Avoidance of Damage to Underground Gas Pipes

A Guide for Works Contractors

Before commencement of any works (including demolition, excavation or works penetrating the ground), works contractors and workers shall take all reasonable steps and measures to avoid damage to gas installations and exercise the following precautions:

- Obtain layout plans and relevant information of the underground gas pipes within or in vicinity of works area from the registered gas supply companies.
- Carry out active detection by pipe locator to identify the alignment and depth of gas pipes (to be carried out by trained and experienced personnel) and provide the persons carrying out the works with the "Underground Utility Survey Report" and explain the result.
- Dig trial holes to confirm the positions of gas pipes and mark their alignment and depth on the road surface clearly.
- Ensure that the persons who carry out the works can access the information on the positions of gas pipes and clearly understand what safety precautions are required. In the course of works, take all reasonable measures to protect the gas pipes, including:
 - 1. Maintain adequate safety clearance from the underground gas pipes and adopt safe digging methods during excavation.
 - → Use hand tools for digging
 - → Be aware of the markings/warning tapes on the road surface regarding the positions of the gas pipes
 - → Excavate from both sides of the gas pipes rather than on top of them as far as possible
 - → Dig laterally to expose the gas pipes
 - → Keep a minimum horizontal clearance of 1m from both sides of a gas pipe when using equipment
 - 2. Provide proper support to any underground gas pipes exposed and provide proper backfilling where appropriate.
 - 3. If you are not sure about the type of the pipe, always assume that it is in use and may be hazardous.
 - 4. Consult relevant registered gas supply companies if necessary.

What should be done if there is suspected gas leakage?

 If you smell town gas, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) or any unidentified gas in the course of works, please stop the works immediately.

Dial **999** for help and call the 24-hour emergency hotlines of the registered gas supply companies concerned.

The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited	2880 6999
ExxonMobil Hong Kong Limited	2435 4511
IP&E GBA Limited	2435 4511
DSG Energy Limited	2322 2000
Shell Hong Kong Limited	2322 2000
Sinopec (Hong Kong) Limited	2433 2111

The EMSD has issued the Code of Practice "Avoidance of Damage to Gas Pipes" (2nd Edition), which can be accessed by scanning the QR Code or via the website https://www.emsd.gov.hk/filemanager/en/content_286/CoP_gas_pipes_2nd_(Eng).pdf.







Website: www.emsd.gov.hk

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