



**MAINE
NATURAL GAS**

NEWS RELEASE



**IBERDROLA
USA**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Maine Natural Gas Completes First Gas Pipeline to Augusta

First delivery of affordable natural gas to Augusta customers will start this week.

Brunswick, Maine – Today, Maine Natural Gas (MNG), a subsidiary of Iberdrola USA, finished filling its new 21.4 mile steel and plastic natural gas main that runs from the Maritimes and Northeast pipeline tap in Windsor through Augusta to the new regional hospital at the MaineGeneral Medical Center. MNG started construction in March, and spent the last two weeks testing, cleaning and purging the \$23 million “backbone” - the first natural gas pipeline ever to reach Augusta.

“We made history when we finished filling the lines on both sides of the Kennebec,” said Darrel Quimby, vice president of Maine Natural Gas. “We’re grateful for everyone’s patience during construction. Now, with the major work behind us, we can concentrate on delivering affordable natural gas to our first Augusta customers – which we expect will happen this week.”

Maine Natural Gas has signed-up more than 250 State, commercial and residential customers for Augusta-area natural gas delivery. Key accounts ready to benefit this fall from the significantly lower cost of natural gas include: MaineGeneral Medical Center; the University of Maine at Augusta; the Governor’s Mansion; the State’s east- and west-side campuses including the Cross office building, the Capitol building, the Library/Museum, the east-side office facilities, and Riverview Psychiatric Hospital; the Edmund Muskie Federal Building; the Senator Inn and Spa; and Charlie’s Motor Mall.

Sign up now to save 40% - 50% on your heating bills

Maine Natural Gas continues to sign up customers in the Augusta area for 2014 delivery. Residents who want to learn when they can get natural gas service should visit our website: www.mainenaturalgas.com or call 1.877.867.1642.

Natural gas education and safety

“Since this is the first time natural gas is flowing in Augusta, MNG plans to spend time and effort to educate our customers, first responders, other utility workers and construction personnel about natural gas safety,” said Quimby. “Your safety is our first concern, and our top priority.”

Maine Natural Gas offers the following natural gas information:

- Natural gas is colorless, odorless and tasteless.
- For your safety, Maine Natural Gas adds a very pungent odor, similar to the smell of rotten eggs, to the gas so you can detect its presence.
- If you suspect a gas leak, get up, get out, move away from the building, and call 911 immediately.
 - Call from a neighbor's house or your cell phone, and we'll respond quickly to ensure that you and your family are safe.
 - No smoking.
 - Don't operate lights or any other electronic equipment that could spark and cause an explosion.
 - Don't assume somebody else will call us about the situation.
 - Provide the most accurate location information you can.
- After you call 911, report the possible leak to Maine Natural Gas at 1.877.532.5636.

Call before you dig

With pressurized natural gas lines now in the ground, it's more important than ever for contractors and homeowners to call 811 to get the underground utilities marked before they begin digging. This means *any* digging – from excavating a basement to putting in a new mailbox. Make the free call and dig safely. You may get more information about the Dig Safe program at: <http://bit.ly/18w956e> or on our website at: <http://mainenaturalgas.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/DGS-Home-Brochure-SEP12-2012.pdf>.



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About Maine Natural Gas: Maine Natural Gas, a subsidiary of Iberdrola USA, has headquarters in Brunswick, Maine and is backed by the global resources of Iberdrola S.A., one of the largest energy services companies in the world. Maine Natural Gas has been safely delivering affordable natural gas to thousands of Maine families and businesses since 1999. Our sister companies, NYSEG and RG&E currently serve approximately 570,000 natural gas customers in upstate New York. For more information about Maine Natural Gas, visit www.mainenaturalgas.com.

About Iberdrola USA: Iberdrola USA, a subsidiary of global energy leader Iberdrola, S.A., is an energy services and delivery company serving about 2.7 million customers including approximately 570,000 natural gas and propane/air gas customers located in Maine, New Hampshire and New York. Iberdrola USA owns and operates natural gas assets valued at more than \$1 billion, including 123 miles of high-pressure transmission lines, 17,615 miles of steel & HDPE distribution lines and 875 regulator stations. In 2012, Iberdrola USA safely delivered more than 110 billion cubic feet of natural gas to its customers. For more information about Iberdrola USA, visit www.iberdrolausa.com.

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