

# **\$56M Settlement with Columbia Gas Over Merrimack Valley Gas Explosions Approved**

“A \$56 million settlement between Massachusetts and the natural gas utility found responsible for a series of explosions and fires in the state in 2018 was approved by the state Department of Public Utilities,” reported by Associated Press in *The Washington Post’s Climate & Environment*.

“The settlement with Columbia Gas of Massachusetts and its parent, NiSource, was agreed to in July and approved Wednesday, the state Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs announced in a statement.”

“The explosions in Lawrence, Andover and North Andover in September 2018 killed one person, injured almost two dozen and damaged more than 100 buildings. Federal investigators blamed the explosions on overpressurized gas lines.”

***Read the article.***