



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 11, 2009

## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Nick Meyer, Manager  
NIPSCO Communications  
(219) 647-6556

## FLOOD EMERGENCY ISSUED TO RESIDENTS ALONG THE TIPPECANOE RIVER

**MERRILLVILLE, Ind.** – A flood emergency was issued this morning at 12:10 a.m. CST to residents along the Tippecanoe River in White and Carroll counties. Evacuations were made in areas surrounding NIPSCO's Norway and Oakdale hydroelectric dams, as water flows surpassed 22,000 cubic feet per second.

Current water flows remain around 25,000 cubic feet per second, and NIPSCO continues to work closely with local officials and emergency management authorities.

NIPSCO assures local residents that the dams are operating safely as designed, releasing water through the flood gates.

As an important safety measure, NIPSCO must shut off any gas or electric meters that are under water. This includes circuit panels and breakers in flooded basements.

Once water levels have receded, and customers are able to get back into their homes, there are a few important items to remember:

- **Please DO NOT attempt to restore gas service yourself.** Floodwaters may have shifted your home or caused other stresses to the gas piping, possibly resulting in a natural gas leak. Don't put yourself at risk!
- If water levels were high enough to cover gas meters and regulators, NIPSCO will need to replace them and conduct a pressure test to the gas lines before the gas system can be used. There will be no charge to the customer for this replacement.
- Customers must call a licensed plumber or contractor to check, clean, and repair all gas lines within the home. These lines may have been damaged or clogged with mud or debris.

**-more-**

**Flood Emergency Issued**  
**Page 2 of 2**

- Any natural gas or electric appliances, such as water heaters, furnaces or boilers that have been under water must be inspected by a licensed plumber or contractor, to ensure there has been no damage to valves or electric components.

Residents are urged to listen for further communications from local emergency management personnel, and customers with any questions about restoring their service, after inspections and repairs have been completed by a licensed contractor or plumber, may call 1-800-4-NIPSCO (800-464-7726).

**About NIPSCO**

NIPSCO, with headquarters in Merrillville, Ind., is one of the 10 energy distribution companies of NiSource Inc. (NYSE: NI). With over 712,000 natural gas customers and 457,000 electric customers across the northern third of Indiana, NIPSCO is the largest natural gas distribution company, and the second largest electric distribution company, in the state. NiSource distribution companies serve 3.8 million natural gas and electric customers primarily in seven states. More information about NIPSCO is available at [www.nipSCO.com](http://www.nipSCO.com).

# # #