

At approximately 11:45 a.m. on January 16, 2018, work on a water infrastructure project on Fort Monmouth resulted in an unexpected fire. Fortunately, no one was hurt during this incident.

New Jersey American Water has contracted with J. F. Kiely Construction Co. to undertake this upgrade of water supply infrastructure on the Fort. As per the protocol for a utility project, mark-outs for the project were completed before work began. During routine work yesterday, a gas line was struck, causing the fire.

While the gas line involved is not owned by FMERA, we have been actively monitoring the incident and any subsequent follow-up. This situation was unfortunate, but considering the scale of the effort to redevelop the Fort, incidents of this nature are rare, and every effort is made to ensure the safety of both those working to revitalize the Fort and local residents.

FMERA, New Jersey American Water, and Kiely Construction would like to thank all of the parties involved in the response to this situation, and extend a special thank you to the Oceanport Fire Department, the Oceanport First Aid Squad, and first responders from the neighboring towns of Little Silver and Long Branch for their support and professionalism.