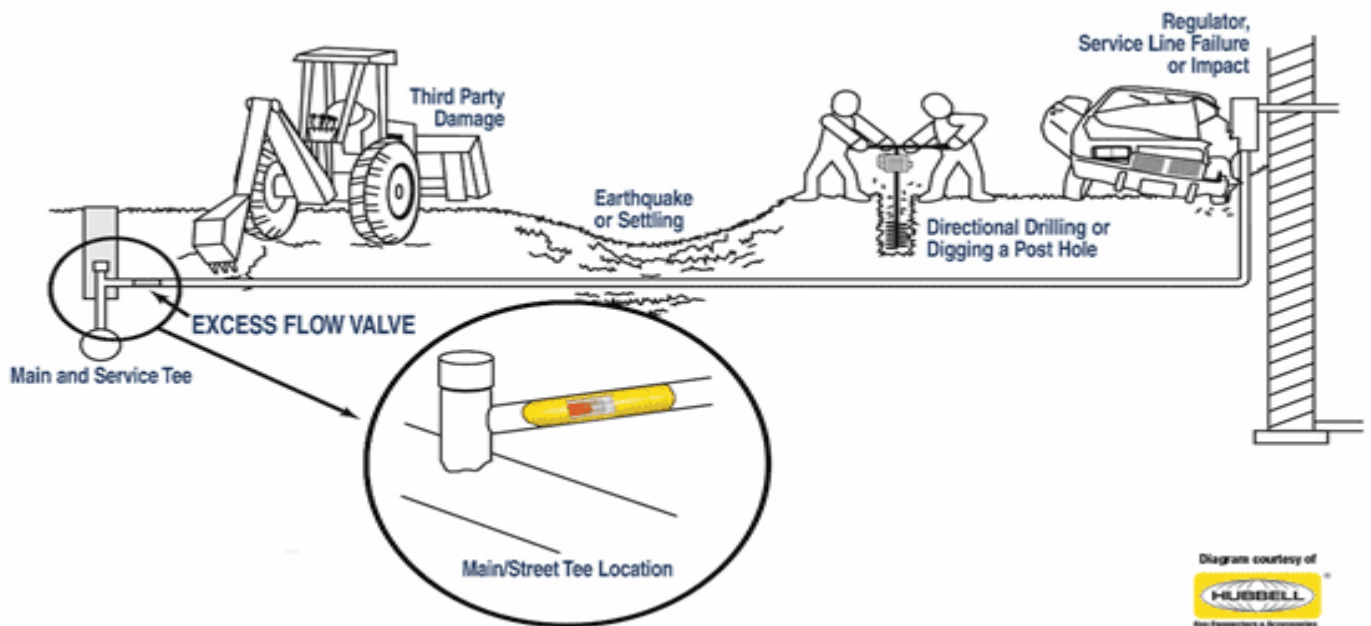


## Excess Flow Valve

Effective April 14, 2017, Federal natural gas safety regulations require the installation of an Excess Flow Valve (EFV) on all NEW natural gas service lines to residential and small commercial customers. The regulations also allow certain existing residential and small commercial customers to request the installation of an EFV on their natural gas service lines.

An EFV is a safety device designed to significantly reduce the flow of natural gas in a service line that has been broken between the distribution system's gas main line and the gas meter. The decreased flow of natural gas reduces the risk of personal injury and property damage that could occur if the escaping gas ignites. However, an EFV is not designed to protect against minor gas leaks on the service line or gas meter, or any leak on the customer side piping inside a home or business.

The illustration below shows some typical causes of broken service lines, including excavation damage. Remember – the best prevention against damaging your service line is to have all below ground utility lines marked before digging. This free service is available by calling 811.



### Excess Flow Valve diagram

Residential and small commercial customers whose total appliance load is no greater than 1,000 cubic feet per hour (approximately 1,000,000 BTU per hour) may request the City of Las Cruces Utilities (LCU) to install an EFV on their service line if one does not already exist. Other technical requirements must also be evaluated to determine whether an EFV will function properly on any given service line.

Because the service line must be excavated to install an EFV, the installation will be coordinated with the customer prior to installation. LCU will be responsible for the EFV installation cost and maintenance costs after installation.



If you are interested in having an EFV installed on the gas service line to your home or business or would like more information, please contact the LCU Gas Section at 575-528-3505. LCU will research the technical requirements of an EFV for your service line, answer any questions you may have regarding EFVs, and can work with you to establish a mutually agreeable date for installation.

