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Effective April 14, 2017, federal natural gas safety regulations require the installation of an Excess Flow Valve (EFV) on all new natural gas service lines to residential and small commercial customers. The regulations also allow certain existing residential and small commercial customers to request the installation of an EFV on their natural gas service lines.

An EFV is a safety device designed to significantly reduce the flow of natural gas in a service line that contains a significant leak between the gas main and gas meter. The decreased flow of natural gas reduces the risk of personal injury and property damage that could occur if the escaping gas ignites. An EFV is not designed to protect against minor gas leaks on the service line, gas meter, or any leak on customer piping inside a home or business.

Remember- the best prevention against damaging your service line is to have all below ground utility lines marked before digging. This free service is available by calling 811 for Alabama 811. Residential and small commercial customers whose total appliance load is no greater than 1,000 cubic feet per hour (approximately 1,000,000 BTU per hour) may request Daphne Utilities install an EFV in the service line if one does not already exist. Daphne Utilities will evaluate the installation to determine if an EFV will properly function on the service line.

To install the EFV in an existing service, excavation of the line is required. Customers requesting Daphne Utilities to install an EFV on an existing line will be charged for the installation. Charges are based on the installation requirements. Daphne Utilities will be responsible for EFV maintenance costs after installation.

If you are interested in the installation of an EFV in an existing service line, please contact the Daphne Utilities Natural Gas Department at 251-626-2628. Once Daphne Utilities determines the proper requirements, the customer will be given the option to install an EFV.