All responsible staff members should be taught how and when to turn off the gas, electricity and water after an earthquake. This can be as simple as clearly marking where the shut-off valves are, and posting instructions close by. The following pages provide common examples of shut-off valves. Whether or not the site has something different, the shut-off will be similar.

WARNINGS:

If you smell gas, DON’T turn any switches on or off. DON’T use any open flame to check for leaks. DON’T turn on any battery-operated flashlights, unless they are safety/waterproof light. Chemical light sticks are a safe source of light in the event of gas leak.

It is very dangerous and therefore not recommended that you go searching for gas leaks inside any damaged building.

Do not turn the gas valve back on after an earthquake unless a qualified person has checked extensively for gas leaks. A qualified person (plumber, contractor, etc.) or gas company employee will have to relight ALL the pilot lights.