



Operations and Maintenance Procedures

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O&M Section # 13	SCUD Task # 160
Section: Construction/Operations	Revision Date: 09/06/16

Leak Test at Operating Pressure (Final Tie-in)

SCOPE AND PURPOSE

This procedure is to ensure adequate leak testing at operating pressure and to ensure discovery of all potentially hazardous leaks in the segment being tested as required under §192.503. Other related code sections include §§192.511, 192.513, & 192.725.

RESPONSIBILITY

The Main Line Supervisor, Service Line Supervisor, Maintenance Supervisor, or other designee, is responsible to ensure that pressure testing is performed as described in this procedure.

PERSONNEL SAFETY (Where Applicable)

Every reasonable precaution shall be taken to protect employees and the general public.

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

Leak Detection Equipment (Soap solution, CGI, etc)
Other Equipment as Needed

OPERATOR QUALIFICATION

This activity is a covered task under the Operator Qualification Plan and may only be performed by or directed and observed by an individual who is currently qualified to perform leak testing at operating pressure. Refer to the OQ Plan for specific qualification requirements.

INSTRUCTIONS

Pressure Testing Steps

1. Typically, the final joint/fitting that is used to tie in a segment of pipeline is not subjected to a pressure test. Therefore, each joint that is used to tie in a segment of pipeline shall be leak tested at not less than its operating pressure.
2. Once the operating pressure has been introduced to the pipeline segment and the pressure has stabilized, leak test the final joint/fitting using either:
 - a. A soap solution – The soap solution is typically brushed or sprayed on the joint/fitting; visually inspect the joint/fitting to check for signs of leakage (bubbling of the soap solution on the joint/fitting indicates leakage).
 - b. CGI or other gas detector capable of detecting leakage – Using the instrument, obtain samples of the air around the joint/fitting to check for signs of leakage (a reading on the instrument indicates leakage).
3. Repair any leaks discovered in accordance with company policy.

REPORTING/NOTIFICATION

Complete documentation in accordance with Operation and Maintenance Manual.

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ABNORMAL OPERATING CONDITIONS

AOC Main Category (Examples of Specific AOCs)	Reactions to AOC, as appropriate	
<p><i>Unplanned escape of product from a pipeline</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blowing/Escaping gas/Grade I leak 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Protect life & Property ➤ Prevent accidental ignition ➤ Notify appropriate personnel ➤ Notify Fire/Emergency Responders ➤ Initiate Emergency Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Locate source/cause of AOC ➤ Use appropriate PPE ➤ Stop gas flow ➤ Make repairs/eliminate AOC
<p><i>Fire or Explosion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire on a pipeline • Explosion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Protect life & Property ➤ Prevent accidental ignition ➤ Notify appropriate personnel ➤ Notify Fire/Emergency Responders ➤ Initiate Emergency Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Locate source/cause of AOC ➤ Use appropriate PPE ➤ Stop gas flow ➤ Make repairs/eliminate AOC
<p><i>Unplanned Status Change</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inoperable/Failure of a Pipeline Component • Stray Current on a Pipeline – Electric Shock 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Protect life & property ➤ Notify appropriate personnel ➤ Initiate Emergency Plan as Needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Locate source/cause of AOC ➤ Make repairs/eliminate AOC
<p><i>Inadequate Odorization or Reports of Gas Odor</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low odorization • Over odorization • Odor complaint 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Protect life & property ➤ Prevent accidental ignition ➤ Notify appropriate personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Locate source/cause of AOC ➤ Make repairs/eliminate AOC

RELATED PROCEDURES

CONST005 – Pressure Testing of Facilities