

March 21, 2003

Construction Company Guilty in Natural Gas Pipeline Hit

For Immediate Release – A construction company was found guilty in Hamilton Provincial Court today for damaging an underground natural gas pipeline in Dundas, Ontario, the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) announced.

On December 13, 2000, an excavator operator employed by Battaglia Contracting Limited of Hamilton, Ontario damaged a underground natural gas pipeline at Hunter Street in Dundas resulting in a house explosion. There were no injuries.

Battaglia Contracting Limited was found guilty under the *Energy Act* for damaging the natural gas pipeline and was fined \$45,000.00. When a pipeline is damaged, there is a serious risk of explosion, and resulting injury to workers and the public.

TSSA is a risk-based, prevention-oriented organization that provides a variety of safety services including public education; training and certification; engineering design review; inspection activities; and safety management consultation. TSSA clients and partners include highly specialized organizations in the amusement devices, boilers and pressure vessels, elevating devices and fuels industries.

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* For more information about the Technical Standards and Safety Authority, please visit our Web site at www.tssa.org