

Gas Pipe Strike

SAFETY ALERT

On Friday 19th June 2015 grass cutting works were taking place on the A45 between the M1 junction 15 & Queen Eleanor junction in the Northamptonshire area. The work was being managed by A-one+ with the machinery & manpower being provided by Ashlea under a sub-contract agreement.



Whilst a 4X4 mower was cutting around a street name sign it made contact with a green box that was not visible in the long vegetation. The box covered a National Grid gas regulator between a medium pressure & low pressure service main. The contact caused damage to the apparatus resulted in a gas leak. A National Grid Gas Engineer arrived on site diagnosed the problem then

Reinstated it to its original specification.

After communication with a National Grid Plant Protection Engineer we have been advised that there may be many of these green boxes (known as bee hives) within Area 7 and are normally sited close to boundaries where either domestic or commercial properties are nearby. The only way of identifying their presence on site is by referring to stat plans where a blue line (medium pressure pipe) terminates or is adjoined by a red line (low pressure pipe) there is a 95% chance that a 'Bee Hive' will be present.

The bee hives vary in size from 18" in height up to 3ft in height depending on the property or number of properties being served from that pipeline. They may be situated on the highway side of boundaries or within the boundary of the property being served.



Actions Required

- If you are to carry out any grass cutting operations ensure all the operatives are aware of these green boxes (bee hives).
- Prior to any grass cutting operations ensure you refer to the relevant stat plans remembering that on the plan where a blue line (medium pressure pipe) terminates or is adjoined by a red line (low pressure pipe) there is a 95% chance that a 'Bee Hive' will be present.

SHE Advice:	<p>If you require any advice or guidance on any health and safety aspect associated with your work please do not hesitate to contact:</p> <p>Chris Wells Karl Auger Clare Robinson SHE Manager SHE Advisor Asst. SHE Advisor. 07540701602 07920182010 07540701472</p>
Circulation:	A-one+ IBMS All Areas
Action:	Deliver and record Briefing:
Date of Issue:	10/07/2015