

Natural Gas Excess Flow Valve Customer Notification

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has requested all natural gas utilities to notify customers about excess flow valves (EFV) and install an EFV if the customer requests one, 49 CFR 192.383(e). Should the customer desire installation of this device, the customer must agree to pay all associated costs including materials and labor. The City of Union began installing excess flow valves if requested on qualified residential natural gas service lines in 2007. Beginning April 2009, EFVs were installed on all qualified new residential natural gas service lines.

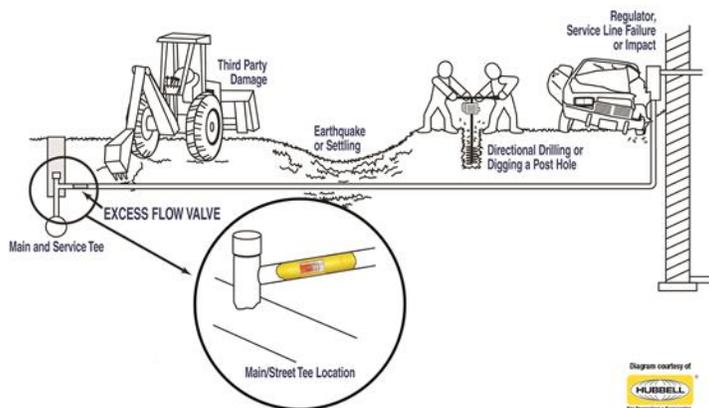
The cost to install such a device on existing residential natural gas service lines is \$300.00, if conditions allow.

An excess flow valve is a device designed to restrict gas flow in a customer's natural gas service line by automatically closing in the event that a service line is broke, completely out, torn apart or otherwise separated, usually caused by some type of excavation or digging.

A natural gas service line is the piping from the gas main in the street to the customer meter set and runs underground through the customer's yard.

Restricting gas flow after a gas service line is damaged may decrease the potential for property damage and/or injury.

If a customer requests installation of an excess flow valve, and agrees to pay the cost at the time of installation, the City of Union will perform the installation. Please note that EFVs 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.



The customer must agree to pay any and all future maintenance costs associated with an excess flow valve including:

- Excavation cost for valve removal and/or replacement
- Pavement and/or landscaping replacement associated with any necessary excavation
- All associated material and labor costs

We estimate the replacement costs to be within the range of \$300 to \$1000, should it be required.

EFV replacement may be necessary if you add additional gas appliances, such as a pool heater or emergency generator that exceeds the capacity of the EFV.

EFV replacement may be necessary if the EFV malfunctions (sticks open or closed).

Industry experience is that EFVs rarely malfunction.

Additional information:

- 1) Installation of an excess flow valve is not mandatory
- 2) An excess flow valve will not protect against the following events:
 - a. Customer appliance gas leaks
 - b. Small gas service line punctures
 - c. Gas meter set leaks
- 3) The City of Union makes no express warranty for continued proper excess flow valve operation under normal use conditions and/or false valve closure under any gas system operating conditions.

For your safety always call 811 to have gas lines and other buried utilities marked before allowing anyone to dig in your yard.



City of Union
Contact us at
101 Sharpe Avenue
Union, SC
864-429-1717
Monday – Friday
8:30am – 5:00 pm

