



Media Advisory

(September 11, 2007) Williamsville, N.Y.: This morning, a malfunction at a National Fuel odorant station in Jamestown, N.Y., at Orr and Baker Streets, caused a quantity of the odorant used to identify natural gas, called mercaptan, to spill. The quantity spilled is such that a strong odor of natural gas is being detected in the Jamestown, N.Y.-area. National Fuel's crews are on site, working to remedy the situation. However, the odor of natural gas is expected to persist for some time today.

It is believed that the gauge on the holding tank malfunctioned and indicated that the quantity of mercaptan in the tank was low. As crews began to fill the tank, it overflowed, causing a spill. Natural gas is odorless and mercaptan is added to it to provide a distinct and recognizable smell, making the detection of gas leaks easier.

Additionally, part of the remedy to this situation involves moving the trailer and equipment used during the filling process from this site to National Fuel's Zoar Station at Wilson and Konert Roads in Collins, N.Y. Consequently, the odor of natural gas is expected to follow as this equipment is transported on Route 62, through the towns of Frewsberg, Kennedy, Bellington, Conewango, South Dayton and Gowanda.

Customers are to be advised of this situation so that they are not unduly alarmed by this odor of natural gas. All indications are that this is not a natural gas emergency. However, **we do not** want to discourage customers from calling us if they feel they do, indeed, have a gas leak. **If a customer believes they have detected a natural gas leak, they should call National Fuel immediately at 1-800-444-3130.** National Fuel will continue to respond to leak calls in the order in which they are received, but please be advised that a larger volume than usual of such reports is being received today.

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