

City of Tallahassee Gas Utility

Distribution **Best Management Practices Methane Challenge Partner Since 2021**

Approval expires 12/31/2024 City of Tallahassee Your Own Utilities

OMB Control No. 2060-0722

NATURAL GAS UTILITY

Background

Two of the City of Tallahassee Gas Utility's top priorities are commitments to public safety and environmental protection through methane emissions reduction, increased leak surveys, integrity management, pipeline safety management, and innovation.

Methane Emission Reduction: Since 2001, we have installed EFV's on all new service lines.

Increased Leak Surveys: In 2010, we went from a 5-to-3-year leak survey cycle and in 2021 from a 3-to-1 year leak survey cycle.

Integrity Management: We have key performance indicators to manage and improve system integrity.

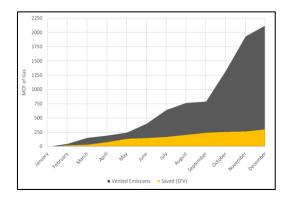
Pipeline Safety Management: The Plan-Do-Check-Act model is core to the utility.

Innovation: We are actively evaluating implementation of new methane emissions reduction technologies including blowdown compression and vacuum purging.

Historical Highlights

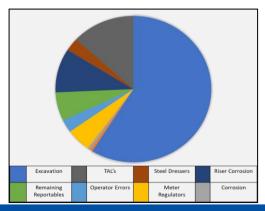
Methane Emissions Reduction

Since 2001 the City of Tallahassee has committed itself to continued methane emission aversion through implementing all new services be installed with an excess flow valve (EFV). In 2021 alone over 15% of methane release due to excavation damages was averted and saved. Over 12,500 pounds of methane release averted. Continued excellence and effort in this area will see the City of Tallahassee look to exceed 25% of emission reduction due to excavation damages.



Increased Leak Surveys

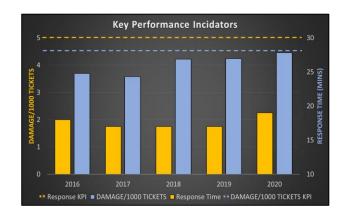
The City of Tallahassee has historically increased leak survey frequency for our system from 5-to-3-year minimums and in 2021 transitioned from 3-to-1-year leak survey cycle. The accelerated leak surveys have limited the time in which a leak will go undiscovered, reducing the growth time of leaks and severity of the major leaks.



City of Tallahassee Gas Utility Historical Fact Sheet

Integrity Management

System integrity is a key focus of City of Tallahassee Gas Utility, guided by the annual Distribution and Integrity Management Plan (DIMP). In conjunction with our DIMP we have developed and tracked Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) for our system to manage integrity. Our KPI's include an average emergency response time of less than 30 minutes and maintaining less than 4.5 excavation damages per 1000 locates, leaks per 1000 leak surveys, and low cathodic protection readings per 100 sample points.



Safety Initiatives

The City of Tallahassee has a pipeline safety management system in place to manage risks, develop and maintain an environment of learning, and continuously improve pipeline safety and integrity programs. The PSMS uses the Plan, Do, Check, Act model iteratively to continuously evaluate and address safety concerns.



Innovation

The City of Tallahassee Gas Utility is actively exploring new technologies in the areas of methane release mitigation. Currently COT Gas Utility is exploring the feasibility and reliability of cross-compression and vacuum purging in order to reduce vented and purged emissions. As continued research is assessed and better management practices identified, COT will look to incorporated these identified strategies into the operations and maintenance procedures.

