG = 1975
- Propane is heavier than air. Natural gas is lighter.
- Use your WISER app for safety zones, SCBA, and ignition windows.
- We DO NOT clamp gas lines.
- **ALWAYS re-measure with your meters after the problem is mitigated prior to your departure. Document findings in your RMS.**

PROTOCOL:

1. Minimum PPE is structural turnouts. If a leak is inside an enclosed structure or gas is gathering inside an enclosed structure a SCBA is required. **An enclosed structure with a gas leak is an IDLH.**
2. Respond Code 3. Company officers are authorized to DOWNGRADE to Code 1 if additional information is available, such as:
 - a. Odor is no longer present.
 - b. Non-specific report i.e. general smell in a neighborhood.
 - c. Leak is confirmed to be controlled (stopped).
3. Request the appropriate utility/gas service provider to respond.
4. Approach cautiously. Park upwind. Provide arrival report and establish command. **Unify IC with gas-reps if needed.**
5. Control access and ignition sources.
6. Entry into structures should be reserved to conduct a primary search when occupancy is unknown and should be quick and with the least exposure as possible.
 - **Entry is prohibited, except for rescue, when the LEL measurement is 20% or greater until exterior ventilation is achieved. Control of ignition sources is required prior to ventilation.**

WATER APPLICATION CONSIDERTIONS DURING OUTDOOR LEAKS: (avoid flooding the excavation)

- Fog stream application may be useful when:
 - Applied to vector vapor away from an ignition hazard area inside an excavation.
 - Applied to dampen the soil inside an excavation to reduce static generated by blowing gas from polyethylene or even steel gas line. Damp soil also reduces static potential.
 - When protecting exposures from ignited leaks. **DO NOT EXTINGUISH IGNITED LEAKS.**

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INDUSTRIAL GAS SERVICE CONSIDERATIONS:

- Industrial gas service is often far more gridded and controllable than domestic service.
 - Shutting off the supply at the master meter may have severe financial implications for a business. Avoid if possible and isolate as close to the leak as you can.
- Whenever practical incorporate the business facility rep into your plan ASAP.
- Industrial service master shut-offs are usually above ground, near the meter and well-marked.

DOMESTIC GAS SERVICE CONSIDERATIONS:

- We will shut off the meter (1st choice) or Curb-Cock (2nd choice) when controlling utilities at a dwelling fire.
 - Domestic Curb-Cocks are usually 1 foot outside the property line and in-line with the meter.
- Meter shut-off is an option if a gas appliance isolation valve is leaking or unavailable.

PROPANE FILLING SITES CONSIDERATIONS.

- Look for a remote shut-down button. **Not always present.** *Different from gasoline pump master shut-off button at service stations.*
- A master shut-off valve (1/4 turn) is usually under the tank on the main liquid line to the filling cage.
- The filling cage is likely interlocked to a main liquid valve. **Closing the cage shuts off the gas supply assuming it is undamaged.**
- Remember to shut off the second **vapor** valve on the top of the supply tank.
- Use your TIC to measure tank level. Also use 4-gas monitor to assess nearby low areas for vapor collection.