

<http://www.MSCNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=21638>

Black Hills Energy Warns Customers About Ice and Snow on Gas Meters

(KTNC) - With up to a foot of snow expected in Nebraska, Black Hills Energy is reminding its natural gas customers to keep snow and ice away from gas meters.

Jeff Sylvester, Black Hills' vice president of operations in Nebraska, says you should remove snow before it has a chance to freeze. He says you should remove snow from gas meters gently by hand or with a broom. Do not use a shovel, ice pick, or other tool that could damage the meter.

Outdoor vents serving high-efficiency furnaces should also be cleared using your hands or a brush. Furnaces will not run safely and efficiently if the vents are blocked.

Sylvester says you should also keep snow blowers and shovels away from gas meters and other above ground equipment.

You should also make sure anyone hired to remove snow is aware of gas equipment so they don't hit a natural gas meter or piping.

Black Hills Energy serves 196,000 natural gas customers in 106 communities in Nebraska.

MSC News