



February 21, 2026

Dear Customer,

As of 7:00 p.m., 44 of the 64 impacted homes have been cleared to re-enter. Our crews are now working to safely relight appliances and restore service.

We know this has been disruptive and stressful. Your safety is our top priority, and we want to clearly explain what that means and why we are confident it is safe for you to return home.

***We want to acknowledge the strong partnership and support from the Fairfax Fire and Rescue Department.***

### **Why Your Home Has Been Cleared**

Before inviting any resident back, Washington Gas, alongside multiple agencies — including the Virginia State Corporation Commission and the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department — completed extensive safety checks. Your home was only cleared after all of the following steps were taken:

1. Neighborhood leak survey.

Immediately following the incident, we surveyed the surrounding area to detect where gas was present. The evacuation zone was intentionally larger than the affected area out of an abundance of caution.

2. Established and monitored a defined safety perimeter.

Where gas had migrated, a controlled boundary was set.

- The Fairfax Fire and Rescue Department monitored conditions hourly.
- Washington Gas crews monitored conditions every two hours.

This monitoring included checks both inside and outside homes.

Monitoring has continued and will remain ongoing.

4. Gradual re-pressurization of the gas system and at each step another leak survey was performed.

Gas service was carefully reintroduced into the system in a controlled manner.

5. Multiple safety surveys.

After pressure was restored, crews conducted four complete system surveys to ensure there were no leaks.

6. Individual home safety checks.

Before your home was cleared:

- Washington Gas performed a leak check on your home's gas piping.
- The Fairfax Fire and Rescue Department conducted a final safety confirmation.

Only after all of these steps were completed and conditions remained stable was your home deemed safe for re-entry.

## What Happens Next

Our commitment does not stop here. As we relight appliances:

- Each appliance is individually checked.
- Connections are inspected again.
- Ongoing monitoring in the neighborhood continues.

We will keep a strong presence in the community, you can expect to see our crews working to keep you safe.

If at any point you smell gas or have concerns, leave the area immediately and call 911 and then 844-WASH-GAS.

We understand how important it is to feel safe in your own home. Please know that your home was cleared only after extensive, repeated testing by multiple agencies. Your safety remains our priority, and we will continue monitoring the area as service is fully restored.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.