

# Firefighter Do's and Dont's

National Grid recommends that firefighters carefully follow the guidelines below when responding to natural gas incidents.

Do	Don't
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep National Grid informed of any developments through the fire department dispatcher.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't enter buildings without wearing personal protective equipment and positive pressure SCBA.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consult with National Grid representatives upon arrival at the incident scene.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't allow unnecessary or unauthorized personnel to enter buildings where gas odors are present.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immediately Evacuate per DOT Emergency Response Guide and barricade or rope off the area, rerouting traffic and pedestrians if necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't try to extinguish burning gas.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If there is a strong gas odor, evacuate buildings and leave them closed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't operate any gas valves, other than the service shut-off valve before the meter, or appliance piping valves.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instruct occupants not to turn any electrical equipment on or off. This includes lights, switches, motors, circuit breakers and any battery-powered devices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't open any gas valve that has been shut off.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call the fire department dispatcher if the situation warrants a discontinuation of electric service to a building.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't pull any electric meters or attempt to disconnect the overhead electric service. Leave this to National Grid personnel.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check other buildings in the surrounding area for the presence of gas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If there is a street leak, don't park vehicles nearby with the engine running.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evacuate buildings and eliminate any possible ignition sources before attempting to ventilate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't park in front of buildings where a gas leak is suspected.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not park directly over manhole covers or near storm sewer grates.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't ventilate a building without first coordinating with National Grid and verifying gas has been shut off and ignition sources have been eliminated.</li> </ul>