Gas Line Inadvertently Ruptured During Water Leak Repair on Barton Street

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – At about 11:30 a.m., Western Municipal Water District inadvertently ruptured a gas line while conducting an emergency repair on a water leak on Barton Street between Van Buren Boulevard and Aptos Street in the Orangecrest area of Riverside.

Western immediately contacted emergency services and coordinated with the Riverside Fire Department, The Gas Company, the Riverside Police Department and Riverside Emergency Management.

Resident safety was – and is always – the District’s primary focus.

Nine homes near the rupture were evacuated and are currently without gas and power (as of 4 p.m.). The Gas Company pinched the line and stopped the gas leak at about 2 p.m.; the Western crew then fixed the water line, restoring water service to those homes originally affected. Gas Company crews and personnel will work throughout the evening to restore gas service to the residents.

The District apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused to customers and area residents. If you have questions or concerns, please call the District’s emergency line at 951.789.5100 or the Administrative Office at 951.571.7100.