

DAYVILLE FIRE COMPANY
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

Section: Incidents

Date Issued: 4-25-11

SOG: D-13

SUBJECT: NATURAL GAS EMERGENCIES

PURPOSE: To establish a guideline for responding to Natural Gas Emergency

CHARACTERISTICS:

Natural gas (Methane) is colorless, treated with an odor detector, lighter than air—rises and may be more predominant in the upper levels of a structure.

GUIDELINES:

Natural gas is lighter than air and will usually dissipate in the outside environment. Flammable limits are approximately 4% to 15% in air. Natural gas itself is non-toxic; however, it displaces oxygen and can result in asphyxiation if in a confined space.

OPERATIONS:

YANKEE GAS WILL BE NOTIFIED RIGHT AWAY

1. Units responding shall request wind direction and speed.
2. Units responding shall confirm that Yankee Gas has been notified.
3. Command will be established and a Safety Officer assigned.
4. Units will approach from the windward (up-wind) side when ever possible.
5. Evacuate any civilians in the area of escaping gas.
6. All ignition sources should be identify and turned off where possible
7. Full protective gear will be worn including SCBA.
8. Crews will monitor for any LEL readings.
9. Crews will ***never*** turn gas back on.
10. If an explosion has occurred and gas is burning do not extinguish the burning gas
11. Non-sparking tools should be used.

This S.O.G. was last reviewed and/or updated on April 25, 2011.