



## Preventing Underwater Pipeline Accidents is Everyone's Responsibility

*Catastrophic damage to a natural gas pipeline, such as damage caused by a spud or the pads of a jack up, could cause large volumes of gas to be released. Studies have shown that ignition of the gas could occur within seconds to minutes. Before you Spud, Anchor, Jack down, Spud, Dig or Dredge follow the Marine Pipeline Hazard Avoidance Checklist below.*

### Marine Pipeline Hazard Avoidance Checklist

Item #	Pre-Mobilization Planning:	Yes	No
1.	In State waters: Call Louisiana One Call with 48 hours notice at "811." It's Free and it's the Law! Online registration and input of Marine tickets is available at <a href="http://laonecall.com">laonecall.com</a>		
2.	Offshore Contact: Gulfsafe.com or 1-888-910-4853		
3.	Establish, communicate and agree upon a safe route with pipeline operators.		
4.	Will the pipeline operator place personnel on your vessel to help ensure safe placement?		
5.	Has the route been surveyed and marked?		
6.	Has it been confirmed by a surveyor or responsible person that the vessel has a minimum of 1' of water and 3' of mud clearance under vessels draft for safe passages over pipelines?		
7.	Is the vessel draft appropriate for the area we plan to navigate?		
8.	Have we reviewed the most recent Coast Pilot 5 information to plan our voyage?		
9.	Have the potential effects of tide and weather been considered in assessing navigable depths?		
10.	Will tides and weather be monitored to determine the effect of work?		
11.	Is a recent hazard survey available for the location?		
12.	Have all known hazards been identified by means of visible markers or survey including pipeline crossings, obstructions, shallow or exposed pipelines included in the USCG Notice to Mariners Report?		
13.	Do we have the appropriately detailed navigational charts on board the vessel?		
14.	Have pipelines and pipeline crossings been identified in our voyage plan?		
15.	Have we conducted a safety meeting that covers the hazards of working near pipelines and platforms?		
16.	Do we have an emergency evacuation plan in place in the event we make contact with an underwater pipeline?		
17.	Will life saving devices be available and convenient, on-deck locations?		
18.	Will we be able to account for all of our personnel quickly in the event of a gas pipeline rupture and fire?		
19.	If contact with an underwater pipeline occurs there is a requirement to contact the National Response Center at telephone number <b>1-800-424-8802</b> , add this to emergency contacts.		
	<b>Mobilization:</b>		
1.	Have designated safe spud or jack-up areas near platforms and pipelines been approved by pipeline operators?		
2.	Have all barge spuds been secured to prevent lowering while underway?		
3.	Has coordination taken place with pipeline operators to have personnel on board the vessel?		
4.	Are tidal conditions adequate for mobilization and safe navigation?		

<b>Mooring Vessels:</b>			
1.	Moor all boats, barges and support vessels at safe mooring locations when left unattended with a minimum of two mooring points.		
2.	DO NOT moor to signs that indicate a pipeline crossing. These are not safe mooring locations. The sign is a general indicator of where the pipeline may be located and is not marking the exact location of the pipeline.		
<b>Indication that contact with an underwater natural gas or liquid pipeline has occurred.</b>			
1.	A blowing or hissing sound Blowing water or continuous bubbling that may resemble wheel wash.		
2.	A gaseous, hydrocarbon or other unusual odor		
3.	Liquids bubbling to the surface		
<b>Consider the following:</b>			
1.	Immediately minimize potential ignition sources like cell phone, motors, pumps, switches, cigarettes, lighters, etc.		
2.	Assess the situation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What caused the damage? Spud, Vessel, Anchor</li> <li>b. How large does the leak appear to be? Is it getting worse?</li> <li>c. Weather conditions – lightening, rough seas, etc. Where will you be safest?</li> </ul>		
3.	If you evacuate the vessel, move personnel to a safe location upwind as far as possible but at least ¼ of a mile.		
4.	Try to prevent unsuspecting vessels and people from entering the area. This could ignite leaking gas or spread leaking hydrocabons.		
5.	Do not attempt to extinguish a natural gas fire.		
6.	If you see a pipeline crossing sign, call the 1-800 number posted on the sign and provide your general location and coordinates so the pipeline Operations Control Center can begin isolating the pipeline.		

Comments: