

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Oil and Gas Act is amended by
5 adding Section 7.5 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 725/7.5 new)

7 Sec. 7.5. Natural gas storage field; natural gas leak;
8 public notice.

9 In addition to the requirements of this Section and any
10 applicable State and federal law, an operator of a natural gas
11 storage field that lies on the footprint of a Sole Source
12 Aquifer designated as such in 2015 by the United States
13 Environmental Protection Agency must notify the following
14 parties located within 5 miles of the boundaries of a natural
15 gas leak into water or onto the surface of land that a natural
16 gas leak has occurred:

17 (1) All government entities must be notified
18 immediately.

19 (2) All emergency service agencies serving that area
20 must be notified immediately.

21 (3) All owners and operators of public water supplies,
22 community water supplies, and non-community water supplies
23 must be notified immediately.

1 In addition, all private residents, owners and operators of
2 private water systems, or businesses, including agricultural
3 operations, located within one and a half miles of the
4 boundaries of the natural gas leak must be notified as soon as
5 practically possible.

6 Notices to private residents and businesses must be
7 attempted through verbal communication, whether in person or by
8 telephone. If verbal communication cannot be established, a
9 physical notice must be posted. The physical notice shall carry
10 the following text in at least 18-point font: "NATURAL GAS LEAK
11 NOTICE - READ IMMEDIATELY". Notices required under this Section
12 shall be provided whether or not the threat of exposure has
13 been eliminated. Both verbal and physical notices shall include
14 the location of the natural gas leak, the date and time that
15 the natural gas leak was discovered, contact information of the
16 operator of the natural gas storage field, and any applicable
17 safety information.

18 The operator of a natural gas storage field has a
19 continuous and ongoing obligation to further notify the
20 affected parties as necessary if it is determined that the
21 boundaries of the natural gas leak have increased, moved, or
22 shifted. This notice requirement shall be construed as broadly
23 as possible.