

# What the Natural Gas Moratorium Means to You

# Why the Natural Gas Moratorium Has Been Invoked



■ Natural Gas Unavailable Due to Moratorium

Increased demand for natural gas, without any new pipeline capacity to deliver additional supplies to the region, has created a difficult situation for the energy industry and energy consumers alike.

Our customers in Franklin and Hampshire Counties are served by a pipeline that runs from the Tennessee Gas interstate delivery pipeline in Southwick, Massachusetts to Greenfield, where it ends.

Berkshire Gas has worked proactively over the years on a series of projects to increase our ability to deliver increased volumes of natural gas along this line.

Pipeline capacity, however, has its limits and we have reached full capacity on this delivery pipeline. This has made it necessary to invoke a moratorium on any new, or additional, natural gas service in the region in order to ensure continued safe and reliable service to our existing customers. This moratorium will have to remain in place until such time as new interstate pipeline capacity is built.

## For New Customers

No new residential, commercial or industrial natural gas customers can be accepted until further notice. If you are currently under construction assuming you will be able to connect to natural gas, please call us immediately at **1-800-292-5012**.

## For Existing Customers

Berkshire Gas will continue to supply all of its existing customers up to their current usage levels. Existing customers will not be able to increase their use of natural gas by adding new equipment. If you are planning any change to your current natural gas appliances, please call us immediately at **1-800-292-5012**.

## For Plumbing and Heating Contractors

No new customers or additional load for existing customers will be allowed regardless of building permits. Some equipment changes with the same or less than the current load may be allowed, please contact Gabe Josephs at 413-445-0211 for details.

## How Long will the Moratorium Remain in Effect?

The moratorium will remain in effect until additional pipeline capacity is available. Currently, the only proposed project that would provide additional pipeline capacity to the Berkshire Gas service area is the Kinder Morgan Northeast Expansion Project. If this project is approved soon, it could be completed by late 2018, at which time the local moratorium would be lifted.

For more information call **800-292-5012** or visit **berkshireregas.com** and select **Usage and Safety, then Natural Gas Availability**.



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