



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **NYSEG and RG&E Remind Customers to Call 811 Before You Dig** *Proper marking prevents damage and injury*

**BINGHAMTON, N.Y. — April 23, 2020** —With the warmer weather approaching, NYSEG and RG&E, AVANGRID companies, remind contractors and homeowners to have underground utilities marked before starting any excavation project. This is essential to protect themselves and others from injury and to prevent damage to underground electric lines and gas pipes. Remember to contact [Dig Safely New York](#) by calling **811** at least **two** and **not more than 10 full working days** before the start of any excavation project.

Every year, there are dozens of incidents involving third-party damage to NYSEG and RG&E underground natural gas and electric facilities. These incidents can put people's lives in danger and interrupt essential utility service.

"Contractors are required by law to call Dig Safely New York before digging, and we strongly encourage do-it-yourselfers to call as well," said Greg George, Vice President of Gas Engineering, NYSEG and RG&E. "Whether you're putting in a foundation or building a deck, making this simple call will help keep everyone safe."

Dig Safely New York is free and available to receive calls 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

#### **Follow these tips for a safer project:**

- Plan to have underground utilities marked as part of all underground construction
- Mark out the area of construction
- Call [Dig Safely New York](#), a free and easy service at **811** or **1.800.962.7962**

- Provide adequate training and supervision on a jobsite to assure that good construction practices are followed
- Properly maintain all underground utility markings
- Hand dig in the area of underground facilities
- Provide adequate protection and support for underground facilities
- If our underground facilities are damaged or disturbed, notify RG&E at **1.800.743.1702** for natural gas or **1.800.743.1701** for electricity. NYSEG can be notified by calling **1.800.572.1121** for a natural gas emergency and **1.800.572.1131** for an electric emergency. We'll come right away to ensure the site is safe and make repairs if required
- Use and properly install suitable backfill material around underground facilities

For more information, visit Dig Safely New York at [digsafelynewyork.com](http://digsafelynewyork.com).

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**AVANGRID, Inc.** (NYSE: AGR) is a leading, sustainable energy company with approximately \$33 billion in assets and operations in 24 U.S. states. With headquarters in Orange, Connecticut, AVANGRID has two primary lines of business: Avangrid Networks and Avangrid Renewables. Avangrid Networks owns eight electric and natural gas utilities, serving 3.25 million customers in New York and New England. Avangrid Renewables owns and operates 7.2 gigawatts of electricity capacity, primarily through wind power, with a presence in 22 states across the United States. AVANGRID employs approximately 6,500 people. AVANGRID supports the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Goals and was named among the World's Most Ethical Companies in 2019 by the Ethisphere Institute. For more information, visit [www.avangrid.com](http://www.avangrid.com).



**New York State Electric & Gas Corporation** (NYSEG) is a subsidiary of AVANGRID, Inc. Established in 1852 and based in Binghamton, New York, NYSEG serves approximately 898,700 electricity customers and 267,900 natural gas customers across more than 40% of upstate New York. NYSEG operates approximately 35,000 miles of electric distribution lines and 4,500 miles of electric transmission lines. It also operates more than 8,300 miles of natural gas distribution pipelines and 20 miles of gas transmission pipelines. NYSEG received a distinguished award in 2019 for its ongoing support of military veterans and reservists from the Department of Defense. For more information, visit [www.nyseg.com](http://www.nyseg.com).

**Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation** (RG&E) is a subsidiary of AVANGRID, Inc. Established in 1848 and based in Rochester, New York, RG&E serves approximately 381,400 electricity customers and 315,700 natural gas customers in a nine-county region in New York surrounding the City of Rochester. It operates approximately 8,800 miles of electric distribution lines and 1,100 miles of electric transmission lines. It also operates approximately 9,000 miles of natural gas distribution pipelines and 105 miles of gas transmission pipelines. RG&E received the 2018 Salute to Excellence Award for its community engagement and leadership investments in education from the Monroe Community College Foundation. For more information, visit [www.rge.com](http://www.rge.com).

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