



How We Keep our Buried Infrastructure Safe

Plains Midstream Canada is committed to ensuring the safety and security of the public, employees, contractors and the environment.



As part of Plains Midstream Canada's (PMC) Damage Prevention Program, regularly scheduled aerial and ground patrols, followed by detailed and timely reporting, are key components of Right-of-Way (ROW) Surveillance and Monitoring, which supports the continued protection of buried infrastructure.

If you are located near a PMC ROW, you may see aircraft flying overhead or PMC representatives conducting ground patrols along the ROW. These activities are completed in conformance with provincial and federal regulations to perform surveillance in order to identify conditions, activities and risks, on and adjacent to the ROW, that could potentially affect the safe operation of the pipeline or compromise the safety and security of those working or living nearby.

Through ROW surveillance and monitoring, we are able to identify conditions that could pose a risk to pipeline safety, such as construction, excavation activities or non-standard agricultural activity (such as deep tillage, drain tiling excavating, laser levelling and terracing), erosion, seismic activity, loss of cover, ground movement, evidence of leaks, land use changes and unauthorized activities.



Signs of an oil pipeline release

Sight:

- Liquid pooled on the ground in proximity to the pipeline or ROW
- Liquid spraying over the pipeline or ROW
- Rainbow sheen on a water source
- Discoloured vegetation on/near the pipeline ROW
- Stained or melted snow or ice over the pipeline or ROW

Sound:

- A roaring or hissing sound coming from the area around the pipeline

Smell:

- You may smell a petroleum or "rotten egg" odour



Your role in Damage Prevention

You also play an important role in preventing damage to buried infrastructure. If you encounter signs of a pipeline release, excavation activities near the ROW or any other unusual sights, sounds or smells near a pipeline location, please contact PMC's 24 hour emergency number at 1-866-875-2554. When a call is received, PMC's emergency response personnel are notified and immediately dispatched to the area to safely manage the situation.



Protecting pipeline integrity

PMC also use other strategies to ensure the safety and integrity of our pipelines:

- **Coating and Cathodic Protection:** External coating is applied to the outside of the pipeline to protect the steel from corroding due to moisture and other environmental factors. A secondary safeguard, cathodic protection, uses a small continuously applied electrical current in the pipeline to protect against external environmental factors.
- **In-Line Inspection and Mechanical Cleaning:** Mechanical cleaning (pigging) uses a cleaning pig to sweep the line of debris and fluid to help reduce internal corrosion growth. In-line Inspection (ILI) uses complex tools that measure anomalies found on the inside and outside walls of the pipeline. This data is then used to build maintenance and repair programs to mitigate corrosion.

Signs of a natural gas liquid (NGL) release:

- 👁️ **Sight:**
 - Distinct patches of dead, frozen or discoloured vegetation
 - Bubbles in water
 - Vapour cloud
 - Fire along the ROW
 - Ice buildup on valves or fittings
- 👂 **Sound:**
 - A blowing or hissing sound along the ROW could indicate that NGL is escaping from the pipeline
- 👃 **Smell:**
 - NGL may have a slight petroleum odour (can be compared to the smell of rotten eggs)

Inspection, monitoring and maintenance

Prevention is a critical component of pipeline safety at PMC. The company focuses on inspection, monitoring and maintenance programs to avoid issues before they arise. By staying attentive and using the latest technology, we ensure our pipelines are reliable and fit for service, both inside and out.

Control Room Monitoring

In addition to PMC's stringent pipeline maintenance and surveillance programs, our pipelines are also monitored by our control centre 24 hours a day. Our highly-qualified control centre operators use a Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to track the pressure, flow, quality and temperature of product in our pipelines, as well as other critical operating data received from transmitters and pumping stations.



What to do in a pipeline emergency

Follow these guidelines if you notice any of the warning signs of a pipeline release:

Do:

- 1 Turn off vehicle engines (if safe to do so)
- 2 Eliminate ignition sources (cellphone, cigarette, flashlight)
- 3 Leave area immediately on foot and in an upwind or cross wind direction
- 4 Warn others to stay away
- 5 Call 911 and then PMC's emergency number: 1-866-875-2554

Don't:

- 1 Re-enter the area, touch pipeline valves or attempt to stop a leak
- 2 Start a vehicle (ignition source)
- 3 Continue your project until authorized by a PMC representative



If you hit a pipeline, stop work and notify the PMC emergency number 1-866-875-2554 immediately. Hidden damage could cause a future pipeline failure.

If you have any questions about any of the information on this or any other PMC fact sheet, please reach out to us at: publicawareness@plainsmidstream.com



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**24 HR EMERGENCY NUMBER:
1.866.875.2554**

