



Railroad Commission of Texas
Pipeline Safety, Permitting & Damage Prevention Webinar
March 9, 2021

The meeting will begin shortly.





Texas Administrative Code Chapter 8

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March 2021



Items to Note



This presentation is available for download from the RRC website at <https://www.rrc.texas.gov/pipeline-safety/training/workshops-and-conferences/pipeline-safety-permitting-and-damage-prevention-webinar/>.

Agenda



- Chapter 8 rule changes effective January 2020
- New NTSB Recommendations
- Pipeline Safety News

Non-Substantive Clarifications



- Changed “natural gas” to “gas”
- “Pipeline Safety Division” to “Pipeline Safety Department”

§8.101-Integrity Management Plans



- Removed requirement to get director approval to use direct assessment
- Removed outdated language in § 8.101(e)

New Rule-Gathering Lines



- Rule § 8.110
- Class 1 and rural gathering lines
 - Safety Requirements
 - Reporting Requirements
 - Investigation Requirements

§8.115-New Construction Reports



- Gas gathering and Transmission and Hazardous Liquids
 - 30 days prior for 1 mile or more
 - 60 days prior 10 miles or greater
 - New facility requirements for breakout tanks
- Gas Distribution
 - Any new distribution system
 - Any relocation or replacement greater than 3 miles
- Amended PS-48

§8.125-Waiver Procedure



- Clarify an operator must request a waiver before engaging in activities covered by the waiver
- Clarify references to the Hearings Division

§8.206-Risk-Based Leak Survey Program



- Added an additional three-month buffer in which to comply with each deadline prescribed by the rule

Example:

- Once each calendar year at intervals not exceeding 15 months
- Every five calendar years at intervals not exceeding 63 months

§8.209-DIMP Rule



- House Bill 866 - 86th Legislative Session
 - Requires distribution operators annually replace **8%** of the pipeline segments or facilities posing the greatest risk (previously 5%)
 - Replace any known cast iron pipelines by December 31, 2021
- Other changes
 - Removed dates that have passed

§8.210-Reporting Requirements



- House Bill 864 - 86th Legislative Session
 - Requires telephonic report to be due at the earliest practical moment, but at the latest **one hour** following confirmed discovery
 - Requires the Commission retain pipeline incident records perpetually.
- Eliminates requirement for operators to submit written incident and annual reports but requires operators to retain them and provide upon request

§8.225-Plastic Pipe Requirements



- Removed all prior wording and reporting requirements (PS-81s)
- Added wording that operators shall retain all records relating to plastic pipe installation in accordance with 49 CFR Part 192 and provide such records to the Commission upon request.

§8.235 and §8.315 Public Awareness



- Removed requirement to file school proximity reports with Commission
- Instead requires operator to maintain records required under §8.235 and §8.315 and file with the Commission upon request

§8.240-Discontinuance of Service



- Accounts that are in a soft-close status shall have an automatic gas turn-off order executed if:
 - A. The meter registers 50 CCF (5 MCF) or more from the documented soft-close reading; or
 - B. after 90 days from the customer's notification to discontinue gas service.

§8.301-Reporting Requirements



- Clarified that the telephonic report for reportable accidents involving crude oil is due at the earliest practical moment, but at least **one hour** following confirmed discovery of a pipeline accident



- Proposed changes in Texas Register October 2019:
 - <https://www.sos.texas.gov/texreg/archive/October182019/Proposed%20Rules/16.ECONOMIC%20REGULATION.html#8>
- Adopted in Texas Register January 2020:
 - <https://www.sos.texas.gov/texreg/archive/January32020/Adopted%20Rules/16.ECONOMIC%20REGULATION.html#83>



New NTSB Recommendation



- Incident Date: August 10, 2016
- NTSB Recommendations
 1. Require that all new service regulators be installed outside occupied structures. (P-19-001)
 2. Require existing interior service regulators be relocated outside occupied structures whenever the gas service line, meter, or regulator is replaced. In addition, multifamily structures should be prioritized over single-family dwellings. (P-19-002)



1. 192.355(b) requiring service regulator vents terminate outdoors;
 1. Be rain and insect resistant;
 2. Be located where gas can escape freely into the atmosphere
 3. Be protected from damage caused by submergence in areas where flooding may occur.
2. 192.357(d) requiring regulators vent to outside atmosphere



- 192.353 requiring service regulators be located in readily accessible location, and if installed in a building be located as near as practical to the service line entrance to the building.
- 192.481 requires operators to inspect meters and regulators for atmospheric corrosion at least once every 3 years, at intervals not to exceed 39 months.



- 192.723 requiring operator's leakage surveys include service regulators located inside a building



Pipeline Safety News

Reminder!



- Operators required to have and follow procedures to analyze accidents and failures to determine cause and prevent recurrence:
 - 49 CFR § 192.617
 - 49 CFR § 195.402(c)(5)-(6)

New Opportunity- VADR Assessment



- Transportation Security Administration (TSA)
- Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)
- Validated Architecture Design Review (VADR) assessments.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

- Analyze systems based on industry standards, guidelines, and best practices
- Ensure effective defense-in-depth strategies
- Provide findings and practical mitigations for improving operational maturity and enhancing cybersecurity posture
- Reduce risk to the Nation's pipeline infrastructure components

ASSESSMENT CAPABILITIES

- **System architecture analysis:** provides Industrial Control System (ICS) asset owners with a comprehensive cybersecurity evaluation focusing on defensive strategies associated with their specific control systems network.
- **Network data traffic analysis:** provides a sophisticated analysis of the asset owner's network traffic to identify anomalous and potentially suspicious communications sourced from, or destined for, control systems assets.
- **Network device configuration analysis:** examination of running configurations of select network devices to confirm they are in accordance with security policy or industry standards.

Contact Information



- TSA Surface Operations Pipeline Section
 - PipelineSecurity@tsa.dhs.gov
- For questions about VADRs
 - CISA website: [https://us-cert.cisa.gov/resources/ncats#Validated%20Architecture%20Design%20Review%20\(VADR\)](https://us-cert.cisa.gov/resources/ncats#Validated%20Architecture%20Design%20Review%20(VADR))
 - or email Vulnerability@cisa.dhs.gov



Questions



Evaluation

- Please complete the evaluation available on the RRC website at <https://www.rrc.texas.gov/pipeline-safety/training/workshops-and-conferences/pipeline-safety-permitting-and-damage-prevention-webinar/>.

Archive Video

- A link to the archive video of the webcast will be available on the same webpage.