

# What You Need To Know About Theft of Gas

## Theft of Gas is:



### **Dangerous**

it can cause  
fire and death



### **Illegal**

it can result in a  
prison sentence



### **customers pay the price**

it is not victimless and  
increases the cost of gas

## Reporting Theft of Gas

We can all play a part in keeping our communities safe from gas theft. If you see something suspicious, such as a locked or obstructed meter box or are aware of energy theft, you can report it anonymously by contacting:

- Phoenix Energy directly on 03454 555 555
- PSNI on 101
- Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 023 2777 or @ [crimestoppers-uk.org/stay-energy-safe-northern-ireland](https://www.crimestoppers-uk.org/stay-energy-safe-northern-ireland)



**CrimeStoppers.**



# Gas Theft: Know the Facts



## MYTH

*“There’s no safety risk in tampering with your gas meter.”*



## FACT

Theft of gas is extremely dangerous - it places lives and property at risk. Interfering with pipes and meters is dangerous and puts your safety and the safety of your neighbours at risk.



## MYTH

*“It’s not a crime.”*



## FACT

Not only is it dangerous, it’s also illegal and as a serious crime can result in prison and hefty fines or disconnection from the natural gas network.



## MYTH

*“It’s victimless – it only costs the energy companies.”*



## FACT

Theft of gas increases the overall cost of energy – which means everyone pays.



## MYTH

*“The meter is on my property – so it’s my choice what I do with it.”*



## FACT

Gas companies own the gas meter at your property and have the right to inspect meters to validate the technical and safety aspects of meter installations – an entry warrant may be obtained where access is denied.



## MYTH

*“I won’t get caught.”*



## FACT

All reports are investigated and many prevention and detection measures are in place. Don’t take the risk!



## MYTH

*“I have no choice I can’t afford my bills.”*



## FACT

If you are finding it difficult to pay your energy bills there are organisations that are there to support you. You should contact your gas supplier to find out more about the support that’s available.

## Don’t Pay The Price For Gas Theft



Only certified energy company operatives should ever work at your meter or gas supply. If in doubt, you can verify energy company employees using Quickcheck - a simple call to 101 – the police non-emergency number.

