

Public Stakeholder Meeting: 310 CMR 7.73: *Reducing Methane Emissions from Natural Gas Distribution Mains and Services* Program Review

MassDEP is conducting an online public stakeholder meeting to address the program review of the 310 CMR 7.73: Reducing Methane Emissions from Natural Gas Distribution Mains and Services regulation.

Notice of Public Stakeholder Meeting This Notice is available in alternative languages at:

https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massdep-public-hearings-comment-opportunities

Additional translations are available via the "Select Language" pull-down menu at the top of this web page.

The regulation at 310 CMR 7.73(9) requires MassDEP to complete a program review, including an opportunity for public comment, no later than December 31, 2020. The program review will focus on the requirements of 310 CMR 7.73 to determine whether the program should be amended or extended. The review shall evaluate whether to require the use of feasible technologies to detect and quantify gas leaks, and any other information relevant to the program. The public comment period will close at 5pm, Friday, September 18, 2020.

MassDEP will hold a public stakeholder meeting to seek input on the program review (see date and time listed below). The date and call-in information for the public stakeholder meeting are as follows:

Thursday, September 10, 2020 5-7 p.m. https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYrde-gpj0jGN2MXE9I-hJ6KmhL7E7kM4jY

To review the presentation, and for information about the current regulation, visit <u>https://www.mass.gov/service-details/reducing-methane-ch4-emissions-from-natural-gas-distribution-mains-services-310-cmr</u>. Written comments can be submitted electronically to <u>climate.strategies@mass.gov</u> or by mail to: Sharon Weber, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, 1 Winter Street, Boston, MA 02108. Key questions on which we are seeking comment:

- Should the decreasing annual emissions limits be extended beyond 2020?
- What is the appropriate size and role of the emissions set-aside?
- What are the most appropriate emission factors or other metrics to determine emission limits and evaluate progress?
 - Are there practical, economically feasible technologies to detect and quantify gas leaks?
 - Are DPU's 3/22/2019 regulation 220 CMR 114 Uniform Natural Gas Leaks Classification (which details technologies to detect and quantify the areal extent of gas leaks) and 12/27/2019 regulation 220 CMR 115 Uniform Reporting of Lost and Unaccounted-for [LAUF] Gas (which quantifies LAUF components) sufficient?
- Does the petition process in 310 CMR 7.73(4)(c) need any changes?

MassDEP provides language access interpreter/translation services to limited English proficient individuals free of charge. If you need an interpreter to participate in this meeting, translation services can be found at the following link: <u>https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massdep-language-translation-assistance</u>