

# SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY

At Southern California Edison (SCE), we want to ensure that the propane gas we provide to heat your home and business and operate your gas appliances is done safely. The propane gas safety tips and information included here will help ensure the safety of you and your family, your home or business, the environment, and the pipeline system that supplies propane gas to you.

To sign up for emergency response notifications for the City of Avalon, please click on the CODERED link from the City of Avalon website at [cityofavalon.com](http://cityofavalon.com).



## How Propane Gas Is Delivered Safely To Your Home or Business

Propane gas is supplied to your home or business via a pipeline system. Pipelines are the safest, most reliable and efficient way of distributing propane gas. Pipeline failures on Catalina Island are rare because our pipeline system is designed, installed, tested, operated and maintained according to strict standards used by SCE, the pipeline industry and those required by local, state, and federal government agencies.

SCE personnel oversee all operations and continuously monitor the pipeline system through a combination of safety programs:

- Patrols of the pipeline system
- Visual ground inspections and leak surveys
- Computerized system reports and records of line pressure 24 hours a day



The pipeline system is constructed to prevent rusting and minimize corrosion so that it remains in good operating condition.



## Preparation In Case There Is a Propane Gas Leak

SCE will host an annual joint training program to review the propane gas emergency response communications and/or fire safety procedures. Appropriate fire, public and law enforcement agencies are invited to attend.

Pipeline system information will also be available at scheduled Avalon City Council meetings. Notices of the upcoming meeting will be published in the local newspapers and on the SCE Catalina website at [sce.com/catalina](http://sce.com/catalina).

## How To Recognize a Propane Gas Leak

Propane gas is heavier than air and collects in lower levels of buildings, like basements or crawl spaces. You'll notice propane gas leaks in these places first.

Propane gas is also colorless and odorless. As a precautionary measure, propane gas manufacturers add a chemical odor so you can detect if there is a leak by the distinct propane gas smell. Sometimes, propane gas leaks can also be heard and seen, but not always.

**Smell:** If you smell propane gas, there may be a leak in your home or business or, if you are outdoors, you may be near a pipeline system leak.

**Listen:** An unusual noise like a hissing sound may be a sign of a propane gas leak.

**Look:** Visible signs of a leaking pipeline system include a dense white cloud or fog over a pipeline, discolored or dead vegetation surrounding a pipeline, flames coming from the ground or exposed piping, a slight mist of ice or frozen area on the pipeline, or continuous bubbling in a wet, flooded area.



### What To Do If You Suspect a Propane Gas Leak

If you smell propane gas or suspect a leak has occurred:

1. Get all occupants out of your home or building.
2. If you are outside, leave the area immediately. Walk into the wind, away from the propane gas.
3. Propane gas can ignite if it is released or leaked. Do not light a match, start an engine, use a cell phone, or do anything that may create a spark.
4. **FROM A SAFE LOCATION, CALL LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONDERS AT 911 AND SCE AT 1-800-367-8851 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**
5. Provide a description of the propane leak and its location.
6. Warn others to keep away.
7. Do not touch, breathe, or make contact with leaking propane gas.
8. Turn off any machinery and equipment; however, if a propane gas cloud has surrounded a piece of equipment, do not go into the cloud to turn it off.

### Where Are the Underground Propane Gas Pipelines?

Generally, propane gas is supplied by an underground "main" pipeline located in the middle of the street in front of your home or business. Additional underground piping runs from the main pipeline to the propane gas meter that supplies propane gas to your home or business. In open areas, main pipelines are marked with aboveground signs to indicate the general location, SCE contact information, and that the pipeline contains propane gas. Markers do not provide information on the depth or number of pipelines in the vicinity and the markers do not indicate the exact position of the pipeline.

### Pipelines Need To Be Protected from Damage — Call Before You Dig

Everyone can contribute to the safety and security of the pipeline system on Catalina Island. Any activity near or on a pipeline route, even something as simple as planting a tree or building a fence, can potentially damage a pipeline.

A gouge, scrape, dent or crease to a pipeline or its coating may cause a break or leak in the future. If you plan to dig, drill, or engage in any other activity that could damage a pipeline, **call Dig Alert at 811 at least 48 hours before you dig or excavate.**



When you call Dig Alert, SCE personnel will come out and mark the pipeline route for you. When excavating near propane gas piping, the excavation must be done with hand tools until the propane gas line is found.

If you know of what could be considered even minor damage to a pipeline, please contact us immediately at **1-800-367-8851** so we can investigate any possible damage.

### Aboveground Care of Pipeline Routes

Pipeline routes must be kept free from structures and other obstructions. If a pipeline crosses your property, please do not plant trees or high shrubs along the route. Also, do not store or place anything on or near the pipeline route without first contacting SCE so we can explain the company's construction guidelines to you. Contact us during normal business hours at **1-800-367-8851** if you have any questions.

# Propane Gas Safety Information and Tips

## For Catalina Island Customers

### Customer Responsibilities

SCE's responsibilities for operating and maintaining the propane gas pipeline system on Catalina Island ends at and includes the propane gas meters located at your home or business. All piping and other components from the propane gas meter to residences or businesses is the responsibility of the customer. Customer piping may be buried or it may be above ground or both. Your piping may corrode or leak and should be inspected periodically and repaired if unsafe conditions are discovered. Most plumbing and heating contractors can assist you in locating, inspecting, and repairing piping.

### Additional Safety Tips

- Never use a propane gas oven or stove burners to provide heating, and do not use any portable heaters that aren't designed for indoor use.
- Don't use an outdoor barbeque grill indoors for cooking or heating.
- You should also have your propane gas appliances tested regularly by qualified technicians, and make sure your propane gas appliances are well-ventilated.

### Proposition 65 Public Warning

The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, commonly referred to as Proposition 65, requires the Governor to publish a list of chemicals "known to the State to cause cancer, birth defects, or reproductive harm." It also requires California businesses to warn the public quarterly of potential exposure to these chemicals which result from the products they use, make, or distribute.

Southern California Edison facilities store propane and distribute propane to wholesale and retail customers in California for various uses. Propane itself is not a listed Proposition 65 chemical. The combustion of propane in appliances, such as stoves or heating systems and vehicles using propane creates harmful chemicals. These chemicals include carbon monoxide, benzene, formaldehyde, and acetaldehyde — all chemicals known to the State to cause cancer and/or birth defects.

Southern California Edison encourages all of its customers to use propane safely. You should read and follow all use, care, and manufacturer instructions for propane appliances and equipment. Proper ventilation and frequent inspection of propane appliances and equipment are highly recommended. A warning odorant is added to propane so that leaks of unburned gas can be quickly detected. If a gas odor is detected, contact a qualified service technician immediately.



[sce.com/catalina](https://www.sce.com/catalina)