

**SWEETWATER UTILITIES BOARD**  
**NATURAL GAS DEPARTMENT**  
**"CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION"**

January 1999

**SUBJECT: Excess Flow Valve**

The US Department of Transportation, Research, and Special Programs Administration, prescribes procedures under the Pipeline Safety Regulations, Part 190 through 199 that SUB's Natural Gas Department must operate. The Excess Flow Valve amendment was added to the regulations in January 1997, effective February 3, 1999, and as your natural gas supplier, we must inform all new customers and customers who have an existing service line of the following information regarding Excess Flow Valves:

- 1) **What is an Excess Flow Valve?** The EFV is a service line valve which will prevent the flow of gas through the service line in the event the line is broken or punctured. This damage is generally caused by some type of excavation or digging.
- 2) **Where is the EFV installed?** For proper operation of the valve, it must be installed on the service line as close to the service tap as possible.
- 3) **Why install an EFV?** DOT has determined the EFV to be a safety device which prevents the escaping of natural gas into the atmosphere when the service line is broken or punctured, thus eliminating a potential hazardous situation. Restricting gas flow after a gas service line is damaged might decrease the potential for property damage or injury. The EFV will not protect against appliance leaks or small punctures in the service line.

The EFV is a mechanical device. It is therefore possible the EFV could unintentionally shut-off the flow of gas at unwanted times.

- 4) **What is the cost to the customer if they desire to have an EFV installed?** Under the DOT guidelines, the customer must pay the entire cost of the EFV and the installation charge by SUB which at the present time costs \$45.00 for the valve and \$50.00 for the installation fee.
- 5) **If the EFV is installed to whom does the EFV belong?** Under the DOT guidelines, the EFV will belong to SUB and all maintenance cost on the EFV will be the responsibility of the customer.

If you are interested or would like more information on the Excess Flow Valve, please contact SUB's Gas Department at 423-337-5081.

Yes, I will participate.

No, I will not participate.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_