

Protecting Gas Facilities from Vehicles & Other Damage

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Discussion

Natural Gas & Propane Facilities

- Federal Regulations
- State Rules & Regional Differences
- Photographic Examples
 - The Good
 - The Bad
 - The Interesting

Federal Regulations

§192.353 Customer Meters and Regulators: Location.

- (a) Each meter and service regulator, whether inside or outside a building, must be installed in a readily accessible location *and be protected from corrosion and other damage, including, if installed outside a building, vehicular damage that may be anticipated.* However, the upstream regulator in a series may be buried.

Federal Regulations

§192.355 Customer Meters and Regulators: Protection from Damage.

(b) Service regulator vents and relief vents. Service regulator vents and relief vents must terminate outdoors, and the outdoor terminal must:

(3) *Be protected from damage caused by submergence in areas where flooding may occur.*

Federal Regulations

Part 192, Subpart P – Gas Distribution Integrity Management

§192.1007(b) & §192.1015(b)(2) *Identify Threats*

Among the threats that must be considered by both sections is "*Other Outside Force Damage*".

Federal Regulations

§192.11 Petroleum Gas Systems.

Incorporates ANSI/NFPA 58 "Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code" (2004)

NFPA 58 (2004)

§6.6.1 Installation of Containers, General Requirements.

§6.6.1.2 *LP-Gas containers or systems of which they are a part shall be protected from damage from vehicles.*

NFPA 58 (2004)

§6.6.6 Installation of Underground and Mounded Containers.

§6.6.6.1(C) *Protection shall be provided for the fitting housing, housing cover, tank connections, and piping against vehicular damage.*

§6.6.6.1(D) *Where containers are installed underground within 10 ft (3 m) of where vehicular traffic can be expected, protection against vehicular damage shall be provided for the fitting housing, housing cover, tank connections, and piping.*

NFPA 58 (2004)

§6.8.3 Installation of Metallic Pipe, Tubing, and Fittings.

§6.8.3.10 *Aboveground piping shall be supported and protected against physical damage by vehicles.*

NFPA 58 (2004)

§6.15.5 Installation of Meters.

§6.15.5.3 *Vapor meters shall be installed so as to minimize the possibility of physical damage.*

State Rules

In Addition to Part 192

State	Natural Gas	Propane
Connecticut	No	No
Massachusetts	No	No
Maine	Ch. 420 §§5.B.2.&3.	Ch. 421 §§5.B.1.&2.a.
New Hampshire	No	No
Rhode Island	No	No
Vermont	No	No

Maine

Rule Chapter 420 (Natural Gas)

- §5.B.2. Gas meters, regulators, and aboveground pipeline facilities located in areas subject to vehicular damage shall be provided adequate protective barriers on each side exposed to vehicular traffic. Operators that have above-ground piping and appurtenances at commercial and industrial premises shall consider the potential for damage to the gas facilities from equipment used in the operation and maintenance of that facility and provide adequate protection.
- §5.B.3. Regulators, meters, and other equipment installed in the piping system shall be protected from the forces anticipated as a result of accumulated snow or falling snow and/or ice.

Maine

Rule Chapter 421 (Propane)

- §5.B.1. Gas meters, aboveground tanks, domes of underground tanks, and distribution system facilities located adjacent to a roadway, street, alley, driveway, easement or otherwise susceptible to damage from motor vehicles shall be provided protective barriers on each side exposed to vehicular traffic.
- §5.B.2.a. Regulators, meters, and other equipment installed in the piping system shall be protected from the forces anticipated as a result of accumulated snow or falling snow and/or ice.

What do all rules and regulations,
pertaining to facility protection,
have in common?

They Are Subjective.

- To interpretation by individuals;
- State by State interpretations & expectations; and
- Regional interpretations & expectations.

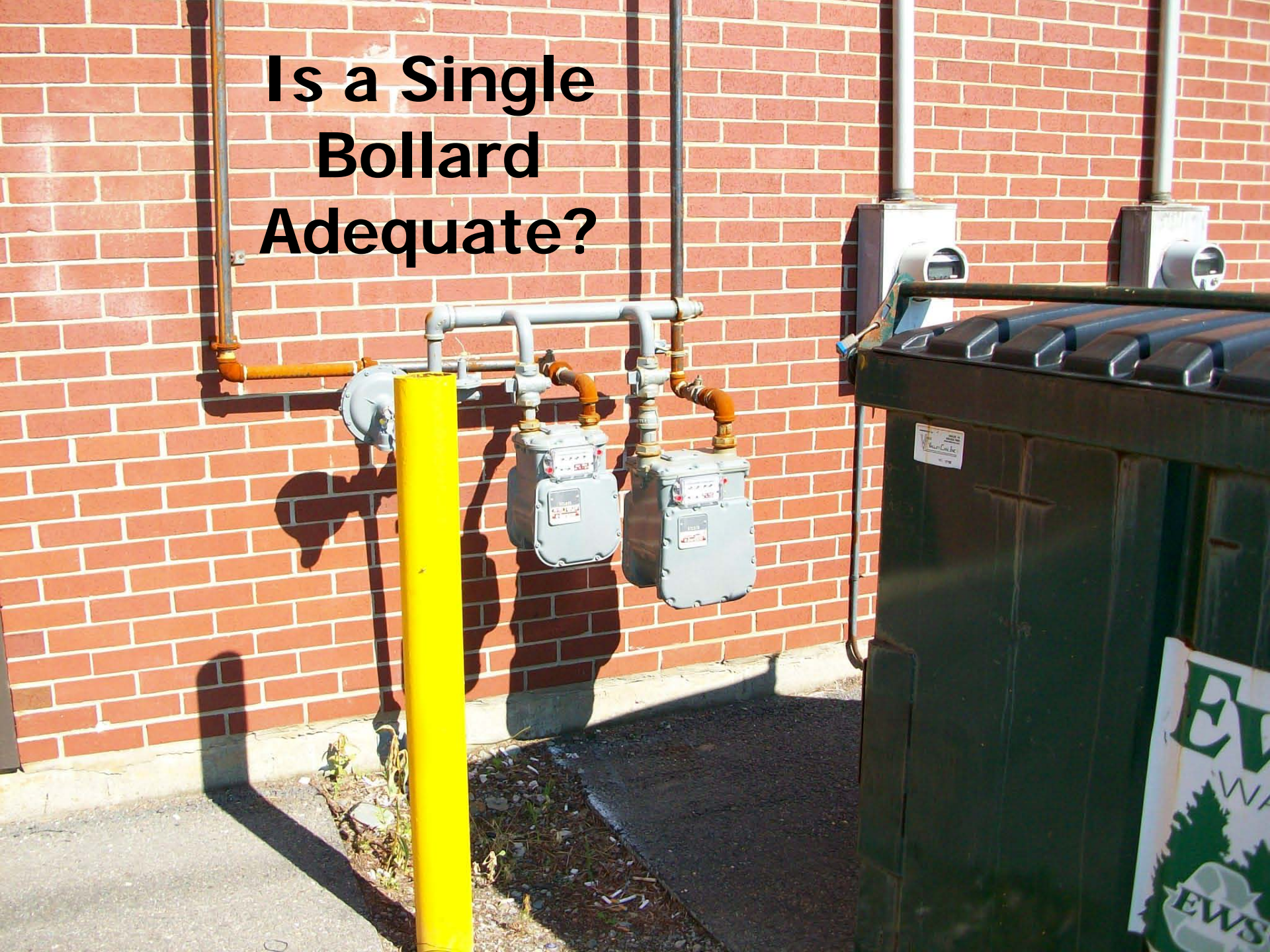
Natural Gas Facility Photos



KEN
CAPRON
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Is the Fence Adequate for Vehicle Protection?

**Is a Single
Bollard
Adequate?**














**What Looks OK in the
Summer;**

**May Not Be in the
Winter.**



**Should This
Installation Have
Vehicle Protection?**

Aftermath of a Car Hitting a Meter Muskegon, Michigan 9/26/11





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35°26'40.10" N 97°36'03.68" W elev 1220 ft

Eye alt 1228 ft

Propane Facility Photos

Are Diagonal Lines Adequate for Protection From Vehicles?





**Bollards Good for
Vehicles Straight On.**

?

10/12/2011

Underground Tank Dome?

Trash Receptacle?

Or Both?



Yes, It's a Multipurpose Facility.

Number: 1075



What Are the Bollards For?



CAUTION
DO NOT REMOVE
CM ENGINEERING

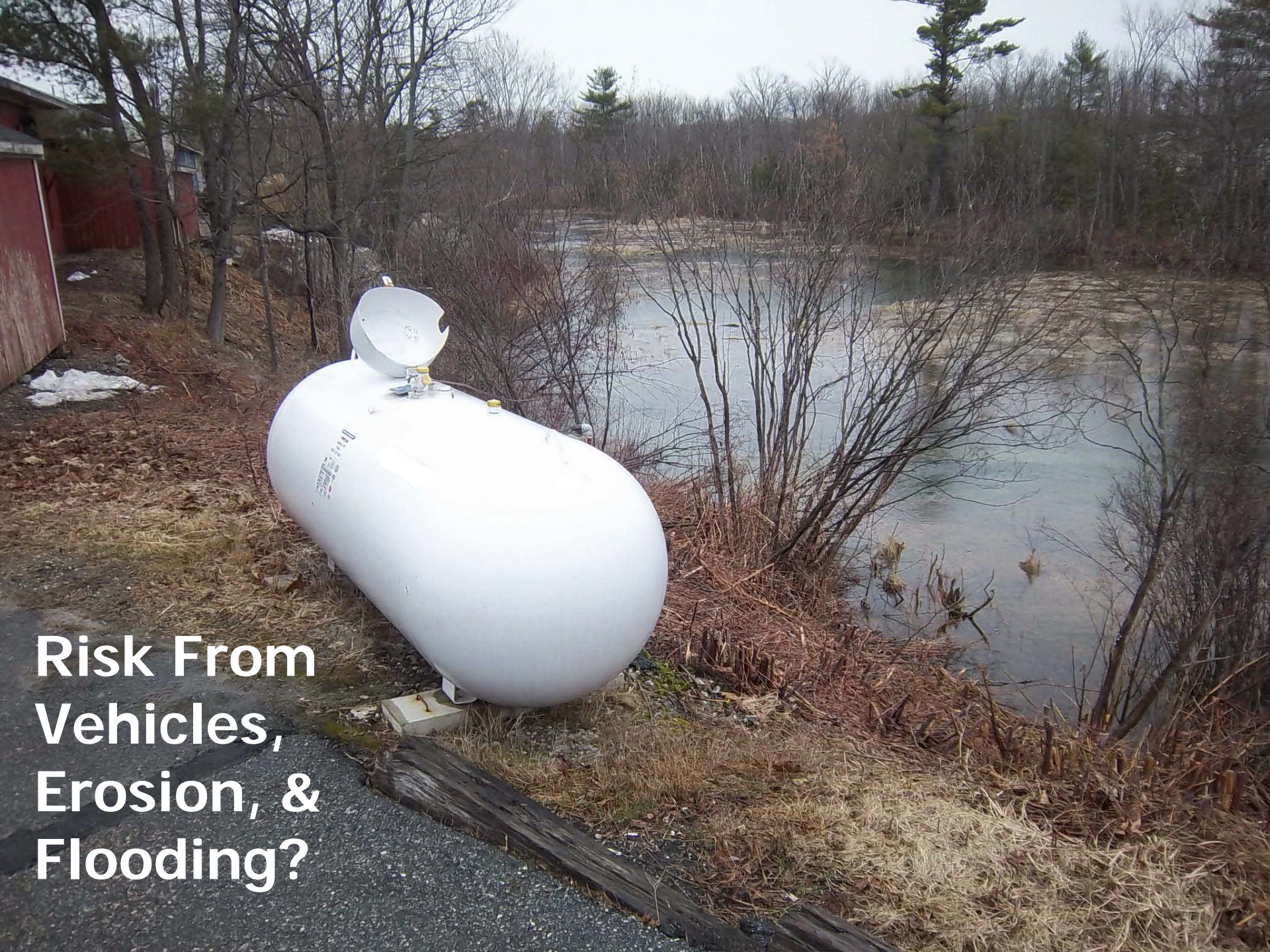
Is the Fence Adequate Protection?



We Don't Think So.

**But the Risers Are
Well Protected.**





**Risk From
Vehicles,
Erosion, &
Flooding?**

Excellent Guardrail for Vehicle Protection.





**Looking From the Other
Side, This is Why it Was
Used.**



Water Valves Protected.

**Mounting a
Meter High
Isn't Always
Without Risk.**



Separation
From
Building





← Meters

**Ice Damage to
Facilities
Averted.**



07/13/2011



**The New Standard for Tank
Protection?**

A large, smooth, white sphere sits on a light-colored concrete rectangular base. The base is surrounded by dark, jagged rocks and some dry, brownish vegetation. In the background, there's a grassy hillside with trees, some with autumn-colored leaves. To the right, a railroad crossing sign (a black 'X' on a post) is visible against a cloudy sky. Power lines and poles are also visible in the upper right. The text "THE END" is superimposed in the center of the sphere in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

THE END

Thank You!