

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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NIPSCO Reminds Customers of Carbon Monoxide Dangers

Furnace inspections and carbon monoxide detectors help keep homes safe and warm

Merrillville, Ind. — As winter settles in, NIPSCO reminds customers of the importance of maintaining a safe home heating system.

An annual inspection is essential for every home's furnace to ensure that it is working efficiently and to help protect residents from safety concerns, such as carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless, tasteless, non-corrosive gas and a by-product of burning fuels such as coal, wood, charcoal, natural gas and fuel oil. It can be emitted by furnaces, generators, space heaters, stoves, fireplaces, water heaters and automobile exhaust. Carbon monoxide can be poisonous if allowed to build up in enclosed spaces.

The most common symptoms of CO poisoning are flu-like, including headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain and confusion. At high levels, it can cause loss of consciousness and death. If you think you are suffering from CO poisoning, you should get fresh air immediately and call 911.

Take action to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning:

- Install a battery-operated CO detector in your home near the bedrooms, making sure it's clear of furniture or draperies. Test the battery regularly.
- Do not use ovens, gas ranges or grills to heat your home.
- Never use a generator inside your home, basement, garage or other enclosed or partially enclosed area.
- Never leave a car or lawn mower engine running in a shed, garage or any enclosed space.

For more important safety tips, visit www.NIPSCO.com/StaySafe.

About NIPSCO: Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO), with headquarters in Merrillville, Indiana, has proudly served the energy needs of northern Indiana for more than 100 years. As Indiana's largest natural gas distribution company and the second-largest electric distribution company, NIPSCO serves approximately 810,000 natural gas and 460,000 electric customers across 32 counties. NIPSCO is part of NiSource's (NYSE: NI) seven regulated utility companies. NiSource is one of the largest fully regulated utility companies in the United States, serving approximately 4 million natural gas and electric customers through its local Columbia Gas and NIPSCO brands. More information about NIPSCO and NiSource is available at NIPSCO.com and NiSource.com.

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