

Gas Leak At Mill Brings Evacuation

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A natural gas leak at the Didion feed mill, operated by Didion Milling Inc., forced the evacuation of about 500 Cambria-Friesland School students and more than 100 other people in northern Cambria Monday morning, police said.

Cambria Police Chief Rick Nelson said construction equipment broke a 6-inch gas line at the mill about 10:15 a.m. It was turned off by 1:15 p.m. The school was about two blocks from the mill. He said electricity to the mill was shut down, then restored late in the evening. By Monday evening the gas line had not been fixed.

Cambria students were taken to schools in nearby Randolph and returned to the Cambria school at 1:30 p.m., but classes were canceled, because they returned so late in the day.

"We didn't know how long it was going to take (to fix the gas line), so we called off classes," District Administrator Jeff Walker said.