



Piedmont
Natural Gas



PRESS RELEASE – MARKET STREET NATURAL GAS LEAK SAFE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 18, 2021 @ 7:00pm

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This morning at 11:58 a.m., the Hertford Fire Department was dispatched to a tree that fell on a power line while it was being cut causing a power pole to break. Public Works for the Town of Hertford was also requested on scene to assess and repair the damaged pole.

At 2:08 p.m. this afternoon, the Perquimans County 911 Center received a call advising that a two-inch natural gas line had been struck during the repair of the damaged pole. This did not cause any disruption to service for Piedmont Natural Gas customers. Approximately 75 residents that lived within a half mile downwind of the ruptured line were immediately evacuated, and a shelter was established at the Perquimans County Recreation Center.

Around 6:00 p.m. this evening, Piedmont Natural Gas advised that the natural gas leak had been stopped, the area was safe and that residents could return home. Residents in the area may continue to smell an additive in natural gas, mercaptan, for an extended period as repairs are finalized. This odor is not harmful. For added safety, residents were offered the option to report to the Hertford Fire Department by 7:00 p.m. where an escort from the Hertford Fire Department and Piedmont Natural Gas could accompany them home.

Notifications were made to the community through the Perquimans County Emergency Notification System, the Perquimans County Emergency Services Facebook Page, and through the Town of Hertford's Emergency Notification System.

The departments involved included: Town of Hertford Public Works, Hertford Fire Department, Bethel Fire Department, Hertford Police Department, the Perquimans County Sheriff's Office, Perquimans County EMS, Perquimans County Emergency Management, Piedmont Natural Gas, and the Town of Hertford and Perquimans County Officials.

If you have a concern that is not life threatening, please call the Non-Emergency Communications line at 252-426-5751.
