

Farm work activities on the pipeline easement

Farmers and/or their contractors can protect themselves, their workers, the community and the pipeline by contacting First Gas prior to undertaking works on land directly adjacent to or within an easement. First Gas will locate the pipeline free of charge – no party should ever assume the location or depth of the pipeline.

Early notification allows First Gas to work with the farmer or contractor to ensure a smooth and timely process for approval (normally two working days). Any work that may require more detailed engineering investigation and approvals should be discussed early at the planning stage, to prevent delays or to facilitate changes.

Work undertaken within a pipeline easement or near a transmission pipeline by the landowner, farmer or contractor requires a Pipeline Easement Permit. This includes:

- Building construction
- Construction of roads and tracks
- Deep (more than 300mm) cultivation and ripping
- Excavations (more than 300mm)
- Fencing and placement of fence posts
- Heavy vehicle or equipment access
- Mole ploughing
- Drain cleaning and construction
- Laying or working on other underground services
- Tree Planting
- Removing or increasing soil cover
- Tree felling and Logging
- Under-boring/Directional drilling
- Vibrating rollers



Firstgas



First Gas will provide the pipeline location and easement permit Free of Charge.

First Gas can also provide an aerial map of pipelines on [your](#) property if requested.

Call 0800 800 393

for the permit application process or email locations@firstgas.co.nz for more information and help with the process.

Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) guide to First Gas obtaining access over farm property

firstgas.co.nz



High pressure transmission pipelines carry gas through your farm.

The pipelines are protected by easements that provide rights for the property owner and First Gas as the pipeline owner. In places a designation may also be present.

The safety of anyone working on or living near pipelines is paramount. Protecting the pipeline ensures security of supply to those that rely on this energy and provides for the safety of the community.

To ensure community safety and pipeline protection, First Gas (and its approved contractors) require access to the pipeline easement and provide approval for a range of works on or directly adjacent to pipeline easements.



Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (the Act)

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, First Gas and farm owners are classified as a PCBU (Person conducting a business or undertaking) and have various safety obligations for the care of people undertaking activities on the land.

Farmers (landowner) Responsibilities

The farm owner is only responsible for managing hazards within their control.

The person in control of the workplace (usually the farm owner) must take all practicable steps to make sure people working in and/or visiting the workplace are safe from workplace hazards.

A farm owner has a duty under the Act to warn authorised visitors of any work-related, out-of-the-ordinary hazards that may cause them serious harm. An authorised visitor is anyone who are legally allowed to be on the property, such as First Gas representatives, but only if they have notified the farmer they are coming prior to the visit.

A farm owner is not responsible if an authorised visitor is injured, if the farmer warned the visitor about any hazards caused by work on the farm, which the farmer knew could harm that person and a visitor wouldn't normally expect to face. (For example, hazards from activities such as tree felling, blasting, earthmoving machinery or pest control operations). A farmer only should inform visitors verbally about the hazards.

A farmer is not required to warn visitors about hazards from normal every-day farming activities. This includes natural hazards on the farm, such as bluffs, landslides, rivers, swamps or wasp nests, that would ordinarily be expected.

First Gas (and its approved contractors) Responsibilities

First Gas should ensure that at all times it is meeting their "Primary Duty of Care" requirements under the Act. When First Gas personnel are required to access private farm land along the easements they need to abide by the First Gas comprehensive safe system of work process, that all work is completed under.

Generally, farm owners will be notified 4-6 weeks prior to a First Gas easement inspection visit however at times more immediate access will be required and farm owners will be contacted to arrange this access.

First Gas are responsible for the control of HSE activities of their staff whilst undertaking their easement inspection or work activities.

When on private farm land First Gas representatives shall:

- Notify the farmer or landowner of any hazards they bring to the farm site and manage these hazards
- Take notice of any warnings and stop if in doubt until they talk to the farmer or landowner for advice
- Follow any instructions or warnings from the farmer or landowner
- Follow all biosecurity requirements
- Never interfere with plant or equipment, including electrical installations or fences
- Only enter unauthorised areas or farm buildings for safety reasons or at the approval of the farmer or landowner.
- Leave gates as they found them
- Avoid disturbing or approaching farm animals and work activities
- If obvious hazards exist, take suitable precautions
- Avoid any damage to gates or fencing
- Leave the property if asked by the farmer or landowner and report any issues to the First Gas Land and Planning team.