



March 1, 2017

Excess Flow Valve (EFV) Customer Notification:

Explanation of the potential benefits of EFVs

An EFV is designed to shut off gas if the service line is severed.

You may request that Harlan Municipal Utilities (HMU) install an excess flow valve on the gas line to your property. EFVs are mechanical shut-off devices that can be installed in the gas pipe running to the gas meter at your property (AKA "service line"). An EFV is designed to shut off the flow of natural gas automatically if the service line breaks, for example, by an excavation accident. Stopping the flow of gas from a broken service line significantly reduces the risk of natural gas fire, explosion, personal injury and/or property damage.

EFVs are not designed to close if a leak occurs beyond the gas meter (on house piping or appliances). EFVs also may not close if the leak on the service line is small.

If you add additional gas appliances, for example, a pool heater, emergency generator, etc., the additional gas flow may cause the EFV to close.

Cost recovery for maintaining and replacing the EFV

If you request that HMU install an EFV, you will be billed for the cost of installing the EFV. The average installation cost is typically \$500-\$1,000, but the actual installation cost will depend on the difficulty of installation. We will inform you of the actual cost before you make the final decision that you want an EFV.

Maintenance and replacement cost recovery options

If it becomes necessary to maintain or replace the EFV on your service line, you will be billed for the cost of replacing the EFV. Replacing an EFV can cost from \$500-\$1,000, but the actual replacement cost will depend on the difficulty of replacement.

EFV replacement may be necessary if you add additional gas appliances, such as a pool heater or emergency generator, which 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.

EFVs will not be installed on your service lines if:

The service line does not operate at a pressure of 10 psig or greater throughout the year;

The EFV could interfere with proper operation or cause loss of service;

An EFV could interfere with necessary operation or maintenance activities; or

The capacity of the meter on the service line exceeds 1,000 cubic feet per hour

If you request an EFV we will inform you if your service line meets any of these conditions

Always call Iowa One Call before digging

For your safety always call 811 (1-800-892-8989) to have gas lines and other buried utilities marked before allowing anyone to dig in your yard.

To find out more about EFVs

Call HMU at 712-755-5182, Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 4:30pm.

Diagram to illustrate EFVs (Courtesy of Hubbell):

An EFV would stop the flow of gas should the service line be damaged.

