

Emergency Operations

Book:	3 – Emergency Operations
Chapter	IX – Hazardous Material Incidents
Subject	6 – Broken Natural Gas Main – No Fire
Code	3-IX-6
Revised	10/19/2003

6.01 Purpose

To establish guidelines for the handling of gas leaks outside a structure that is not on fire.

6.02 Policy

All personnel shall follow these guidelines for gas leaks outside a structure that is not on fire.

6.03 Procedure

- A. Notify Communications to have Center Point / Entex Company respond to the location.
- B. Spot Apparatus safely upwind from the leak or break.
- C. The first apparatus on scene may enter the block area of the leak.
- D. All other apparatus shall stage one block from the leak site
- E. Request traffic control and/or road closure from Police Services.

6.04 Safety

- A. All personnel involved with the operation shall have on full protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus as warranted. (REF. 1-IV-2).
- B. Operate with the wind at your back.
- C. Have at least one apparatus stand by a hydrant, located in a safe area.
- D. Remove sources of ignition from the immediate area including fire apparatus.
- E. Keep all bystanders and traffic clear of the area. (With high-pressure mains, 500 feet is considered a safe distance).
- F. Noise level from high-pressure gas line breaks can be loud enough to cause physical affects on personnel, actually influencing their ability to think and act clearly. Wear hearing protection while working in the area

6.05 Leak Control

- A. The gas company shall control any leaks from gas mains
- B. The Emergency Services shall protect Gas Company Employees, if so requested to do so.

- C. The Emergency Services shall protect personnel and exposures with charged hand lines.
- D. Make sure that engine companies hooked up are in a safe location.
- E. Remove sources of ignition from the immediate area.
- F. It is possible to disperse pockets of gas with fog lines. (If fog lines are used, do not direct the stream into the hole surrounding the break or leak)
- G. Guard against static electricity.

6.06 Operations

- A. Request necessary assistance from the Gas Company
- B. Request assistance from Police Services
- C. Evacuate the immediate area.
- D. Eliminate sources of ignition.
- E. Position apparatus in a safe location for exposure control.