



The map above is a graphic representation and may not show exact locations. Construction work areas are subject to additional refinement.

## Project Overview

Xcel Energy is completing a multi-year natural gas system revitalization project in unincorporated Lake County and the City of Leadville.

This project will replace, relocate and install natural gas distribution mains; relocate natural gas meters; and install direct tie-ins to service lines that provide natural gas directly to customers. The relocation of the replacement natural gas infrastructure will reduce future public inconveniences associated with routine line maintenance.

This infrastructure replacement project is being constructed as part of Xcel Energy's commitment to system revitalization. The project will allow Xcel Energy to continue to provide the safe, reliable natural gas service our customers expect.

## Project Schedule

Replacement of natural gas lines started in 2019 and is expected to occur through 2024. The 2020 construction phase will occur from spring 2020 through October 2020. Please note that the project schedule is subject to change.

## Project Communications

During construction, project updates will be posted to the website and hotline regularly (see Contact Us) and emailed to subscribers who opt to receive email updates.

These updates will include information regarding current construction activities, construction schedules and traffic impacts. Area sites will be notified prior to construction activities and required changes to property access.

## Construction Overview

Xcel Energy will work with the Colorado Department of Transportation to coordinate construction activities along U.S. Highway 24 through unincorporated Lake County and the City of Leadville.

We will install the natural gas line by both open trenching and boring construction methods. Open trenching involves digging a trench and placing the natural gas line within this trench. Boring involves using a bore machine to create an underground pathway through which the natural gas line is pulled.

Existing exterior natural gas meters on north or east sides of buildings will be relocated to south or west sides of buildings to avoid roof-melt drips from refreezing on meters.

During construction, we will take measures to reduce public inconveniences. Potential inconveniences from construction may include:

- Partial or complete road closures.
- Traffic control measures such as flaggers and detour signs.
- Changes to residential and business access.
- Elevated levels of noise during construction and testing of the natural gas line.
- Vibration near construction sites.

After construction has been completed in work areas, we will restore work areas to the conditions required by permits.

## Safety Overview

Public safety is at the foundation of all we do. The safety of the public around Xcel Energy's natural gas system influences every decision we make. Xcel Energy takes a proactive approach to public safety by implementing safety measures before, during and after construction.

The project has been designed to continue to meet federal and state standards and safety requirements for installing, maintaining and operating natural gas infrastructure.

## Natural Gas Construction Safety

During construction and installation of the natural gas infrastructure, we will maintain traffic control measures that allow for safe construction of the project and provide commuters, cyclists and pedestrians with the safest possible routes outside the "cone zone."

Before we put the natural gas line into service, we perform internal pressure tests to verify the integrity of the line.

During testing, you may hear natural gas venting from a natural gas line and smell the mercaptan odorant ("rotten egg" or sulfur-like odor). These indicators will only occur outdoors, near the natural gas line or other natural gas infrastructure, and will not occur indoors.

During the lifetime of our natural gas infrastructure, Xcel Energy's staffed control center continuously and remotely monitors (24/7) natural gas infrastructure to verify safe operations.

## Call Before You Dig

A common cause of natural gas incidents results from improper or unauthorized digging near underground utilities. Prior to digging, call **811** or visit **colorado811.org** to have buried utility lines located and marked. Locating buried lines before digging prevents potentially dangerous natural gas conditions that result from digging into or nicking a buried gas line.

## Learn to Recognize a Natural Gas Leak

If you ever suspect a natural gas leak, leave your home or business immediately. Once you are safely away, call **911**, then the Xcel Energy gas emergency hotline at **800.895.2999**.

It is important to know how to recognize potentially dangerous natural gas leaks, so use your senses. Signs of a gas leak include:

- A "rotten egg" or sulfur-like odor, although it may smell differently to you.
- Hissing, whistling or roaring sounds outside near the pipeline or inside near an appliance.
- Dirt spraying into the air or continuous bubbling in a pond or creek.
- Unexplained dead or dying vegetation.

## Contact Us

For additional information, to sign up for project updates or to submit questions and comments:

Call: **833.359.0105**

Visit: **xcelenergy.com/NaturalGasProjects**

Email: **Info@XcelEnergyLeadvilleGasProject.com**