

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

RESPONSE OF COLUMBIA GAS OF MASSACHUSETTS TO THE
FIRST SET OF INFORMATION REQUESTS FROM THE D.P.U.
PIPELINE ENGINEERING AND SAFETY DIVISION

D.P.U. 19-PL-07 – Merrimack Valley Incident (9/13/18)

Date: September 25, 2019

Responsible: Martin Poulin, V.P. and General Manager

IR-PL-1-16: Please provide the following CMA Liaison information: (Section 2.8)

- a) Name, Title, and date appointed; and
- b) All training and communications that occurred between fire, police & public officials and appointed liaison from date of appointment through September 13, 2018.

Response: CMA provided regular training to the public emergency response officials in the communities that were affected by the incident.

CMA's current Public Awareness Program Manager, [REDACTED] (a retired Massachusetts fire chief), was hired by the company in February 2018, after working for the Company since 2016 as a contractor responsible for providing natural gas training to police and firefighters in CMA's Brockton and Springfield Operating areas. In spring 2018, following the departure of the former CMA Systems Operations Supervisor for Lawrence, he took over training responsibilities for the Lawrence Operating area as well.

Prior to that, twice per year, the CMA Systems Operations Supervisor for Lawrence trained the fire departments in the affected communities on propane and natural gas.

Additionally, CMA representatives regularly attended and participated in meetings with fire, police, and other public emergency response officials from the affected communities, including the monthly meetings of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts. CMA also provided an online certification training program on natural gas safety for first responders and annually mailed public safety brochures to fire, police, and other public emergency response officials in the affected communities.

In addition to training, CMA provided copies of its Emergency Response Plan to the emergency management directors of each municipality in its service territory, pursuant to 220 C.M.R. §19.04 (06). CMA also maintained and supplied to public emergency response officials a list of CMA contacts.

As examples, Attachment IR-PL-1-16(a) contains materials provided by CMA at the 2018 Police and Fire Chiefs' Meeting for the Lawrence area. It includes the CMA Lawrence Division contact list. Attachment IR-PL-1-16(b) is the Public Safety Bulletin for First Responders that CMA provided in May 2018 to all first responders in its service areas.