

## **FAIRCHILD AFB, WA UTILITY SYSTEM DESCRIPTION**

**General:** Fairchild Air Force Base is located 12 miles WSW of Spokane, WA. It has 1481 buildings and occupies 4,529 acres of Federally owned land. The only base utility system being considered for privatization is the natural gas distribution system.

**System Description:** The following utility system information is an estimate only and is subject to change:

**Natural Gas:** Natural gas is supplied to Fairchild Air Force Base by Avista Utilities (Avista), formerly Washington Water Power, through an 8-inch steel pipe, owned by Avista, entering the base from the north. This 8-inch line is fed from a Williams Northwest Pipeline that operates at a pressure of 500 pounds per square inch gage (psig). At the main metering point just off base along Graham Road, pressure is reduced to 150 psig. The FAFB distribution system is comprised of elements, which are owned by the Air Force as well as Avista. The system cannot operate as a whole without the others portion. Avista does own a large part of the distribution system and is intermixed with the AF owned elements. The Air Force-owned distribution system consists of approximately 64,690 total linear feet of underground piping, valves and 39 meters. The majority of the natural gas distribution system is steel and approximately 40 years old. The steel piping ranges from 8 inches to 1 inch. The steel pipe is protected with a cathodic protection system. The 8-inch distribution line supplying the core of the base has 10 graphite anodes. The 4-inch line running south along Galena MFH has 10 HSCI type anodes. The Weapons Storage area has twenty-four 32-pound magnesium anodes. Polyethylene piping makes up approximately 21% of the system and is approximately 5 years old. The PE piping ranges from 1-1/4 inches to 3/4 inch. The majority of the Air Force distribution system operates at 40 psig with a few segments operating at 15 psig.

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