

## **Illinois Pipeline Replacement Programs**

The information provided below is a compilation of data provided to Illinois Commerce Commission (“Commission”) Pipeline Safety Program (“PSP”). The information was either obtained directly from the listed operators or obtained from annual reporting documents. It is intended to reflect the status as of July 2012.

The Commission PSP monitors natural gas pipeline system operators’ progress regarding replacement of cast iron and other non-state of the art pipeline materials during the review of data included in the pipeline system operators’ annual reports and during the Commission’s regularly scheduled inspections.

### ***Cast Iron/Ductile Iron***

In Illinois, cast iron pipe is included in the natural gas distribution systems operated by Northern Illinois Gas Company d.b.a. Nicor Gas Company (“Nicor”) and the Peoples Gas Light and Coke Company (“Peoples”). As of the Annual Report submission in March 2012, Nicor reported a total of 288 miles of cast iron and Peoples reported 1,544 miles of cast iron remaining in operation. In addition to cast iron, Peoples reported 282 miles of ductile iron remaining in service. Peoples includes ductile iron in their cast iron replacement program.

#### ***Nicor Gas***

For the time period 1984 to 1994 Nicor replaced 340 miles of cast iron piping with 621 miles remaining. From 1994 to 2011, Nicor replaced approximately 333 miles of cast iron piping.

Nicor continually evaluates the condition of the cast iron piping in the system. With the introduction of the Distribution Integrity Management Rule (“DIMP”) Nicor will prioritize cast iron replacement based on the risk-based ranking as compared to other pipe materials included in the distribution system. It is projected that all cast iron will be eliminated from the Nicor distribution system in 15 to 20 years.

#### ***Peoples Gas***

In 1991 Peoples initiated a cast iron and ductile iron replacement program. At the time the distribution system included 3,450 miles of cast and/or ductile iron. Studies performed for Peoples by a professional engineering firm establish a prudent replacement program should be concluded by 2050. At the end of 2008 the cast/ductile iron inventory had been reduced to 1,882 miles.

In 2010, Peoples submitted an accelerated replacement plan addressing the remaining cast/ductile iron. The accelerated program submitted to the Commission provided for the elimination of all cast/ductile iron by 2030.

Peoples continually evaluates the condition of the pipeline system in order to implement a risk-based replacement program. The program is integrated with the DIMP to develop replacement strategies for the highest risk pipeline segments.

#### *Ameren Illinois*

Ameren Illinois (“Ameren”) has replaced all cast iron and ductile iron piping in the distribution system. Ameren has identified mechanically coupled steel pipe replacement as the next priority and anticipates replacement of about 100 miles over the next 5 years. It is projected that all mechanically coupled steel pipe in the Ameren distribution system will be replaced in the next 15-20 years. As required, Ameren has a DIMP in place. The program will be used to manage risks associated with the various threats to the pipeline system. The risk ranking will assist the replacement prioritization.

#### *Illinois Gas Co.*

The Illinois Gas Co. distribution system contains neither cast iron nor ductile iron piping. The Illinois Gas DIMP has identified a section of the distribution system containing a mixture of steel pipe and plastic pipe located in Olney, IL as its highest priority for replacement. Although the piping presents no immediate hazard, the installation practices used at the time justify the replacement prioritization.

#### *Consumers Gas*

The Consumers Gas Co. distribution system contains neither cast iron nor ductile iron piping. The Consumers Gas DIMP will be used to identify non-state of the art pipeline segments to be scheduled for replacement.

#### *Mt. Carmel Public Utility Co.*

The Mt. Carmel Public Utility Company (“MCPU”) distribution system contains neither cast iron nor ductile iron piping. MCPU has identified bare steel piping installed below ground as its highest priority for replacement. MCPU has less than one mile of bare steel pipe in the system and uses the DIMP risk ranking to prioritize replacement.

#### *All Other Distribution Operators*

All of the remaining operators in Illinois have eliminated cast iron and ductile iron piping. They will be utilizing the risk ranking algorithms included in their DIMPs to identify at-risk piping and prioritize replacement.