

EFV Info Sheet

Background: The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has released new rules regarding Excess Flow Valves, or EFVs. Excess Flow Valves automatically halt the flow of natural gas when a service line is damaged. According to the new rules:

- Operators are required to notify residential customers of their right to request an EFV on natural gas service lines. Until now, operators had not been required to install EFVs at single-family residential homes unless a new service line was installed or replaced.
- Operators are now required to install EFVs in new or replaced service lines for multi-family residences, including apartment buildings and small commercial buildings.
- For all new or replaced service lines with meter capacities exceeding 1,000 cubic feet per hour, gas distribution companies are required to install curb valves – manually operated shut-off valves placed close to the main.
- Gas distribution companies maintain the right to charge customers who request an EFV installation on non-newly installed or replaced lines.

Fast Facts:

- The new rules take effect April 14, 2017.
- EFVs close the service line if a service is damaged.
- GRU has installed EFVs in new and replaced residential service lines for more than 15 years.
- GRU currently has more than 8,000 EFVs in its natural gas distribution system.