

# \$143 Million Columbia Gas Settlement Gets Final Approval From Judge

“A \$143 million settlement between Columbia Gas and thousands of people affected by the company’s 2018 pipeline disaster in the Merrimack Valley received final approval from a state judge on Thursday,” reports Callum Borchers in *Bostonmix*.

“The resolution of a class action civil case comes two weeks after Columbia Gas agreed to plead guilty in a criminal proceeding, acknowledging it violated the federal Pipeline Safety Act. The plea deal included a \$53 million fine and required Columbia’s parent company, NiSource, to sell its Massachusetts business. NiSource quickly found a buyer in Eversource.”

“Anyone who lived in Lawrence, Andover or North Andover at the time of widespread fires and explosions in September 2018 can apply for compensation. The deadline to file a claim has been extended to April 27.”

***Read the article.***