

Circular No: RD/G03/2009
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To: Management Corporations and Town Councils

Dear Sirs

REPORTING OF SUSPECTED GAS LEAK

It has been brought to our attention of a recent incident where four men engaged by the Management Corporation of a condominium were injured arising from a flash fire due to the accidental ignition of accumulated gas in a Mains Distribution Frame (MDF) room of the condominium. The four men were investigating the gas smell when one of them switched off the light in the MDF room and the resulting spark caused the flash fire. Subsequent investigation revealed that gas had escaped from a damaged underground gas pipe outside the condominium and entered the MDF room through an underground telecommunications cable conduit.

2. Gas is odorised with pungent odorant to enable it to be detected, even in low concentration. PowerGas Ltd, which operates the gas pipeline network, has a leak survey programme for early detection of gas leaks. It also maintains a 24-hour call centre to handle any reported gas leaks expeditiously.

Report Gas Leaks Immediately

3. To prevent any accidents from gas leaks, we would seek your cooperation to immediately report any suspected gas leaks to PowerGas Ltd at its 24-hour Hotline at **1800-7521800** and not to attempt to detect gas leaks yourself.

Safety Precautions

4. We would also seek your assistance to advise your staff, agents and contractors to take the following safety precautions if they suspect any gas leaks:

- a. Call PowerGas Ltd's 24-hour Hotline at **1800-7521800** immediately. They will be advised on actions to take while a response team of PowerGas Ltd is being sent to the premises;
 - b. Open all windows and doors to ventilate the area;
 - c. Ensure no source of ignition is present in the vicinity e.g. lighted cigarette etc;
 - d. Do not switch ON or OFF any switches (If the lights are already on, do not switch them off as this can also cause a spark);
 - e. Do not use mobile phone in the area where they suspect any presence of gas; and
 - f. Do not attempt to detect the source of gas leak themselves.
5. You are encouraged to put up gas safety notices in your estates as a reminder of the safety precautions to be taken in the event of suspected gas leaks.
6. If you need any clarification, please contact Mr Chow Chin Choeng (at telephone number 63767582 or email chow_chin_choeng@ema.gov.sg) or Mr Too Yew Yong (at telephone number 63767601 or email too_yew_yong@ema.gov.sg).

Yours faithfully

YEO YEK SENG
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE
REGULATION DIVISION

cc: Distribution List