

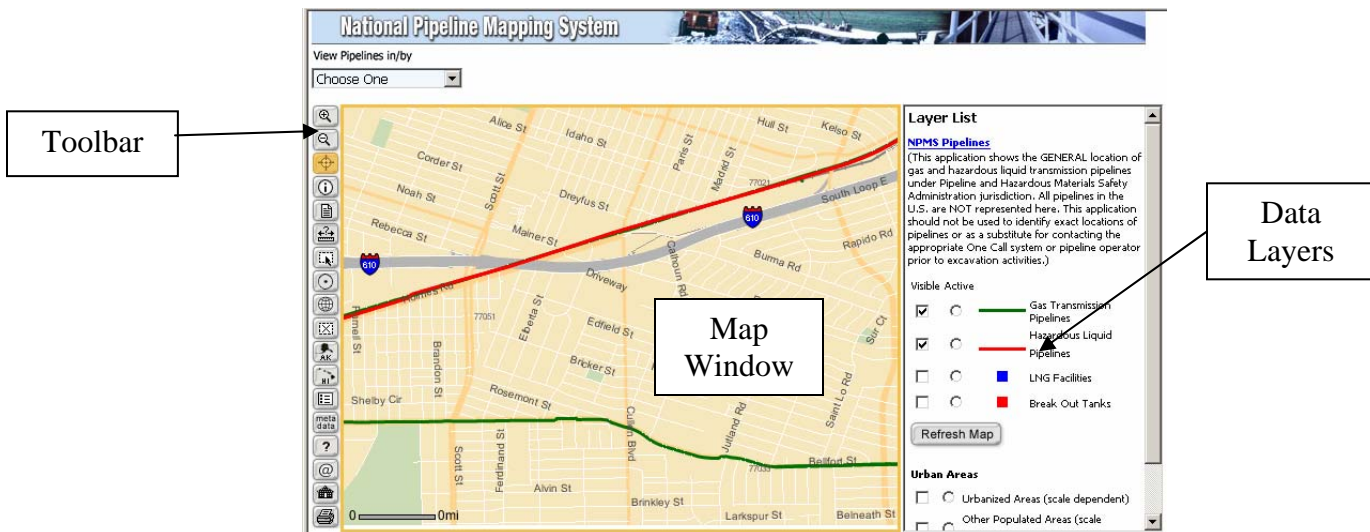


Getting Started with the NPMS Public Viewer

This document contains information to help the general public use the NPMS Public Viewer. Please direct any questions about the Public Viewer to NPMS staff at npms-nr@mbakercorp.com or (703) 317-6294.

The Public Viewer was created to assist the general public in identifying hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines in their area and in finding more information on these pipelines. The data does not contain gathering or distribution pipelines. Please see the FAQs at the end of this document for further information.

1 Components of the Public Viewer



As seen above, the Map Window is in the center of the screen. To use the Public Viewer, you will

- Decide which data you wish to look at
- Turn those data layers on
- Use the tools in the toolbar to examine the data

2 Turning layers on and off

Pipelines are represented by red and green lines in the Public Viewer. As shown in the Data Layers area, the green lines represent gas transmission pipelines, while the red lines represent hazardous liquid pipelines. If no lines are visible, there are no transmission pipelines in the selected county.



The layers that have a check mark in the “visible” column are turned on. To turn off the liquid pipelines (for example), click in the visible column to remove the check mark, then click on the “Refresh Map” button in the layer list. Likewise, to turn on a layer, click in the visible column to show the check mark, then click on the “Refresh Map” button.

3 Zooming

To zoom closer in on the map, use the Zoom In tool, which is the first tool on the toolbar. Its symbol is a magnifying glass with a plus sign. Click on the tool, then either click once on the map, or drag a box on the map window to define the area you wish to zoom into. The Zoom Out tool is symbolized by a magnifying glass with a negative symbol.

4 Panning (moving the map)

To move the map in any direction, click on the Pan tool, which is the third tool on the toolbar (symbolized by a crosshair). Click on the map and drag to move the map to the desired location.

5 Viewing information about a pipeline, and contacting a pipeline operator

Information about any piece of pipeline is viewable through the Identify tool (the fourth tool on the toolbar, symbolized by an “i” inside a circle). Displaying the table of information is a four-step process.

- Choose a layer; this example will use gas transmission pipelines.
- In the layer list, click the circle in the “active” column next to the green-colored gas pipeline layer. Click on the “Refresh Map” button.
- Once the layer is active, click on the Identify tool in the toolbar.
- Click on a green pipeline in the Map Window. A table will pop up showing the operator name, commodity (substance) carried, and other details. If the table does not appear, it may be due to a pop-up blocker.
- The table also contains information about the operator’s designated public representative, including an email address or phone number.
- See Appendix A for more information about the table, including what the field names mean.

6 Printing a map

Maps may be printed from the Public Viewer. Click on the Print tool (the last tool) and select a print size. A PDF will be generated. The PDF can be printed or saved.

7 Other tools

This document addresses only a few of the tools available on the Public Viewer. Many of the tools in the Toolbar are intended for mapping professionals, but they may be of interest to the layperson as well. If you have any questions about specific tools or procedures, please contact us using the information on page 1.



8 Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Q:** When I zoom in, I see a window pop up that says “Maximum map scale has been reached.” Why can’t I zoom in closer?
A: The maximum zoom level has been set at 1:24,000. The window will appear if you try to zoom in closer than 1:24,000.
2. **Q:** I want to see more than one county’s pipelines. How can I do that?
A: Only one county’s pipelines may be viewed per session; however, there is no limit on the number of sessions. To see another county’s pipelines, close the Public Viewer, re-open it, and select a new county.
3. **Q:** I turned some layers on and off but the map has not changed. Why?
A: The most likely reason is that you did not click the Refresh Map button after turning layers on or off.
4. **Q:** I know there is a pipeline going to my house, but it doesn’t appear on the map. Why?
A: NPMS data contains transmission lines only. Transmission lines are lines under high pressure that traverse large distances. Lines that bring gas to residential customers are distribution lines, and they are not part of the NPMS dataset.
5. **Q:** How accurate is NPMS data?
A: The accuracy of the NPMS data is based upon the information the pipeline operator submitted. The target goal is +/-500 feet. The majority of data has better accuracy, but a small number of pipelines have worse accuracy. Please note that NPMS data is not accurate enough for excavation. Before digging, call 1-888-258-0808.
6. **Q:** Is it possible to download the data?
A: No. The data may only be viewed through the Public Viewer application.
7. **Q:** I have concerns about a pipeline adjacent to my property. Who can I contact for more information?
A: Please see Section 6 of this document for instructions on how to contact the pipeline operator’s public representative.



9 Appendix A: Pipeline Attribute Table

The definitions below are for use with the pipeline attribute table, which is discussed in Section 5 of this document.

- **City:** The city in which a breakout tank is located.
- **Commodity Category 1, 2, or 3:** Abbreviation for the primary commodity (substance) carried by the pipeline system.
- **Commodity Description:** Descriptive information of the commodities carried by the pipeline system. For example, “NATURAL GAS” or “PROPANE.”
- **Company ID:** A text string used to identify breakout tank operators.
- **Company Name:** Breakout tank company name.
- **Contact Address:** The mailing address of the pipeline company’s public representative.
- **Entity to Contact:** see Person to Contact.
- **Plant ID:** A text string used to identify a liquefied natural gas (LNG) plant.
- **Plant Name:** Name of an LNG plant.
- **Plant Owner:** Owner of an LNG plant.
- **Interstate Designation:** Yes / No designator to identify whether the pipeline system is an interstate pipeline. Y=Interstate, N=Intrastate.
- **Operator Name:** Transmission pipeline operator name.
- **Operator Number:** A number used to identify transmission pipeline operators.
- **Person to Contact:** The contact point for questions about the pipeline.
- **Phone/Fax/Email:** Contact information for the pipeline company’s designated public representative.
- **Pipeline Status Code:** Identifies the current status of the pipeline segment as in service, abandoned, or retired.
- **State:** The state in which a breakout tank is located.
- **System Name:** The operator's name for a group of pipelines.