

Subject: Underground Damage Prevention

Our natural gas system has, by law, maintained a damage prevention program over the years. A part of this program is notification of plumbers and contractors who may conduct excavation in areas which contain buried gas lines. This program is designed to reduce the risk of excavation damage to buried gas lines. Excavation is the leading cause of gas pipeline accidents.

On April 18, 1994 Governor Jim Folsom approved Act 94-487 regarding underground damage prevention and "One Call Notification System". The effective date of the act was January 1, 1995. The purpose of this Act is to safeguard against injury and loss of life due to excavation or demolition and to protect underground facilities from costly damage and the interruption of utility or other services to the general public.

Persons responsible for excavation, blasting or demolition are mandated to give a two (2) day written, telephone or electronic notice to such intent to the underground facility operator or a One Call Notification System, such as Alabama One Call, acting on behalf of the operator. Failure to meet the requirements of this Act may result in Civil Penalties not to exceed \$10,000.00 for each violation. Also, the Alexander City Gas Department can bill the Operator for expenses involving damages and/or loss of gas if any of our lines are damaged due to excavation for which we were not notified.

If you have any type of excavation activities planned please take a moment ahead of time and call **Alabama One Call** by dialing **811** or you may call the Alexander City Gas Department office at 256-409-2070. We will locate any gas lines that may be in the excavation area. That simple phone call could prevent disruption of service, expensive repairs, or personal injury.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.