

FLOWLINE REGULATIONS

1101. INSTALLATION AND RECLAMATION

a. **Material.**

(1) Materials for pipe and components shall be:

A. Able to maintain the structural integrity of the flowline under temperature, pressure, and other conditions that may be anticipated;

B. Compatible with the substances to be transported.

C. Locatable by a tracer line or location device placed adjacent to or in the trench of all buried nonmetallic flowlines to facilitate the location of such flowlines.

b. **Design.** Each component of a flowline shall be designed and installed to prevent failure from corrosion and to withstand anticipated operating pressures and other loadings without impairment of its serviceability. The pipe shall have sufficient wall thickness or be installed with adequate protection to withstand anticipated external pressures and loads that will be imposed on the pipe after installation.

c. **Cover.**

(1) All installed flowlines shall have cover sufficient to protect them from damage. On crop land, all flowlines shall have a minimum cover of three (3) feet.

(2) Where an underground structure, geologic, economic or other uncontrollable condition prevents flowlines from being installed with minimum cover, or when there is a written agreement between the surface owner and the operator, the line may be installed with less than minimum cover or above ground.

d. **Excavation, backfill and reclamation.**

(1) When flowlines cross crop lands, unless waived by the surface owner, the operator shall segregate topsoil while trenching, and trenches shall be backfilled so that the soils shall be returned to their original relative positions and contour. This requirement to segregate and backfill topsoil shall not apply to trenches which are twelve (12) inches or less in width. Reasonable efforts shall be made to run flowlines parallel to crop irrigation rows on flood irrigated land.

(2) On crop lands and non-crop lands, flowline trenches shall be maintained in order to correct subsidence and reasonably minimize erosion. Interim and final reclamation, including revegetation, shall be performed in accordance with the applicable 1000 Series rules.

e. **Pressure testing of flowlines.**

(1) Before operating a segment of flowline it shall be tested to maximum anticipated operating pressure. In conducting tests, each operator shall ensure that reasonable precautions are taken to protect its employees and the general public. The testing may be conducted using well head pressure sources and well bore fluids, including natural gas. Such pressure tests shall be repeated once each calendar year to maximum anticipated operating pressure, and operators shall maintain records of such testing for Commission inspection for at least three (3) years.

(2) Flowline segments operating at less than fifteen (15) psig are excepted from pressure testing requirements.

1102. OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE, AND REPAIR

a. **Maintenance.**

(1) Each operator shall take reasonable precautions to prevent failures, leakage and corrosion of FLOWLINES.

(2) Whenever an operator discovers any condition that could adversely affect the safe and proper operation of its flowline, it shall correct it within a reasonable time. However, if the condition is of such a nature that it

presents an immediate hazard to persons or property, the operator shall not operate the affected part of the system until it has corrected the unsafe condition.

b. **Repair.**

(1) Each operator shall, in repairing its flowlines, ensure that the repairs are made in a safe manner and are made so as to prevent injury to persons and damage to property.

(2) No operator shall use any pipe, valve, or fitting in repairing flowline facilities unless the components meet the installation requirements of this section.

c. **Marking.**

(1) In designated high density areas, and where crossing public rights-of-way or utility easement, a marker shall be installed and maintained to identify the location of flowlines.

(2) The following shall be written legibly on a background of sharply contrasting color on each line marker:

"Warning", "Caution" or "Danger" followed by the words "gas (or name of natural gas or petroleum transported) pipeline" in letters at least one (1) inch high with one-quarter (¼) inch stroke and the name of the operator and the telephone number where the operator can be reached at all times.

d. **One Call participation.** As to flowlines and any other pipelines over which the Commission has jurisdiction, each operator shall participate in Colorado's One Call notification system, the requirements of which are established by §9-1.5-101., C.R.S. et seq.

1103. ABANDONMENT

Each flowline abandoned in place shall be disconnected from all sources and supplies of natural gas and petroleum, purged of liquid hydrocarbons, depleted to atmospheric pressure, and cut off three (3) feet below ground surface, or the depth of the flowline, whichever is less and sealed at the ends. This requirement shall also apply to compressor or gas plant feeder pipelines upon decommissioning or closure of a portion or all of a compressor station or gas plant. Notice of such abandonment shall be filed with the Commission and with the local governmental designee or local government jurisdiction.