

KIRKHOF CENTER 2250C

*A GIS Model of Gas Energy Infrastructure at Grand Valley State University, Allendale*

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Grand Valley State University has an extensive natural gas infrastructure. In the past, it has been difficult to locate some meters on campus during emergencies because of inconsistent placement and incomplete information. We developed an interactive map and visual database of gas meters for better management. This involved cataloging, photographing, and geocoding the location of gas meters using Global Positioning Technology. Our project will allow the Department of Public Safety and EMS services to easily manage gas meters in the future since they now have absolute locations that were converted to shapefiles (digital maps), and integrated into KML (Keyhole Markup Language) documents. KML documents allowed us to integrate our data with Microsoft oblique pictometry data via an internet web page for easy on-line access.