



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 5, 2020

Contact: [Amy Conway](#), 713-306- 6323
[PERMALINK](#)

INGAA Foundation Offers Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention and Control to Natural Gas Infrastructure Supply Chain

Washington, DC – Today, the INGAA Foundation published COVID-19 prevention and control Guidance for its members and other interested parties active in the development, construction and maintenance of natural gas transmission and storage infrastructure. Since the coronavirus outbreak was declared a pandemic and national emergency, our members have been taking concrete steps to ensure that frontline medical facilities, homes, and businesses have safe and reliable natural gas deliveries. The INGAA Foundation developed this Guidance to assist its members with the development and implementation of additional steps to eliminate or minimize COVID-19 related risks in the workplace.

This Guidance is primarily intended to address construction activities occurring in a field setting, however some of the practices may also be considered for other settings, such as routine pipeline operations activities. This Guidance does not cover employee activities when not at work. We urge employees to follow state and local health guidelines and requirements when away from the job site.

“Workplace safety is at the core of every task and project our members undertake each day as they build and maintain the nation’s natural gas transmission and storage systems,” said Tony Straquadine, executive director of the INGAA Foundation. “We developed this Guidance to serve as a one-stop-shop for our members and other interested parties to minimize and prevent the spread of COVID-19 on job sites.”

To develop this Guidance, the INGAA Foundation utilized control and prevention practices from member companies, consulted with infectious disease and industrial hygiene experts, and relied heavily on guidance from the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

This Guidance outlines reasonable COVID-19 prevention and control methods based on member companies’ learnings to date that are specific to the nature, scope, and scale of pipeline field work. It is designed to complement, not supersede, any federal, state or local regulatory requirements. The INGAA Foundation will be updating this guidance document as circumstances or recommendations warrant.

Included are recommendations on how to communicate on the job site, working to manage physical and social distancing, proper use and disposal of personnel protective equipment (PPE), cleaning and disinfecting work spaces and PPE, and how to manage and care for employees who may have been exposed to COVID-19 and planning for their eventual return to a job site. The Guidance also outlines steps operators should consider when shutting down a job site.

To view the Guidance, click [here](#).

###

About the INGAA Foundation

The INGAA Foundation facilitates the safe, efficient, reliable and environmentally responsible design, construction, operation and maintenance of the North American natural gas transmission system to advance the delivery of natural gas for the benefit of the consuming public, the economy and the environment. Its more than 220 members represent natural gas pipeline companies, construction companies, engineering firms, pipe and compressor manufacturers, accounting firms, companies providing information technology services and other suppliers of goods and services to the pipeline industry. The Foundation's primary activity is to sponsor research aimed at promoting natural gas use and safe, efficient pipeline construction and operation. Since 1990, the Foundation has completed over 150 studies, in addition to many projects and workshops which benefit the industry.