



T4 Pipeline Permitting and Mapping

Andy Martinec
July 2025



Agenda



- 16 TAC 3.70(r)
- Online resources
- FAQs
- Q&A

16 TAC 3.70(r) (1 of 1)



- NGG attributes must be submitted.
- Fines and penalties will be assessed for operators who fail to comply.

Online Resources (1 of 3)



- Notices to Operators (NTO)
 - January 2025: <https://rrc.texas.gov/announcements/01022025-nto-updates-to-t-4-requirements/>
 - June 2025: <https://rrc.texas.gov/announcements/01022025-nto-updates-to-t-4-requirements/june2025/> (will be posted)

All NTOs related to T-4 pipeline permitting and mapping are emailed to pipeline operators using the email addresses on file in POPS. To ensure receipt of important communications from the RRC, pipeline operators must maintain a current email address in POPS.

Online Resources (2 of 3)



- Permitting & Mapping webpage:

<https://www.rrc.texas.gov/pipeline-safety/permitting-and-mapping/>

- Reorganized Pipeline Safety Forms webpage
- Updated Form C-LTR POPS Cover Letter
- Updated Form T-4B Pipeline Transfer Certification
- Updated Guide to Shapefile Submissions
- Created Guide to Overview Map Submissions

Online Resources (3 of 3)



Permitting & Mapping

Permitting

[Instructions for Filing the Online Permit Application](#)

[A Guide to Pipeline Permit Submissions](#)

[Pipeline Permit Guidance Sheet](#)

[Pipeline Permitting Forms, Sample Cover letters & Overview Maps](#)

[Pipeline Permitting & Mapping FAQs](#)

Pipeline operators register their applicable pipelines with the Railroad Commission by submitting a T-4 Pipeline Permit application. Pipeline permits are required for transmission pipelines, gathering lines, and production or flow lines as defined in [TX Admin Code, Title 16, Chapter 3, Rule 3.70 Pipeline Permits Required](#).

New pipeline permits or amendments to permits require submission of maps along with pipeline attributes. Data is reviewed and validated for completeness, then added to the [GIS public map viewer](#) that has oil, gas, and pipeline data displayed in a geographical format.

[New Pipeline Construction Reports](#)

Mapping

[Instructions for Submitting Shapefiles Online](#)

[A Guide to Shapefile Submissions](#)

[Sample Shapefiles](#)

[Correcting Shapefile Rejections](#)

[Vendor List](#)

Pipeline Siting and Routing

- The route for intrastate pipelines is determined by the pipeline's owner/operator. The Railroad Commission has no pipeline routing or siting authority; and does not administer eminent domain, condemnation, or other property rights laws. Easement, Right-of-Way, and Encroachment agreements or issues between pipeline operators and landowners is beyond the scope of the State and Federal [pipeline safety rules](#).

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

- FERC considers applications from natural gas companies for construction and operation of interstate natural gas pipelines, storage facilities, compressor stations, other natural gas infrastructure, and liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals.
- FERC has public guidance information on their website under [Landowner Topics of Interest](#).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

[Eminent Domain & Condemnation FAQs](#)

[Public GIS Viewer](#)

[How to Search for T-4 Permits](#)

[Pipeline Map Request Form](#)

[Pipeline Shapefiles by County](#)

[POPS User Guide](#)

[Pipeline Fees](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: POPS@rrc.texas.gov

Email: tpms@rrc.texas.gov

Pipeline Safety Phone: 512-463-6802

- Is it true that some production lines and flow lines are required to be reported to the RRC?
 - Yes, that is true.
 - Per 16 TAC 8.1(a)(1)(B), majority-gas onshore production pipelines, historically reported in T-4 as natural gas full well stream gathering (NFG), in Class 2, 3, or 4 locations must report as natural gas gathering (NGG) and are subject to 49 CFR §192.8(c) in determining if these pipelines and facilities are Type A or Type B and are subject to the rules in 49 CFR §192.9 for Type A or Type B pipelines.
 - Per 16 TAC 3.70(a), a production or flow line is piping used for production operations that generally occur upstream of gathering or other pipeline facilities. For the purposes of this subsection, piping used in "production operations" means piping used for production and preparation for transportation or delivery of hydrocarbon gas and/or liquids, and includes the following processes:
 - (1) extraction and recovery, lifting, stabilization, treatment, separation, production processing, storage, and measurement; and
 - (2) associated production compression, gas lift, gas injection, or fuel gas supply.

- Is it true that interstate natural gas gathering (NGG) lines are required to be reported to the RRC?
 - Yes, that is true.
 - Per PHMSA, the RRC should regulate the portions of interstate NGG lines that are within the Texas border that do not have FERC certification. This applies to NGG lines and majority-gas production and flow lines in class 2, 3, and 4 locations that are reported as NGG. The portions that are within Texas need to be reported as intrastate in T-4 pipeline permitting and mapping.

- Why did we receive a delinquent Renewal notice when we already submitted in POPS?
 - POPS is programmed to automatically generate and distribute these notices whenever a permit has not been approved for Renewal by expiration, even if the fee payment and the original application were submitted prior to expiration.
 - IMPORTANT NOTE: If the Renewal fee payment has been submitted but the T-4 permit has a Status of “In Progress”, the Renewal application has not officially been submitted. Submitting the fee payment in the Texas.gov payment portal is not an official submission of the Renewal application in POPS. It is the operator’s responsibility to submit the Renewal application in POPS. It is noted in POPS before the operator is redirected to the Texas.gov payment portal for payment, and again in the Texas.gov payment portal before the operator is redirected to back to POPS to submit the Renewal application. Once the payment is submitted, the operator must click the Complete Filing button and finish submitting in POPS. It is also noted in our guidance documentation provided on the website (see page 45 of the POPS User Guide).

T-4 Team (1 of 3)



– Andy Martinec (Senior Permitting Specialist)

- 512-463-6994
- Andy.Martinec@rrc.texas.gov



– Esmeralda Estrada (Permitting Specialist)

- 512-475-0104
- Esmeralda.Estrada@rrc.texas.gov



– Ian Loyd (Permitting Specialist)

- 512-463-6992
- Ian.Loyd@rrc.texas.gov



T-4 Team (2 of 3)



– Colby Broadway (Senior Mapping Specialist)

- 512-524-6019
- Colby.Broadway@rrc.texas.gov



– Steven Foreman (Mapping Specialist)

- 512-463-7118
- Steven.Foreman@rrc.texas.gov



– Jenny Piran (Mapping Specialist)

- 512-463-7021
- Jenny.Piran@rrc.texas.gov



T-4 Team (3 of 3)



- **Miles Kirk (Manager)**
 - 512-463-6692
 - Miles.Kirk@rrc.texas.gov
- **Pipeline Permitting General Contact**
 - 512-463-6802
 - POPS@rrc.texas.gov
- **Pipeline Mapping General Contact**
 - 512-463-6802
 - TPMS@rrc.texas.gov



