

Austin Utilities Customer Notification

Expanding the Use of Excess Flow Valves (EFV) in Natural Gas Systems Requirements per Federal 49 CFR 192 Codes

Austin Utilities is required to notify all natural gas customers of the new and additional requirements related to excess flow valves. Effective April 14th, 2017 EFV installation requirements are expanded to include new or replaced service lines to single family residences, multifamily residences, and small commercial customers with gas volumes not exceeding 1,000 standard cubic feet per hour. Customers also have the right to request the installation of an EFV on their existing service line at their own expense if it meets the specified conditions per the final rule.

What is an Excess Flow Valve (EFV)?

- EFV's are mechanical shut-off devices installed on the service line and designed to stop the flow of natural gas in the event that a service line is broken and leaking. Stopping the flow of natural gas from a broken service line significantly reduces the risk of a natural gas fire, explosion, personal injury and property damage. EFV's are typically installed on the service line at the tee connection to the natural gas main.

What specified conditions allow for the installation of an Excess Flow Valve (EFV)?

- Installation requirements include service lines to single family residences, multifamily residences, and small commercial customers with gas volumes not exceeding 1,000 standard cubic feet per hour and at a pressure not less than 10 p.s.i.

Customers may request that Austin Utilities install an excess flow valve (EFV) on the gas service line to their property by contacting the Austin Utilities Gas Department at 507-433-8886 to determine if their service line meets the specified conditions of the code. Customers requesting the installation of an EFV will be responsible for the actual cost of the installation and will be provided with a range of the estimated cost. Upon completion of all work, customers will be billed for the actual cost of the installation. Sizing of an EFV is based upon current natural gas load at the time of installation, any future changes to the natural gas load could result in a malfunction of the EFV and warrant replacement at the customers cost. Additionally customers are responsible for any future maintenance or replacement cost associated with the EFV. Installation dates must be mutually agreed upon by the customer and Austin Utilities.