EPA Natural Gas Star
Natural Gas Distribution

Merrillville, IN
June 3, 2003
Sources of Natural Gas Emissions

- Facility Damage
- Leakage from mains and services
- Leakage from Measurement/Regulation Facilities
- Pneumatic Equipment
- Purging Lines and Equipment
Issues Unique to Gas Distribution

- Lower Pipeline Pressures than Transmission
- Unaccounted for Gas – Rate recovery
- Large number of meters; no pressure temperature compensation
- Mainlines located in urban settings
- Higher level of customer visibility
Current Approaches to Leakage

• Managed as a Risk Based Aspect of the Business
  – Leakage can represent risk in the forms of potential personal/property damage
  – Potential nuisance issues
  – DOT /Operating Plans require established procedures for addressing leakage
  – Renewed focus on facility damage prevention
EPA NG Star – A New Twist

- Provides ability to document reductions in NG emissions
- Provides voluntary partnership versus potential regulatory mandates for leakage reductions
- Emphasizes environmental benefits gained from emission reductions as well as operational benefits
- Creates potential of future emissions trading credits
New Partners – How to Get Started

- Canvass current operations to establish estimates on current reductions.
- Use BMP’s/PRO’s already established to target additional potential areas for reduction. (flexibility to identify new ones)
- Develop implementation plan.
- Commit resources to accomplish plan objectives
- Document results
Gas Distribution BMPs/PROs

- BMP I – Directed Inspection and Maintenance at Gate Stations
- BMP II – Replacing leaking mains and services
- BMP V – Replacing High Bleed Pneumatic Equipment
- PROs – Partner Reported Opportunities
  - Relining of gas mains
  - Excess flow valves
  - Damage prevention
Benefits of Partnership

• Consistent action in light of corporate environmental policies
• Improved performance in distribution systems with reduced leakage
• Risk reduction associated with less leakage, fewer damaged facilities
• Utilizing communication/PR opportunities featuring EPA Gas Star Logo and promotional materials.
• Generates documented emissions reductions that can be used in future in emissions trading credits.