Findings:

- State legislation has been enacted mandating a one-number-to-call system which requires that all excavators contact the State Attorney General's Office before any excavation in New Jersey.
- A comprehensive inspection of interstate natural gas transmission pipelines in New Jersey was conducted by the Board of Public Utilities' Bureau of Pipeline Safety staff in concert with Federal inspectors.  The Board of Public Utilities is awaiting the final report to be issued by the Federal Department of Transportation's Office of Pipeline Safety.
- The New Jersey's gas utilities' transmission systems are currently being comprehensively inspected by pipeline safety inspectors.

Recommendations:

- Affected parties should be encouraged to assist the Board of Public Utilities in the preparation of appropriate procedures to fulfill the requirements of the One Number-to-Call law. The Board of Public Utilities, through its Bureau of Pipeline Safety, will meet with affected parties to consider appropriate procedures and potential rulemaking.
- A Board of Public Utilities review should be undertaken once the federal interstate pipeline report is available to ensure all safety aspects have been addressed. Upon completion of the interstate inspection report, the Board will review safety recommendations, and any possible noncompliance with safety requirements will be pursued for corrective action.
- The Board of Public Utilities should complete the process of adopting enforcement regulations. Once approved, parties should be directed to inform appropriate operating personnel of the enforcement procedures to minimize the likelihood of noncompliance with gas safety rules.
- The Board of Public Utilities Pipeline Safety staff should closely monitor the utilities' cast iron and bare steel pipeline replacement programs to ensure adherence to procedures and replacement in established time frames.
- All owners of gas metering facilities should certify through proper evaluation procedures that their pipeline systems are safe.
End Notes

1. N.J.S.A. 48:2-1 et seq.
3. Ibid.
5. FERC Order Number 636, April 8, 1992, Docket Nos. RM91-11-000; RM97-34-065.
9. Ibid.
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