

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
Oversight and Safety Division
Gas Services Department



NOTICE TO LOCAL DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES

Notice of Recommendation to Suspend Disconnects

On February 12, 2021, Governor Greg Abbott declared a State of Disaster in Texas for all Texas counties in response to an unprecedented cold winter weather event that began in Texas on Thursday, February 11, 2021 (2021 Winter Weather Event).

On February 13, 2021, the Railroad Commission of Texas (Commission) issued a Notice to Gas Utilities authorizing each Local Distribution Company (LDC) to record in a regulatory asset account the extraordinary expenses associated with the 2021 Winter Weather Event, including but not limited to gas cost and other costs related to the procurement and transportation of gas supply. To view the notice, visit the Commission website at https://www.rrc.texas.gov/media/4u1fpycl/2021_nto_gas-services_state-disaster-waiver_gasutilityassetaccountingwinter-2021_2-13-2021.pdf.

The Commission is aware that due to the high cost of gas, higher than normal consumption levels, and other difficulties faced during the 2021 Winter Weather Event, residential and small commercial natural gas utility Local Distribution Company (LDC) customers may be faced with financial constraints. **This notice advises LDC operators that the Commission recommends the temporary suspension of disconnections of residential and small commercial customers for nonpayment of charges for gas services incurred during February 2021, while Texas remains under a State of Disaster due to the 2021 Winter Weather Event.** In addition, to lessen the financial hardship of customers, the Commission recommends that LDC operators offer customers options to make payments over time or set up alternative payment plans.

If you have questions regarding this notice, please contact the Commission at MOS@rrc.texas.gov.

Please Forward to the Appropriate Section of Your Company