

**Chapter 480-93 WAC
GAS COMPANIES—SAFETY**

[DRAFT]

WAC

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**DISPOSITION OF SECTIONS FORMERLY
CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER**

480-93-001	Definitions. [Order R-28, § 480-93-001, filed 7/15/71.] Repealed by Order R-98, filed 5/18/77. Later promulgation, see WAC 480-93-005.
480-93-050	Pipelines and mains under or along highways and railroads. [Order R-5, § 480-93-050, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.] Repealed by Order R-28, filed 7/15/71.
480-93-060	Minimum cover and clearances. [Order R-5, § 480-93-060, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.] Repealed by Order R-28, filed 7/15/71.
480-93-070	Welding inspection. [Order R-5, § 480-93-070, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.] Repealed by Order R-28, filed 7/15/71.
480-93-090	Bends. [Order R-5, § 480-93-090, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.] Repealed by Order R-28, filed 7/15/71.

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule and incorporating the contents in WAC 480-93-007.

~~WAC 480-93-002 Application of rules.~~

~~These rules shall apply to every gas company, as that term is defined by WAC 480-93-005, and shall apply to the construction, operation, maintenance, and safety of gas facilities used in the gathering, storage, distribution, and transmission of gas in this state, except those gas facilities exclusively under federal jurisdiction for compliance with pipeline safety regulations.~~

WAC 480-93-005 Definitions.

~~**WAC 480-93-005 Definitions.** (1) **Bar hole**—a hole that has been made in the soil or paving for the specific purpose of testing the subsurface atmosphere with a combustible gas indicator.~~

~~—(2) **Building**—any structure which is normally or occasionally entered by humans for business, residential, or other purposes and within which gas could accumulate.~~

~~—(3) **Combustible gas indicator (CGI)**—a device capable of detecting and measuring gas concentrations of the gas being transported.~~

~~—(4) **Confined space**—any subsurface structure of sufficient size which could accommodate a person and within which gas could accumulate, e.g., vaults, catch basins, manholes, etc.~~

~~—(5) **Follow-up inspection**—an inspection performed after a repair has been completed in order to determine the effectiveness of the repair.~~

~~—(6) **Gas**—natural gas, flammable gas, or gas which is toxic or corrosive.~~

~~—(7) **Gas associated substructures**—those devices or facilities utilized by a gas company which are not intended for storing, transporting, or distributing gas, such as valve boxes, vaults, test boxes, and vented casing pipe.~~

~~—(8) **Gas company**—the term "gas company" shall mean:~~

~~—(a) Every gas company otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of the commission under Title 80 RCW as to rates and service; and~~

~~—(b) Every person, corporation, city, or town which owns or operates a pipeline transporting gas in this state, even though such person, corporation, city, or town is not a public service company under chapter 80.28 RCW, and even though such person, corporation, city, or town does not deliver, sell, or furnish gas to any person or corporation within this state.~~

~~—(9) **Gathering line**—a gas pipeline which transports gas from the outlet of a well and any associated compressor to the connection with a second gathering line or with a transmission line.~~

~~—(10) **Indication**—a response indicated by a gas detection instrument that has not been verified as a reading.~~

~~—(11) **L.E.L.**—the lower explosive limit of the gas being transported.~~

~~—(12) **Main**—a gas pipeline, not a gathering or transmission line:~~

~~—(a) Which serves as a common source of gas for more than one service line;~~

~~—(b) Which crosses a public right of way; or~~

~~—(c) Which crosses property not owned by the customer or the gas company.~~

~~—(13) **Master meter system**—a pipeline system for distributing gas to more than one building within, but not limited to, a definable area, such as a mobile home park, housing project, or apartment complex, where the operator purchases metered gas from an outside source for distribution to ultimate consumers other than the system operator's immediate family through a gas distribution pipeline system.~~

~~—(14) **Maximum operating pressure**—a maximum pressure selected by a gas company for operation of a pipeline or segment of a pipeline, which is equal to or less than the maximum allowable operating pressure derived pursuant to 49 CFR, Part 192 on the date specified in WAC 480-93-999.~~

~~—(15) **Prompt action**—shall consist of dispatching qualified personnel without undue delay for the purpose of evaluating and where necessary abating an existing or probable hazard.~~

~~—(16) **Reading**—a repeatable deviation on a combustible gas indicator or equivalent instrument expressed in percent L.E.L. or gas air ratio. Where the reading is in an unvented, confined space, consideration shall be given to the rate of dissipation when the space is ventilated and the rate of accumulation when the space is resealed.~~

~~—(17) **Service line**—a gas pipeline, not a main, gathering or transmission line, which provides service to one building. Service lines shall include gas pipelines extended from a main to provide service to one building, which traverse a public right of way or an easement immediately adjacent to a public right of way or another easement.~~

~~—(18) **Transmission line**—a gas pipeline which connects to an existing transmission line without pressure regulation to lower the pressure; which is downstream of the connection of two or more gathering lines; and as defined in 49 CFR, Part 192, section 192.3 on the date specified in WAC 480-93-999.~~

~~—(19) **Tunnel**—a subsurface passageway large enough for a person to enter and within which gas could accumulate.~~

~~_____ (20) Other terms which correspond to those used in 49 CFR, Parts 191, 192 and 199 (Minimum Federal Safety Standards for Gas Pipelines) shall be construed as used therein on the date specified in WAC 480-93-999.~~

- (1) **“Active corrosion”** means continuing corrosion, which, unless controlled, could result in leakage.
- (2) **“Bar hole”** means a hole made in the soil or paving for the specific purpose of testing the subsurface atmosphere with a combustible gas indicator.
- (3) **“Building”** means any structure that is normally or occasionally entered by humans for business, residential, or other purposes and within which gas could accumulate.
- (4) **“Business district”** means an area where the public congregate for economic, industrial, religious, educational, health, or recreational purposes, and two or more buildings used for these purposes are located within 100 yards of each other.
- (5) **“Combustible gas indicator” (CGI)** means a device capable of detecting and measuring gas concentrations in air.
- (6) **“Commission”** means the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.
- (7) **“Confined space”** means any space having a limited means of egress, which is subject to the accumulation of toxic or flammable contaminants or has an oxygen deficient atmosphere. Confined spaces include, but are not limited to, storage tanks, process vessels, bins, boilers, ventilation or exhaust ducts, sewers, underground utility vaults, tunnels, pipelines, and open top spaces more than 4 feet in depth such as pits, tubs, vaults, and vessels.
- (8) **“Covered Task”** means an activity identified by the operator, that:
 - (a) Is performed on a pipeline facility;
 - (b) Is an operations, maintenance, or new construction activity;
 - (c) Is performed as a requirement of 49 CFR Part 192 and Chapter 480-93 WAC; and

- (d) Affects the operation or integrity of the pipeline.
- (9) **“Follow-up inspection”** means an inspection performed after a repair has been completed in order to determine the effectiveness of the repair.
- (10) **“Gas”** means natural gas, flammable gas, or gas that is toxic or corrosive.
- (11) **“Gas associated substructures”** means those devices or facilities utilized by an operator which are not intended for storing, transporting, or distributing gas, such as valve boxes, vaults, test boxes, and vented casing pipe.
- (12) **“Gas company”** means, as defined in RCW 80.04.010, every corporation, company, association, joint stock association, partnership and person, their lessees, trustees or receiver appointed by any court whatsoever, and every city or town, owning, controlling, operating or managing any gas plant within this state.
- (13) **“Gathering line”** means a gas pipeline that transports gas from the outlet of a production well and terminates at:
 - (a) The outlet of a processing plant that extracts heavy ends from the natural gas; or
 - (b) If there is no processing plant, the outlet of a pipeline compressor (not including a wellhead compressor); or
 - (c) If there is no processing plant or pipeline compressor, the point where two or more well pipelines converge; or
 - (d) If none of the above applies, the point where there is a change in ownership of the pipeline.
- (14) **“Indication”** means a response indicated by a gas detection instrument that has not been verified as a reading.
- (15) **“L.E.L.”** means the lower explosive limit of the gas being transported.
- (16) **“Main”** means a gas pipeline, not a gathering or transmission line:
 - (a) Which serves as a common source of gas for more than one service line; or
 - (b) Which crosses property not owned by the customer or the gas company.

- (17) **“Master meter system” Master meter system** - a pipeline system for distributing gas to more than one building within, but not limited to, a definable area, such as a mobile home park, housing project, or apartment complex, where the operator purchases metered gas from an outside source for distribution to ultimate consumers other than the system operator's immediate family through a gas distribution pipeline system.
- (18) **“Operator”**
- (a) For purposes of Chapter 480-93 WAC, the term “operator” means
- (i) every natural gas distribution company that has tariffs on file with the commission;
 - (ii) every city or town that owns, controls, operates, or manages any gas plant in this state; and
 - (iii) every other person or corporation transporting natural gas by pipeline, or having for one or more of its principal purposes the construction, maintenance, or operation of pipelines for transporting natural gas in this state; even though such person or corporation does not deliver, sell, or furnish any such gas to any person or corporation within this state. The terms “person” and “corporation” are defined in RCW 80.04.010. “Transporting natural gas by pipeline” means transmission or distribution of natural gas through a pipe.
- (b) A single entity may qualify as an operator under one or more of the provisions of this subsection.
- (c) The term “operator” includes operators of master meter systems, as that term is defined in WAC 480-93-005.
- (19) **“Place or buildings of public assembly”** means an area where the pipeline lies within 100 yards (91 meters) of either a building, outside area (such as a playground, recreation area, outdoor theater, or other place of public assembly) that is occupied by 20 or more persons on at least five days a week for 10 weeks in any 12 month period. (The days and weeks need not be consecutive.)

- (20) **“Prompt action”** means to consistently dispatch qualified personnel without undue delay for the purpose of evaluating and, where necessary, abating an existing or probable hazard.
- (21) **“PSIG”** means pounds per square inch gauge.
- (22) **“Public Service Company”** is defined in RCW 80.04.010.
- (23) **“Reading”** means a repeatable representation on a combustible gas indicator or equivalent instrument expressed in percent L.E.L. or gas-air ratio.
- (24) **“Service line”** means a gas pipeline, not a main, gathering, or transmission line, which provides service to one building. Service lines shall include gas pipelines extended from a main to provide service to one building, which traverse a public right of way or an easement immediately adjacent to a public right of way or another easement.
- (25) **“Sniff Test”** means a qualitative test utilizing both “threshold” and “readily detectable” methods for determining proper concentrations of odorant.
- (26) **“Transmission line”** means a gas pipeline as defined in 49 CFR, Part 192, Section 192.3 on the date specified in WAC 480-93-999.
- (27) **“Weak Link”** means a device or method used when pulling polyethylene pipe to ensure that damage will not occur to the pipeline by exceeding the maximum tensile stresses allowed.
- (28) Other terms that correspond to those used in 49 CFR, Parts 191, 192 and 199 (Minimum Federal Safety Standards for Gas Pipelines) shall be construed as used therein on the date specified in WAC 480-93-999.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.310. 01-20-061 (Docket No. A-010827, General Order No. R-491), § 480-93-005, filed 9/28/01, effective 10/29/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.28.210. 95-13-082 (Order R-427, Docket No. UG-950061), § 480-93-005, filed 6/20/95, effective 7/21/95. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-005, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-100, § 480-93-005, filed 5/18/77. Formerly WAC 480-93-001.]

WAC 480-93-007 Application of rules.

- (1) This chapter applies to the following activities of operators: the construction, operation, maintenance, and safety of gas facilities used in the gathering, storage, distribution, and transmission of gas in this state.
- (2) This chapter does not apply to customer-owned facilities, where the customer is the end user, and the customer-owned facilities are on the customer's side of the distribution meter. Customer-owned transmission facilities are subject to the rules in this chapter.
- (3) This chapter does not apply to those operators of gas facilities exclusively under federal jurisdiction for compliance with pipeline safety regulations.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-002, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-99, § 480-93-002, filed 5/18/77.]

WAC 480-93-008 Additional requirements.

- (1) These rules do not relieve any operator from any of its duties and obligations under the laws of the state of Washington.
- (2) The commission retains the authority to impose additional or different requirements on any operator in appropriate circumstances, consistent with the requirements of law.

WAC 480-93-009 Severability.

If any provision of this chapter or its application to any entity or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule and incorporating the contents in WAC 480-93-999.

WAC 480-93-010 Compliance with federal standards.

~~Gas companies' gathering, storage, distribution, and transmission facilities must be designed, constructed, maintained, and operated in compliance with the provisions of~~

~~Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 191, 192, 193 and 199 in effect on the date specified in WAC 480-93-999. The provisions of this chapter shall govern to the extent that the standards in the state regulations are compatible with the federal standards.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.310. 01-20-061 (Docket No. A-010827, General Order No. R-491), § 480-93-010, filed 9/28/01, effective 10/29/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.310, 34.05.356, 80.01.040, 80.04.160 and 80.04.160 [81.04.160]. 99-20-013 (Order R-465, Docket No. A-980247), § 480-93-010, filed 9/24/99, effective 10/25/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 99-02-037 (Order 457, Docket No. UG-980962), § 480-93-010, filed 12/30/98, effective 1/30/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.28.210. 96-13-022 (Order R-437, Docket No. UG-951453), § 480-93-010, filed 6/10/96, effective 7/11/96; 95-13-082 (Order R-427, Docket No. UG-950061), § 480-93-010, filed 6/20/95, effective 7/21/95. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 93-18-097 (Order R-396, Docket No. UG-930243), § 480-93-010, filed 9/1/93, effective 10/2/93; 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-010, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-010, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-010, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]~~

WAC 480-93-015 Odorization of gas.

~~All gas being transported by pipeline in this state, and all gas consumed by an end use customer, shall be odorized in accordance with 49 CFR, Part 192.625 in effect on the date specified in WAC 480-93-999 unless waiver is approved in advance of such transportation, in writing, by the commission.~~

- (1) All gas that is transported by pipeline must be odorized so that, at a concentration in air of one-fifth of the lower explosive limit, the gas is readily detectable by a person with a normal sense of smell.
- (2) Operators must use odorant testing instrumentation when conducting sniff tests. Sniff tests must be performed at least monthly.
- (3) Operators must calibrate instruments used to conduct sniff tests in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. When there is no manufacturer's recommendation, operators must calibrate instruments used to conduct sniff tests at least once each calendar year.
- (4) Operators must keep all records of odorant usage, sniff tests performed, and equipment calibration for five years.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.310. 01-20-061 (Docket No. A-010827, General Order No. R-491), § 480-93-015, filed 9/28/01, effective 10/29/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-015, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92.]

480-93-017 Filing requirements for design, specification, and construction procedures.

~~The design, specification, and construction procedures for all gas facilities in this state must be on file with the commission. All proposed construction plans which do not conform with a gas company's existing and accepted design, specification, and construction procedures on file with the commission, must be submitted to the commission at least thirty days prior to the initiation of construction activity. Written commission acceptance or rejection of the design, specification, and construction procedures to be utilized will be made within thirty days of receipt.~~

- (1) Any operator operating a gas pipeline facility in this state must file with the commission all applicable design, specification, and construction procedures used for each pipeline facility prior to operating the pipeline. All procedures must detail the acceptable types of materials, fittings, and components for the different types of facilities in the operator's system.
- (2) With the exception of emergency situations, any construction plans that do not conform with a gas company's existing and accepted design, specification, and construction procedures on file with the commission, must be submitted to the commission for review at least forty-five days prior to the initiation of construction activity.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-017, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92.]

WAC 480-93-018 Maps, drawings, and records of gas facilities.

~~All gas companies shall prepare, maintain, and provide to the commission, upon request, copies of maps, drawings, and records of the company's gas facilities. The maps, drawings, and records shall be of such scale and detail as is necessary to show the size and type of material of all facilities, whether or not the facilities are cathodically protected, and the maximum operating pressure. The maps and drawings shall indicate all district regulator stations and gate stations and the approximate~~

~~location of all valves, identifying those valves classified as emergency valves in the company's emergency procedures. The gas company shall provide key sheets for ready reference as needed.~~

- (1) Each operator must prepare, maintain, and make available to the commission, all maps, drawings, and records of the operator's gas facilities. The maps, drawings, and records must show the size and type of material for all facilities, corrosion control system, and the maximum allowable operating pressures. The maps and drawings must indicate the location of all district regulator, gate stations, and emergency valves specified in the operator's emergency plan.
- (2) Each operator must make books, records, reports, and other information available to the commission upon request, so the commission can determine whether the operator is in compliance with state and federal regulations.
- (3) Operators must update records within six months of completion of construction activity and make them available to appropriate company operations personnel.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-018, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92.]

WAC 480-93-020 Proximity considerations.

~~Gas facilities having a maximum operating pressure greater than five hundred psig shall not be operated within five hundred feet of the places described below without prior written authorization of the commission, unless a waiver previously approved by the commission continues in effect:~~

- ~~(1) A building intended for human occupancy which is in existence or under construction prior to the date authorization for construction is filed with the commission, and which is not owned and used by the petitioning gas company in its gas operations;~~
- ~~(2) Property which has been zoned as residential or commercial prior to the date authorization for construction is filed with the commission;~~
- ~~(3) A well defined outside area, such as a playground, recreation area, outdoor theater, or other place of public assembly, which is occupied by twenty or more people, sixty days in any twelve month period which is in existence or under construction prior to the date authorization for construction is filed with the commission; and~~
- ~~(4) A public highway, as defined in RCW 81.80.010(3).~~

~~In requesting prior written authorization of the commission, the petitioning gas company shall certify that it is not practical to select an alternative route which will avoid such locations and further certify that management has given due consideration to the possibility of the future development of the area and has designed its facilities accordingly. The petition shall include, upon request of the commission, an aerial photograph showing the exact location of the pipeline in reference to places listed above that are within five hundred feet of the pipeline right of way.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-020, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-020, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-020, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]~~

- (1) Each operator must submit a written request and receive commission approval prior to operating any gas pipeline facility that has the following characteristics:
 - (a) Greater than five hundred pounds per square inch gauge (psig) that is operated within 500 feet of the places described below:
 - (i) A building intended for human occupancy that is in existence or under construction prior to the date authorization for construction is filed with the commission, and that is not owned and used by the petitioning operator in its gas operations;
 - (ii) A place of public assembly in existence or under construction prior to the date authorization for construction is filed with the commission; or
 - (iii) A public highway, as defined in RCW 81.80.010(3).
 - (b) Greater than 250 psig, up to and including 500 psig, that is operated within 100 feet of the places described below:
 - (i) A building intended for human occupancy that is in existence or under construction prior to the date authorization for construction is filed with the commission, and that is not owned and used by the petitioning operator in its gas operations; or

- (ii) A place of public assembly in existence or under construction prior to the date authorization for construction is filed with the commission.
- (3) Operators must provide documentation proving that it is not practical to select an alternative route that will avoid such locations as described in subsections (a) and (b) above and further provide documents that demonstrate the operator has considered the possibility of the future development of the area and has designed their pipeline facilities accordingly.
- (4) Operators must provide maps and records to the commission showing the exact location of the pipeline and the shortest direct distance to the places listed above in subsections (a) and (b). Upon request of the commission, the operator must provide with its request the maintenance, construction, and operational history of the pipeline system and an aerial photograph showing the exact location of the pipeline in reference to places listed above in subsections (a) and (b).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-020, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-020, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-020, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule and incorporating the contents into WAC 480-93-020.

~~WAC 480-93-030 Proscribed areas.~~

~~Gas facilities having a maximum operating pressure between two hundred fifty one psig and four hundred ninety nine psig shall not be operated within 100 feet of the places described below without prior written authorization of the commission, unless a waiver previously approved by the commission continues in effect:~~

- ~~(1) A building intended for human occupancy which is in existence or under construction prior to the date authorization for construction is filed with the commission, and which is not owned and used by the petitioning gas company in its gas operations; and~~
- ~~(2) A well defined outside area, such as a playground, recreation area, outdoor theater, or other place of public assembly which is occupied by twenty or more people, sixty days in any twelve month period, which is in existence or under construction prior to the date authorization for construction is filed with the commission.~~

~~The petition shall include, upon request of the commission, an aerial photograph showing the exact location of the pipeline in reference to the places listed above that are within one hundred feet of the pipeline right of way.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-030, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-030, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-030, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]~~

WAC 480-93-040 Location of gas compressor stations on gas pipelines.

~~No compressor station to be located on any gas pipeline shall be constructed in any zoned area without prior approval of the appropriate zoning authority and acquisition of required permits. In other areas the distance between any compressor station designed to operate at pressures in excess of 250 psig and any existing building intended for human occupancy and not under the control of the gas company shall not be less than 500 feet, except for compressor stations having an installed capacity of less than 1,000 horsepower, in which case such distance shall not be less than 250 feet.~~

- ~~(1) Compressor stations that are designed to operate at pressures in excess of 250 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) must be located at least 500 feet away from any existing buildings intended for human occupancy that are not under the control of the operator.~~
- ~~(2) Gas compressor stations having an installed capacity of less than 1,000 horsepower must be located at least 250 feet away from any existing buildings intended for human occupancy that are not under the control of the operator.~~

~~[Order R-28, § 480-93-040, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-040, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]~~

WAC 480-93-080 Welder and joiner identification and qualification certificates.

~~Welders will carry appropriate identification and qualification certificates showing name of welder, his welding qualifications, and date of last qualification test, the results thereof, and the company whose procedures were followed for the qualification. Welders certificates will be subject to commission inspection at all times when welder is working on construction projects which are subject to the commission's authority.~~

- ~~(1) All welding procedures and welders must be qualified to API Standard 1104 (18th edition) or section IX of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (1995~~

edition). Oxyacetylene welders may qualify under 49 CFR Part 192 Appendix C, and may only perform fillet and butt welds on nominal two-inch or smaller diameter pipe. Appendix C welders must be re-qualified every six months not to exceed seven and one half months but at least twice each calendar year.

- (a) An operator must use testing equipment necessary to measure the essential variables during welder and procedure qualification, or welder re-qualification. All essential variables must be recorded as performed during welder and procedure testing.
 - (b) Written qualified welding procedures must be on site where welding is being performed.
- (2) Written qualified joining procedures must be on site where joining is being performed by means other than welding.
- (a) Personnel qualified to join gas pipeline facilities, by means other than welding, must be re-qualified each calendar year, not to exceed 15 months between qualifications.
- (3) The operator must record and retain the qualification and requalification test results for each joiner and welder for a period of 5 years.
- (4) Welders and joiners must carry appropriate identification and qualification cards showing the name of the welder or joiner, their qualifications, the date of qualification and the operator whose procedures were followed for the qualification. Welders' and joiners' qualification cards will be subject to commission inspection at all times when qualified personnel are working on facilities subject to commission jurisdiction.

[Order R-28, § 480-93-080, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-080, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule. This issue is covered in the Federal rules for Operator Qualifications.

~~WAC 480-93-082 Qualification of employees.~~

~~Every gas company that operates a gas facility in this state shall have one or more employees working in this state that are collectively knowledgeable and qualified in all aspects of gas company construction, operation, maintenance, and state and federal gas safety rules and regulations. Every gas company shall prepare, maintain, and provide to the commission, upon request, evidence of the qualifications of employees to perform all duties assigned in the operation, maintenance, inspection, and construction of gas facilities. This evidence of an employee's qualifications shall specify the type of all training received, when and where such training was received, and the length of time the employee has performed the specific duties assigned. On the job training, under the supervision of personnel qualified by training and experience, in a company-certified, company-sponsored training program, may satisfy the requirements of this section.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-082, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92.]~~

WAC 480-93-100 Automatic Valves.

~~Automatic valves shall not be installed on any gas pipeline except where the particular circumstances are such as to show that such valves will contribute to safer operation.~~

All underground main or transmission line valves not covered under CFR 192.745 or CFR 192.747 and valves installed on service lines to buildings or places of public assembly, or commercial buildings within business districts, must be accessible and maintained in proper working order.

[Order R28, § 480-93-100, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-100, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

WAC 480-93-110 Corrosion control.

~~Every gas company must ensure that all of its metallic gas pipelines, except cast iron and ductile iron, are protected by a recognized method or combination of methods of cathodic protection. Every gas company shall record and retain all cathodic protection test readings taken and complete remedial action within ninety days to correct any cathodic protection deficiencies known and indicated by the company's records.~~

~~Whenever a gas company finds from investigation as required by 49 CFR, Part 192 in effect on the date specified in WAC 480-93-999, that cathodic protection of gas pipelines is not needed, the company shall submit to the commission a report setting forth good and sufficient reasons why such protection is not required. The report shall include the results of soil tests and other supporting data.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.310. 01-20-061 (Docket No. A-010827, General Order No. R-491), § 480-93-110, filed 9/28/01, effective 10/29/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-110, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-110, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-110, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

- (1) Operators must ensure that all of its metallic gas pipelines, except cast iron and ductile iron, are protected by a recognized method or combination of methods of cathodic protection.
- (2) Operators must record and retain all cathodic protection test readings taken as required by CFR 49 Part 192.491 (c).
- (3) Operators must complete remedial action within 90 days to correct any cathodic protection deficiencies known and indicated by the operator's records.
- (4) Operators must have written procedures for the proper use, maintenance, and calibration of cathodic protection equipment and instrumentation and, at a minimum, must follow the manufacturer's recommended practices.
- (5) Operators must have written procedures that detail how cathodic protection measurements will be conducted.
- (6) Operators must conduct tests for electrical isolation between metallic pipeline casings and metallic pipelines annually not to exceed 15 months, but at least once each calendar year. This requirement does not apply to unprotected copper inserted in ferrous pipe.
 - (a) For each casing that does not have test leads installed, other testing methods may be acceptable if the operator can demonstrate that test lead wires are not necessary to monitor for electrical isolation and adequate cathodic protection levels.
 - (b) Whenever tests indicate that a shorted condition exists between metallic pipelines and metallic casings, the operator must evaluate the condition

within 90 days to determine whether a potentially corrosive condition exists. The operator must keep records of this evaluation for the duration the facility is in service.

- (c) The shorted condition must be cleared if practical.
 - (d) Where it is not practical to clear the shorted condition, operators must use other industry recognized methods of inhibiting any potentially corrosive conditions found under the requirements of subsection (4) (b).
 - (e) Whenever a short exists between a pipeline and casing, leak surveys must be performed within 30 days of discovery and thereafter twice each calendar year, not to exceed seven and one half months, until the shorted condition is eliminated or any potential corrosive condition has been inhibited.
- (7) Operators that have metallic gas facilities that are not now, or have never been, under cathodic protection or are not under adequate cathodic protection must provide to the commission, upon request, drawings that show the location of such facilities, and a description of their size and material along with any associated leak history. The drawings and associated documentation must indicate the approximate date that cathodic protection will be applied or the facilities will be replaced. If the operator can prove, through electrical test data and other means, that the gas facilities are not in a corrosive environment, then neither cathodic protection nor replacement will be required. This requirement does not apply to cast iron or copper.
- (a) Whenever an operator finds active corrosion that results in leakage on a non-cathodically protected facility, the operator must conduct an electrical survey within 30 days to determine whether other areas of corrosion are present on the segment of pipeline. Where it is not possible to conduct an electrical survey due to pavement or other considerations or where other areas of corrosion are found, the operator must cathodically protect the segment of the pipeline within 90 days, or begin replacing the facility within six months.
 - (b) Short segment of the pipeline, less than 100 feet in length, that have been cathodically protected to meet the requirements of section (5) must be tested once each calendar year, not to exceed 15 months, to determine whether the facility has adequate levels of cathodic protection.

- (c) For purposes of section (5) “segment” of a pipeline means a pipeline constructed of similar material, of similar age, located in similar soil conditions, and that is electrically continuous.
- (6) Whenever an operator finds the presence of active corrosion on its pipeline facilities, the operator must investigate further to determine the extent of the corrosion. The operator must retain a record of this investigation for the life of the facility.
 - (a) The operator must record the condition of all underground metallic facilities each time the facilities are exposed.
 - (b) On all cathodically protected pipelines, the operator must take a cathodic protection test reading each time an employee or representative of the operator exposes the facility and the protective coating is removed.
- (7) Operators must keep records of all tests, evaluations, investigations, surveys, and other requirements of this section in sufficient detail to provide evidence of compliance.

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule and incorporating the contents into WAC 480-93-110.

~~WAC 480-93-111 Noncathodically protected gas facilities.~~

~~Every gas company that has metallic gas facilities which are not now, or have never been, under cathodic protection or are not under adequate cathodic protection, shall semiannually provide to the commission, upon request, drawings which show the location of such facilities, and a description of their size and material. The drawings and associated documentation will indicate the approximate date by which cathodic protection will be applied or the facilities will be replaced. If the gas company can prove, through electrical test data and other means, that the gas facilities are not in a corrosive environment, then neither cathodic protection nor replacement will be required.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-111, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92.]~~

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule and incorporating the contents into WAC 480-93-110.

~~WAC 480-93-112 Corrosive condition investigation.~~

~~Whenever a gas company finds the presence of active corrosion; that the surface of the gas facility is generally pitted; or that corrosion has caused a leak, the company shall investigate further to determine the extent of the corrosion. Within ninety days after the discovery of a corrosive situation, action shall be taken to correct any unsafe condition. The company shall record the condition of all underground gas facilities each time such facility is exposed and retain those records for the life of that facility.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-112, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92.]~~

~~WAC 480-93-115 Casing of pipelines.~~

~~Whenever a gas company is required by a governmental entity or railroad company to install pipeline casing, the casing shall be designed to withstand the superimposed load. Steel pipe shall only be encased in a bare steel casing. A separate test lead wire shall be attached to the casing and the steel gas pipeline to verify that no electric short exists between the two. Tests shall be performed annually on all encased gas pipelines. Whenever a short exists between a pipeline and its casing, the condition shall be evaluated within ninety days to determine whether a hazardous condition exists. Thereafter, leak tests shall be conducted on a ninety day schedule until the condition is corrected. Every gas company shall develop procedures to ensure that whenever plastic pipe is encased, suitable precautions shall be taken to prevent crushing or shearing of the plastic pipe where it exits the casing.~~

- ~~(1) Whenever an operator installs a steel pipeline in a casing, the casing must be bare steel.~~
- ~~(2) Operators must attach a separate test lead wire to the casing and the steel gas pipeline to verify that no electric short exists between the two.~~
- ~~(3) Whenever an operator installs a pipeline in a casing or conduit of any type material, the operator must seal the casing ends to prevent the migration of gas.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-115, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92.]~~

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule and incorporating the contents in WAC 480-93-124.

~~WAC 480-93-120 Exposed pipelines.~~

~~Proper warning signs shall be placed and other adequate protective measures taken at any point where gas pipelines and any associated equipment and facilities are exposed, and where their location presents an unusually hazardous situation. All gas pipelines attached to bridges or otherwise spanning an area shall have proper warning signs at both ends of the suspended pipeline. The gas company shall keep these signs visible and readable, and inspect all signs annually; signs which are reported damaged and missing shall be replaced promptly.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R375, Docket No. UG 911261), § 480-93-120, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-120, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-120, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]~~

WAC 480-93-124 Pipeline markers.

~~All buried gas pipelines shall have pipeline markers placed and maintained as close as practical over each main and transmission line as required by 49 CFR, Part 192.707. Offset pipeline markers may be used only if they indicate the distance from and direction to the pipeline. The pipeline markers shall be double faced or single faced signs. Single faced signs may be used on posts of distinctive color and shall meet the requirements of 49 CFR, Part 192.707(d). Pipeline markers shall be placed at all railroad crossings, road crossings, irrigation and drainage ditch crossings, and at all fence lines where a pipeline crosses private property. Pipeline markers required by 49 CFR, Part 192.707(a), shall be placed approximately five hundred yards apart if practical and at points of deflection of the pipeline. Exceptions to this rule must conform with 49 CFR, Part 192.707(b). Information about 49 CFR regarding the version currently in effect and where to obtain it is set out in WAC 480-93-999.~~

- (1) Operators must place pipeline markers at all railroad, road, irrigation, and drainage ditch crossings, and at all fence lines where a pipeline crosses private property, or where a pipeline is exposed. Operators must place pipeline markers approximately 500 yards apart if practical, and at points of horizontal deflection of the pipeline.

- (2) Where gas pipelines are attached to bridges or otherwise span an area, operators must place pipeline markers at both ends of the suspended pipeline. Each operator must conduct inspections once each calendar year, not to exceed 15 months of suspended pipelines, and maintain the markers to ensure that they are visible and legible.
- (3) Operators must place pipeline markers where practical, on all mains operating above 250 psig.
- (4) Operators must replace markers that are reported damaged and missing within 45 days.
- (5) Surveys of pipeline markers not associated with section (2) above must be conducted once every three calendar years, not to exceed 39 months between surveys. The survey records must be kept for a minimum of five years.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.310. 01-20-061 (Docket No. A-010827, General Order No. R-491), § 480-93-124, filed 9/28/01, effective 10/29/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-124, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92.]

WAC 480-93-130 Multistage pressure regulation.

~~Where gas pressures are reduced in two or more stages, the necessary regulations and auxiliary equipment will be installed in such a manner as to provide maximum protection between regulator systems. The purpose is to minimize the potential dangers from the failure of one stage of regulator equipment due to fire, explosion or damage of any kind from adversely affecting the operation of the other stage or stages of regulation. A minimum of fifty feet of separation will be provided between regulator systems when practical to do so.~~

Where gas pressures are reduced in two or more stages, an operator must install the necessary regulators and equipment in such a manner as to provide maximum protection between regulator stages. The purpose is to minimize the potential dangers from the failure of one stage of regulator equipment due to fire, explosion, or damage of any kind from adversely affecting the operation of the other stage or stages of regulation. A minimum of 50 feet of separation must be provided between regulator stages when feasible.

[Order R-28, § 480-93-130, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-130, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

WAC 480-93-140 ~~Meter-Service~~ regulators.

~~Gas companies that have customers with electronic ignition appliances shall have meter regulators with relief valves, monitors, or safety shut-off valves. Gas companies that have customers with standing pilots may use meter regulators that do not use relief valves, monitors, or safety shut-off valves, if responsible officers of the gas company certify to the commission that due consideration has been given to the possible existence of foreign matter in their distribution system and other factors that might interfere with the proper operation of service regulators and they believe that under such conditions relief valves, monitors, or safety shut-off valves are not required or appropriate for safe operation.~~

- (1) Operators must install, operate, and maintain service regulators in accordance with federal and state regulations, and in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended installation and maintenance practices.
- (2) Operators must inspect and test service regulators and associated safety devices installed on services each time the regulators and devices are turned on, to determine whether they are in proper operating condition. Testing must include determining the gas regulator's outlet set pressure at a specified flow rate. Operators must use pressure gauges downstream of the regulator during testing. Safety devices such as fracture discs are not required to be tested each time the device is turned on.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-140, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-140, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-140, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule.

WAC 480-93-150 ~~Station maintenance.~~

~~All gas piping or other gas equipment in regulator and other stations no longer essential to the company's operation shall be removed to minimize hazards.~~

~~[Order R-28, § 480-93-150, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-150, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]~~

WAC 480-93-155 Increasing maximum allowable operating pressure.

~~Notwithstanding the requirements of any other section of this chapter, the commission shall be furnished complete written plans and drawings of each pressure uprating to a maximum operating pressure greater than sixty psig, at least thirty days prior to raising the pressure. The plan shall include a review of the following:~~

- ~~(1) — All affected gas facilities, including pipe, fittings, valves, and other associated equipment, with their manufactured design operating pressure and specifications;~~
- ~~(2) — Original design and construction standards;~~
- ~~(3) — All previous operating pressures and length of time at that pressure;~~
- ~~(4) — All leaks, regardless of cause, and the date and method of repair;~~
- ~~(5) — All upstream and downstream regulators and relief valves; and~~
- ~~(6) — All cathodic protection readings on mains for the past three years or three most recent inspections, whichever is longer, and the most recent inspection on each attached service line, which is electrically isolated.~~

~~The plan shall conform with the requirements of 49 CFR, Part 192 in effect on the date specified in WAC 480-93-999.~~

- (1) Each operator must submit to the commission for review complete written plans and drawings at least 45 days before uprating to a maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) greater than sixty pounds per square inch gauge (psig). The plan must include a review of the following:
 - (a) All affected gas facilities, including pipe, fittings, valves, and other affected equipment, with their manufactured design operating pressure and specifications;
 - (b) Original design and construction standards;
 - (c) All previous operating pressures and length of time at that pressure;
 - (d) All leaks, regardless of cause, and the date and method of repair;
 - (e) If the pipeline is being uprated to a specified minimum yield strength of over 20 percent then the original welding standards and records must be provided.

- (f) All upstream and downstream regulators and relief valves;
 - (g) All cathodic protection readings on mains for the past three years or three most recent inspections, whichever is longer, and the most recent inspection on each attached service line, that is electrically isolated; and
 - (h) Records deemed necessary by commission staff to evaluate the pressure increase.
- (2) Uprates must be based on a previous pressure test that would substantiate the maximum allowable operating pressure. When there is no documented history of a pressure test, an operator must conduct a pressure test in conjunction with the uprate.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.310. 01-20-061 (Docket No. A-010827, General Order No. R-491), § 480-93-155, filed 9/28/01, effective 10/29/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-155, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92.]

WAC 480-93-160 Reports Reporting requirements of proposed construction.

- ~~(1) — At least 30 days prior to the construction or major reconstruction (or reconditioning) of any gas pipeline intended to be operated at 20% or more of the specified minimum yield strength of the pipe used, a report shall be filed with the commission setting forth the proposed route and the specifications for such pipeline. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the following items:~~
 - ~~(a) — Description and purpose of the proposed pipeline.~~
 - ~~(b) — Pipe specifications and route map showing type of construction to be used throughout the length of the line and delineation of class location and incorporated boundaries along the route. Where Type A or B construction is planned, aerial photographs or other suitable means of verifying the applicability of Type A or B construction shall be furnished to the commission.~~
 - ~~(c) — Maximum allowable operating pressure for which the pipeline is being constructed.~~
 - ~~(d) — Location and construction details of all river crossings or other unusual construction requirements encountered en route; i.e., places where pipe will be exposed or it is impractical to provide required cover, bridge crossings, lines to be laid parallel to railroads or state highways and~~

~~encroachments thereto, other areas requiring special or unusual design and construction considerations.~~

- ~~(e) — Proposed corrosion control program to be followed including specifications for coating and wrapping.~~
 - ~~(f) — Type of fluid and test pressures to be used when proof strength testing the line. Terrain profile sketches indicating maximum and minimum elevations for testing purposes, if appropriate. Water will be used when feasible as the test medium on all lines 6" or greater in diameter and when the test pressure is to exceed 250 psig. If water is not to be used, briefly explain and list test medium to be used.~~
 - ~~(g) — Welding specifications and welding inspection methods and procedures to be followed during construction of the pipeline. Location of inspection records during and after construction. Name(s) and address(es) (while at the construction site) of authorized chief company inspector(s) and scope of responsibility, if appropriate. The 30-day advanced notification of name(s) and address(es) of chief inspector(s) is waived for this requirement and telephonic communication of such information will be acceptable. This information will, however, be furnished to the commission prior to the start of construction and will be kept current until construction is completed.~~
 - ~~(h) — Bending procedures to be followed.~~
 - ~~(i) — Location and specification of principal valves, regulators and other auxiliary equipment to be installed as a part of the pipeline system to be constructed.~~
 - ~~(j) — Any features of design or construction which do not meet or exceed the safety requirements of these rules and regulations will be explained and justified. Further, it will be necessary to certify that the proposed deviation meets all known safety requirements and in the opinion of the certifying officer for the company, the deviation, if granted, would not contribute to the development of an unsafe operating condition in the system. All waivers to office of pipeline safety, department of transportation, rules and regulations require 60-day advanced notification before approval.~~
- ~~(2) — Every gas company shall on the fifteenth day of each month submit a report to the commission setting forth the progress of such construction or major reconstruction as of the end of the preceding month.~~
- (1) Every operator must file a proposed construction report at least 45 days prior to construction or replacement of any gas transmission pipeline. The report must

describe the proposed route and the specifications for the pipeline and must include, but is not limited to, the following items:

- (a) Description and purpose of the proposed pipeline;
- (b) Route map showing the type of construction to be used throughout the length of the line, and delineation of class location and incorporated boundaries along the route;
- (c) Location and specification of principal valves, regulators, and other auxiliary equipment to be installed as a part of the pipeline system to be constructed. The operator must submit aerial photographs upon request;
- (d) Maximum allowable operating pressure for which the pipeline is being constructed;
- (e) Location and construction details of all river crossings or other unusual construction requirements encountered en route, eg., places where pipe will be exposed or it is impractical to provide required cover, bridge crossings, lines to be laid parallel to railroads or state highways, including encroachments, and any other areas requiring special or unusual design and construction considerations;
- (f) Proposed corrosion control program to be followed including specifications for coating and wrapping, and the method to ensure the integrity of the coating using holiday detection equipment;
- (g) Welding specifications; and
- (h) Bending procedures to be followed if needed.

[Order R-28, § 480-93-160, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-160, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

Note: A portion of this rule is incorporated in the reporting rules and the remainder of the rule is incorporated in the new testing rules.

WAC 480-93-170 Tests and reports thereof for pipelines.

- ~~(1) — When any gas pipeline intended to be subjected to pressures in excess of 20% of the specified minimum yield strength of the pipe used is placed in operation a report shall be filed with the commission certifying the maximum pressure to which the line is intended to be subjected and also certifying that the pipeline has been constructed and tested in accordance with the requirements of the rules herein prescribed. The results of all tests made pursuant thereto shall be filed with the commission within 30 days of placing the facilities into service. No gas pipeline hereafter placed in service shall be operated at pressures in excess of the pressure for which it was certified to the commission.~~
 - ~~(2) — At least 30 days prior to an increase and not later than 30 days subsequent to a decrease in the maximum allowable operating pressure of a pipeline, on pipelines operating at pressures equal to or greater than 20% of the specified minimum yield strength of the pipe in use, a report shall be filed with the commission giving change in allowable operating pressure, and, if the pressure was increased, the steps taken to qualify the line for higher operating pressure.~~
 - ~~(3) — The commission shall be notified in writing at least two business days prior to the commencement of any pressure test of a gas pipeline to be operated at pressures in excess of 20% of the specified minimum yield strength of the pipe used.~~
 - ~~(4) — The pressure tests of any such gas pipeline built in Class 3 or Class 4 locations shall be of at least 8 hours' duration.~~
 - ~~(5) — When the test medium is to be a gas or compressible fluid then every gas company testing pipelines to be operated in excess of 20% of the specified minimum yield strength of the pipe used shall, prior to any tests, notify appropriate officials of all municipalities wherein such tests are to be made in order that adequate and proper police protection may be provided.~~
 - ~~(8) The requirements of paragraphs (3) and (4) will be waived in an emergency where it is necessary to maintain continuity of service.~~
- (1) Operators must notify the commission in writing at least two business days prior to the commencement of any pressure test of a gas pipeline operating at pressures in excess of 20 percent of the specified minimum yield strength of the pipe used.

- (a) The pressure tests of any such gas pipeline built in Class 3 or Class 4 locations, within 100 yards of a building or place of public assembly, or within a business district, must be of at least 8 hours in duration.
 - (b) When the test medium is to be a gas or compressible fluid, each operator must notify the appropriate officials of all municipalities so that adequate public protection can be provided for during the test.
 - (c) The requirements of section (1) and subsection (1) (a) may be waived in an emergency where it is necessary to maintain continuity of service.
- (2) Operators must perform pressure tests for all new or replacement pipeline installations.
- (a) All services that are damaged during excavation must be pressure tested from the point of damage to the service termination valve prior to being placed back into service.
 - (b) Pre-tested pipe may only be used where it is not feasible to conduct a pressure test.
 - (c) Operators must soap test at tie-in joints at not less than the operating pressure to which the pipeline will be subjected.
- (3) Records of all pressure tests performed must be kept for the life of the pipeline and must document the following information:
- (a) Operator's name;
 - (b) Employee's name;
 - (c) Test medium used;
 - (d) Test pressure;
 - (e) Test duration;
 - (f) Pipe size and length;
 - (g) Date and times; and
 - (h) Test results.
- (4) Where feasible, plastic pipe must be installed and backfilled prior to pressure testing to expose any potential damage that could have occurred during the installation process.

(5) If multiple pressure tests are performed on a single installation, then a record of each test must be recorded and maintained. For purposes of this section, a single installation is defined as any continuous on-going job or installation such as a new plat, or long main installation.

(6) Pressure testing equipment must maintained and calibrated according to the manufacturer's recommended schedule. If no manufacturer's schedule is available then a schedule must be determined by the operator and provided for in the operator's operations and maintenance procedures manual. Test equipment must be tagged with the latest calibration date.

[Order R-28, § 480-93-170, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-170, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

WAC 480-93-175 Moving and lowering metallic gas pipelines.

~~A gas company shall prepare a study, prior to the moving or lowering of every gas pipeline, except service lines and plastic mains, to determine whether the proposed action will cause an unsafe condition. This study will be reviewed and certified by the gas company's senior engineer and retained in the gas company's files for the life of the pipeline. The study shall include, but not be limited to the following criteria:~~

- ~~(1) — The required deflection of the pipeline;~~
- ~~(2) — The diameter, wall thickness, and grade of the pipe;~~
- ~~(3) — The characteristics of the pipeline;~~
- ~~(4) — The terrain and class location;~~
- ~~(5) — The soil conditions, including the pH;~~
- ~~(6) — The current condition of the pipeline;~~
- ~~(7) — The safe stress of the pipeline; and~~
- ~~(8) — The toughness of the steel.~~

~~If the toughness of the pipe is unknown, it shall be considered to be brittle, and the pipeline shall not be moved.~~

- (1) Every operator must prepare a study prior to moving or lowering any metallic gas pipeline to determine whether the proposed action will cause an unsafe condition. This study must be reviewed and approved by the operator's engineering department and retained in the operator's files for the life of the pipeline. This requirement does not apply to cast iron pipelines that may not be lowered, or to copper pipelines. The study must include, but is not limited to, the following criteria:

- (a) The required deflection of the pipe;
 - (b) The diameter, wall thickness, and grade of pipe;
 - (c) The characteristics of the pipeline;
 - (d) The terrain and class location;
 - (e) The present condition of the pipeline;
 - (f) The anticipated stresses of the pipeline including the safe allowable stress limits; and
 - (g) The toughness of the steel.
- (2) Pipelines with mechanical joints or pipelines for which the toughness of the pipeline is unknown must not be moved or lowered.
- (3) Pipelines operating at 60 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) or less and having a nominal diameter of two inches or less may be moved or lowered without the required study, if the operator can certify that no undue stresses will be placed on the pipeline and that it can be moved or lowered in a safe manner. The operators must consider factors such as type of materials, proximity to fittings, joints, and welds, and any other factors that could place undue stress on the pipeline or create an unsafe condition.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-175, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92.]

WAC 480-93-yyy Protection of plastic pipe.

- (1) Every operator must have detailed written procedures for the storage, and handling of plastic pipelines. The procedures for storage, handling, and installation of all plastic pipelines other than joining procedures, must be in accordance with the latest applicable manufacturer's recommended practices. Unless the manufacturer specifies a more stringent requirement, the operator must adhere to the following requirements:

- (a) The maximum cumulative ultraviolet light exposure limit for plastic pipe is 2 years or the manufacturer's recommended exposure limit; and
 - (b) When plastic pipe is pulled through the ground during the installation process and the pipe could potentially be exposed to excessive tensile stresses, operators must use a weak link or other method of ensuring that the pipe will not be damaged.
- (2) When installing plastic pipelines parallel to other underground utilities, an operator must maintain a minimum of 12 inches of separation from the other utilities. Where a minimum 12 inches of separation is not possible, operators must take adequate precautions to minimize any potential hazards resulting from the close proximity to the other utilities.
 - (3) When installing plastic pipelines perpendicular to other underground utilities, operators must maintain a minimum of six inches of separation from the other utilities. Where a minimum six inches of separation is not possible, an operator must take adequate precautions to minimize any potential hazards resulting from the close proximity to the other utilities.
 - (4) Operators must not install plastic pipe above ground. Where necessary to prevent customer outage and no other alternative exists, an operator may temporarily install plastic pipe above ground for a period of 30 days. During the temporary installation, the operator must take measures to protect the plastic pipe from damage.
 - (5) Operators must not backfill or bed plastic pipe with any rock, or debris larger than one-half inch in diameter, or any materials that could potentially cause damage to the pipe. Operators must take all efforts to provide a rock-free bedding material for plastic pipe.
 - (6) Operators must not squeeze plastic pipe more than one time in the same location.
 - (7) Plastic pipe must not be squeezed within twelve inches or 3 pipe diameters from any joint, whichever is greater.
 - (8) Every operator must develop procedures to ensure that whenever plastic pipe is encased, suitable precautions are taken to prevent crushing or shearing of the plastic pipe where it exits the casing.

WAC 480-93-180 Plan of operations and maintenance procedures; emergency policy; reporting requirements.

~~In compliance with the provisions and general intent of the federal "Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act," 49 CFR, Part 192 in effect on the date specified in WAC 480-93-999, every gas company shall develop appropriate operating, maintenance, safety, and inspection plans and procedures and an emergency policy. Such plans and procedures, and all subsequent changes and amendments, initiated by the gas company or pursuant to changes in state and federal rules and regulations, shall be promptly filed with the commission, for review and determination as to their adequacy, when properly executed, to achieve an acceptable level of safety. The commission may, after notice and opportunity for hearing, require such plans and procedures to be revised. The plans and procedures required by the commission shall be practicable and designed to meet the needs of safety. In determining the adequacy of such plans and procedures to achieve an acceptable level of safety, the commission shall consider:~~

- ~~(1) — Relevant available pipeline safety data;~~
- ~~(2) — Whether the plans and procedures are appropriate for the particular type of pipeline operations being performed by the gas company, taking into consideration company size, geographical area of operation, and the public interest;~~
- ~~(3) — The reasonableness of the plans and procedures; and~~
- ~~(4) — The extent to which the plans and procedures, if properly executed, will contribute to an acceptable level of public safety being achieved by the company.~~

~~Furthermore, every gas company shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining such records, making such reports, and providing such information as the commission may reasonably require to enable it to determine whether the gas company has acted and is acting in compliance with these rules and regulations and the standards established thereunder. Every gas company shall, upon request of the commission and its authorized representatives, permit the commission and its authorized representatives to inspect books, papers, records, and documents relevant to determining whether the gas company and its agents have acted and are acting in compliance with these rules and regulations and the standards established thereunder. Such commission inspections shall be conducted at reasonable times, within reasonable limits, and in a reasonable manner, and each inspection shall be commenced and completed with reasonable promptness.~~

Each operator must have a manual of written plans and procedures for operations, maintenance, construction, inspection, and emergency response activities. The manual must comply with the provisions and general intent of the "Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002." The manual must include plans and procedures for all

requirements of Title 49 CFR, Part 192 and Chapter 480-93 WAC, and any plans or procedures used by operator associated contractors. Such plans, procedures and amendments must be filed with the commission as soon as practical for review and determination as to their adequacy, when properly executed, to achieve an acceptable level of safety. The commission may, after notice and opportunity for hearing, require that such plans and procedures be revised or amended. Applicable portions of the manual related to the procedures being performed on the pipeline must be retained on-site where the activity is being performed.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.310. 01-20-061 (Docket No. A-010827, General Order No. R-491), § 480-93-180, filed 9/28/01, effective 10/29/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-180, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-180, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-180, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule.

~~WAC 480-93-183 Pipeline and system pressure reporting. (Reporting)~~

~~All gas companies shall establish a maximum operating pressure for a pipeline or system, in accordance with this chapter, and notify the commission of the following pressure related changes:~~

- ~~(1) — When a pipeline or system pressure exceeds the established maximum operating pressure, the commission shall be notified within six hours, to be followed by written explanation within thirty days;~~
- ~~(2) — When a gas company proposes to raise any pipeline's pressure above two hundred fifty psig, the gas company shall petition the commission for a waiver of WAC 480-93-030, if applicable, before increasing the pressure;~~
- ~~(3) — When a gas company proposes to raise any pipeline's pressure above five hundred psig, the gas company shall petition the commission for a waiver of WAC 480-93-020, if applicable, before increasing the pressure;~~
- ~~(4) — When a pipeline or system operating at low pressure drops below the safe operating conditions of attached appliances and gas equipment; and~~
- ~~(5) — When a pipeline, operating in excess of two hundred fifty psig, is taken out of service for any reason the commission shall be notified within six hours, followed by written explanation within thirty days.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-183, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92.]~~

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule.

~~WAC 480-93-184 Gas leak responsibility.~~

~~Each gas company shall designate personnel who shall be responsible for pipeline and service line patrolling; leak survey practices, procedures, and operations; and leak classification and repairs within its respective areas of operation (i.e. division, district, etc.).~~

~~{Order R-101, § 480-93-184, filed 5/18/77.}~~

~~WAC 480-93-185 Gas leak investigation.~~

~~Any notification of a leak, explosion, or fire, which may involve gas pipelines or other gas facilities, received from an outside source such as a police or fire department, other utility, contractor, customer, or the general public, shall be investigated promptly by the gas company. Where the investigation reveals a leak, the leak shall be graded pursuant to WAC 480-93-186 and appropriate action shall be taken in accordance with these rules.~~

~~When leak indications are found to originate from a foreign source or facility, such as gasoline vapors, sewer or marsh gas, or customer-owned piping, prompt action shall be taken at that time, where appropriate, to protect life and property. Leaks that represent an ongoing, potentially hazardous situation shall be reported promptly to the owner or operator of the source facility and, where appropriate, to the police department, or other appropriate governmental agency. In all cases, the property owner or the adult person occupying the premises shall be notified of the leak conditions. If no methane indication is found, the gas company employee on-site shall so inform the property owner or the adult person occupying the premises, and shall request the adult person occupying the premises sign the gas company work order indicating that a gas leak was not the source of the leak indication. The gas company employee shall provide the adult person occupying the premises an odor sniff card which identifies the odor of natural gas and indicates the name, address, and telephone number of the gas company representative to be contacted if the leak indications are again noticed. If the property owner or an adult person occupying the premises is not available, the gas company shall, within twenty-four hours of the leak notification, send by first-class mail addressed to the person occupying the premises, a letter explaining the results of the investigation. A copy of the letter shall be retained by the gas company and kept with the leak report. A leak investigation report form shall be maintained in the gas~~

~~company's leak report files for all leaks investigated, indicating gas company employee making the initial leak evaluation.~~

- (1) The operator must promptly investigate any notification of a leak, explosion, or fire, which may involve gas pipelines or other gas facilities, received from any outside source such as a police or fire department, other utility, contractor, customer, or the general public. Where the investigation reveals a leak, the operator must grade in accordance with WAC 480-93-186, and take appropriate action.
- (2) In the event of an explosion, fire, death, or injury, the operator must not remove any suspected gas facility until the commission or the lead investigative authority have designated the release of the gas facility. Once the situation is made safe, the operator must keep the facility intact until directed by the lead investigative authority.
- (3) When leak indications are found to originate from a foreign source or facility, such as gasoline vapors, sewer or marsh gas, or customer-owned piping, the operator must take appropriate action to protect life and property. Leaks that represent an ongoing, potentially hazardous situation must be reported promptly to the owner or operator of the source facility and, where appropriate, to the police department, fire department or other appropriate governmental agency. The operator must keep a record of all leak investigations. If the property owner or an adult person occupying the premises is not available, the operator must, within twenty-four hours of the leak investigation, send by first-class mail, addressed to the person occupying the premises, a letter explaining the results of the investigation. The operator must keep a copy of the letter with the corresponding leak investigation record. The operator must retain the letter and leak investigation record for the life of the pipeline. If the leak was found to originate from a foreign source and no pipeline facility is present, the leak investigation report must be kept for a period of five years.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-185, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-102, § 480-93-185, filed 5/18/77.]

WAC 480-93-186 Leakage classification and action criteria.

~~(1) Gas leak classification and repair.~~

~~(a) General. Each gas company shall establish a procedure by which leakage indications of flammable gas will be graded and controlled. When evaluating any leak indication a preliminary step is to determine the perimeter of the leak area. When this perimeter extends to a building wall the investigation shall extend inside the building.~~

~~(b) Leak grades. Based on an evaluation of the location and/or magnitude of a leak, one of the following leak grades shall be assigned, thereby establishing the leak repair priority. A gas company may utilize an alphabetical grade classification, i.e. Grade A for Grade 1, Grade B for Grade 2, and Grade C for Grade 3 if it has historically utilized such a grading designation.~~

~~Grade 1 Grade 1 means a leak that represents an existing or probable hazard to persons or property and requiring immediate repair or continuous action until conditions are no longer hazardous.~~

~~Grade 2 Grade 2 means a leak recognized as being nonhazardous at the time of detection but requiring scheduled repair based on probable future hazard.~~

~~Grade 3 Grade 3 means a leak that is nonhazardous at the time of detection and can reasonably be expected to remain nonhazardous.~~

~~Leakage classification and control requirements are provided in Table 1. The examples of leakage provided in the table are guidelines and are not exclusive. The judgment of the gas company personnel at the scene is of primary importance in determining the grade assigned to a leak.~~

~~(c) Follow up inspections. The adequacy of leak repairs shall be checked by acceptable methods while the excavation is open. The perimeter of the leak area shall be checked with a CGI. In the case of repair of a Grade 1 leak, where there is residual gas in the ground, a follow-up inspection shall be made as soon as practical but in no case later than one month following the repair. In the case of Grade 2 or Grade 3 leaks which have been repaired, the need for a follow-up inspection shall be determined by qualified personnel employed or retained by the gas company.~~

~~(2) Regrading of leaks. Leaks are to be reinspected using the same criteria used to grade leaks when they are first detected and graded.~~

[Order R-103, § 480-93-186, filed 5/18/77.]

- (1) Based on an evaluation of the location and/or magnitude of a leak, the operator must assign one of the leak grades in section (3) below, thereby establishing the leak repair priority. An operator may use an alphabetical grade classification, i.e., Grade A for Grade 1, Grade B for Grade 2, and Grade C for Grade 3 if it has historically used such a grading designation. Operators must apply the same criteria for initial leak grading and to re-inspected leaks.
- (2) Gas leak classification and repair. Each operator must establish a procedure for evaluating the concentration and extent of gas leakage. When evaluating any leak, the operator must determine and document the perimeter of the leak area. If the perimeter of the leak extends to a building wall, the operator must extend the investigation inside the building. Where the reading is in an unvented, confined space, the operator must consider the rate of dissipation when the space is ventilated and the rate of accumulation when the space is resealed. **(Moved from the reading definition WAC 480-93-005)**
- (3) Leak grades.
 - (a) Grade 1 means a leak that represents an existing or probable hazard to persons or property, and requires immediate repair or continuous action until conditions are no longer hazardous.
 - (b) Grade 2 means a leak recognized as being non-hazardous at the time of detection but requiring scheduled repair based on potential future hazard.
 - (c) Grade 3 - means a leak that is non-hazardous at the time of detection and can reasonably be expected to remain non-hazardous.
 - (d) Grade 1 or Grade 2 leaks may not be downgraded to a Grade 3 leak without a physical repair made to the pipeline facility.
- (4) Leakage classification and control requirements are provided in section 18601 below. The examples of leakage provided in the table are guidelines and are not exclusive.
- (5) Follow-up inspections. The operator must check the perimeter of the leak area with a combustible gas indicator. The operator must re-inspect all leaks with residual gas remaining in the ground as soon as practical but no later than 30 days following the repair.

Note: Staff recommends deleting table 18601 and representing the rule in a text format.

**WAC 480-93-18601 Table 1 Leak classification and action criteria--Grade--
Definition--Priority of leak repair--Examples.**

- (1) A Grade 1 leak is a leak that represents an existing or probable hazard to persons or property and requiring prompt action, immediate repair, or continuous action until the conditions are no longer hazardous. Prompt action may require one or more of the following:
 - (a) Implementation of the operator's emergency plan pursuant CFR 49 part 192.615;
 - (b) Evacuating the premises;
 - (c) Blocking off an area;
 - (d) Rerouting traffic;
 - (e) Eliminating sources of ignition;
 - (f) Venting the area;
 - (g) Stopping the flow of gas by closing valves or other means; or
 - (h) Notifying police and fire departments.

- (2) The following are examples of Grade 1 leaks requiring prompt action:
 - (a) Any leak which, in the judgment of operating personnel at the scene, is regarded as an immediate hazard;
 - (b) Escaping gas that has ignited unintentionally;
 - (c) Any indication of gas that has migrated into or under a building or tunnel;

- (d) Any reading at the outside wall of a building or where the gas could potentially migrate to the outside wall of a building;
 - (e) Any reading of 80 percent L.E.L. or greater in a confined space;
 - (f) Any reading of 80 percent L.E.L., or greater in small substructures not associated with gas facilities where the gas could potentially migrate to the outside wall of a building; or
 - (g) Any leak that can be seen, heard, or felt and which is in a location that may endanger the general public or property.
- (3) A Grade 2 leak is a leak that is recognized as being nonhazardous at the time of detection but justifies scheduled repair based on potential future hazard. Operators must repair or clear Grade 2 leaks within 15 months from the date the leak is reported. If a Grade 2 leak occurs in a segment of pipeline that is under consideration for replacement, an additional six months may be added to the 15 months maximum time for repair provided above. In determining the repair priority, operators should consider the following criteria:
- (a) Amount and migration of gas;
 - (b) Proximity of gas to buildings and subsurface structures;
 - (c) Extent of pavement; and
 - (d) Soil type and conditions, such as frost cap, moisture and natural venting.
- (4) Operators must re-evaluate Grade 2 leaks at least once every six months until cleared. The frequency of reevaluation should be determined by the location and magnitude of the leakage condition.
- (5) Grade 2 leaks vary greatly in degree of potential hazard. Some Grade 2 leaks, when evaluated by the above criteria, will require prompt scheduled repair within the next five working days. Others will require repair within 30 days. These situations must be brought to the attention of the individual responsible for scheduling leakage repair at the end of the working day.
- (6) Many Grade 2 leaks, because of their location and magnitude, can be scheduled for repair on a normal routine basis with periodic reinspection as necessary.

(7) The following should be considered when evaluating Grade 2 leaks:

- (a) Leaks requiring action ahead of ground freezing or other adverse changes in venting conditions;
- (b) Any leak, which under frozen or other adverse soil conditions, that could potentially migrate to the outside of a building.

(8) Grade 2 leaks requiring action within six months:

- (a) Any reading of 40 percent L.E.L. or greater under a sidewalk in a wall-to-wall paved area that does not qualify as a Grade 1 leak where gas could potentially migrate to the outside wall of a building;
- (b) Any reading of 100 percent L.E.L. or greater under a street in a wall-to-wall paved area that does not qualify as a Grade 1 leak where gas could potentially migrate to the outside wall of a building;
- (c) Any reading less than 80 percent L.E.L. in small substructures not associated with gas facilities where gas could potentially migrate creating a probable future hazard;
- (d) Any reading between 20 percent L.E.L. and 80 percent L.E.L. in a confined space;
- (e) Any reading on a pipeline operating at 30 percent specified minimum yield strength or greater in Class 3 or 4 locations that does not qualify as a Grade 1 leak; or
- (f) Any leak which in the judgment of operating personnel at the scene is of sufficient magnitude to justify scheduled repair.

(9) A Grade 3 leak is a leak that is nonhazardous at the time of detection and can reasonably be expected to remain nonhazardous.

- (a) Operators should re-evaluate grade 3 leaks during the next scheduled survey, or within 15 months of the reporting date, whichever occurs first, until the leak is regraded or no longer results in a reading.

(10) The following are examples of grade 3 leaks requiring re-evaluation at periodic intervals:

- (a) Any reading of less than 80% L.E.L in small gas associated substructures, such as small meter boxes or gas valve boxes; or
- (b) Any reading under a street in areas without wall-to-wall paving where it is unlikely the gas could migrate to the outside wall of a building.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-18601, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-103, Table 1 (codified as WAC 480-93-18601), filed 5/18/77.]

WAC 480-93-187 Gas leak ~~R~~records and self audit.

- ~~(1) — Gas leak records. Every gas company shall prepare and maintain permanent gas leak repair records. Sufficient data and information shall be included in leak repair records to permit the commission to assess the adequacy of the company maintenance programs and to provide the data and information needed to complete every required RSPA F-7100.1, F-7100.1-1, F-7100.2, and F-7100.2-1 leak report.~~
- ~~(2) — The following data and information shall be recorded and maintained. Every gas company which by law must report leaks to a regulatory agency charged by law with environmental protection shall file copies of those reports with the commission. Data and information which cannot reasonably be expected to be available under the particular circumstances of a leak situation need not be reported, but at a minimum will include the following:~~
 - ~~(a) — Date and time detected, date and time reported, date and time and name of employees dispatched, and the date and time the leak was investigated;~~
 - ~~(b) — Date and time the leak was reevaluated before repair, and the name of the employee involved;~~
 - ~~(c) — Date and time of repair, when a Grade 1 leak is involved, and the name of the employee in charge of the repair;~~
 - ~~(d) — Date and time the leak was rechecked after repair and the employee involved;~~
 - ~~(e) — If leak was reportable to an environmental agency, date and time report made to regulatory authority and name of reporting employee;~~
 - ~~(f) — Location of leak (sufficiently described to allow ready location by other competent personnel);~~
 - ~~(g) — Leak grade;~~

- ~~(h) — Line use (distribution, transmission, etc.);~~
- ~~(i) — Method of leak detection (if reported by outside party, list name and address);~~
- ~~(j) — Part of system where leak occurred (main, service, etc.);~~
- ~~(k) — Part of system which leaked (pipe, valve, fitting, compressor or regulator station, etc.);~~
- ~~(l) — Material which leaked (steel, plastic, cast iron, etc.);~~
- ~~(m) — Origin of leak;~~
- ~~(n) — Pipe description;~~
- ~~(o) — Type repair;~~
- ~~(p) — Leak cause;~~
- ~~(q) — Date pipe installed (if known);~~
- ~~(r) — Whether under cathodic protection; and~~
- ~~(s) — Magnitude of CGI readings at appropriate locations which are a part of the classification procedures contained in Table 1 of WAC 480-93-186 (codified as WAC 480-93-18601).~~

~~The data to be recorded on leaks which have been appropriately classified as "Grade 3" may be at the company's discretion, but must include, at a minimum, information necessary to allow for proper follow-up action to be accomplished.~~

- ~~(3) — Self audits. In order that the effectiveness of the leak repair program may be evaluated, the following self audits shall be performed by every gas company:~~
 - ~~(a) — Repair scheduling — assure that repairs are made within the time specified;~~
 - ~~(b) — Repair effectiveness — assure that leak repairs are effective; and~~
 - ~~(c) — Check adequacy of records.~~

Each operator must prepare and maintain permanent gas leak records. The leak records must contain sufficient data and information to permit the commission to assess the adequacy of the operator's leakage program, and to provide the data and information required by RSPA F-7100.1, F-7100.1-1, F-7100.2, and F-7100.2-1 leak reports. Gas leak records must contain, at a minimum, the following information:

- (1) Date and time the leak was detected, investigated, reported, and the name of the employee(s) conducting the investigation;
- (2) Date and time the leak was reevaluated before repair, and the name of the employee(s) involved;
- (3) Date and time of repair and the name of the employee(s) in charge of the repair;

- (4) Date and time of any rechecks performed, and the employee(s) involved;
- (5) Location of the leak (sufficiently described to allow ready location by other qualified personnel);
- (6) Leak grade;
- (7) Pipeline classification (e.g., distribution, transmission, service);
- (8) If reported by an outside party, list the name and address of the reporting party;
- (9) Component that leaked (e.g., pipe, tee, flange, valve);
- (10) Size and material that leaked (e.g., steel, plastic, cast iron);
- (11) Pipe condition;
- (12) Type of repair;
- (13) Leak cause;
- (14) Date pipe installed (if known);
- (15) If cathodically protected, type of protection and cathodic protection test reading;
- (16) Magnitude and location of CGI readings left;
- (17) Magnitude and location of CGI readings as found (show spread of gas);
and
- (18) Unique identification numbers (such as serial numbers) of leak detection equipment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-187, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-104, § 480-93-187, filed 5/18/77.]

WAC 480-93-188 Gas leak surveys.

- ~~(1) — Types of gas leak surveys and test methods. — Every gas company shall have a leak control program, which shall be determined by the nature of the gas company's system and by existing physical and operating conditions, and which must meet the following minimum requirements. During a gas leak survey, a gas detection instrument shall be conducted over all mains and services, including the testing of the atmosphere in gas, electric, telephone, sewer, water, and other underground structures; at cracks in paving, and in wall-to-wall paved areas, the cracks in sidewalks; at building walls; and at other opportune locations for discovering gas leaks.~~
- ~~(2) — Maintenance and calibration of instruments. — All instruments used in leak detection and evaluation shall be maintained, calibrated, and operated in accordance with the latest applicable manufacturers' specifications, methods, and procedures unless alternative specifications, methods, and procedures have been approved by an appropriate governmental agency.~~
- ~~(3) — Frequency of surveys in designated areas. — Gas leakage surveys shall be conducted according to the following specified frequencies:
 - ~~(a) — Business areas — at intervals not exceeding fifteen months, but at least once each calendar year;~~
 - ~~(b) — Residential areas — as frequently as necessary, but at intervals not exceeding five years;~~
 - ~~(c) — Buildings of public assembly — at intervals not exceeding fifteen months, but at least once each calendar year;~~
 - ~~(d) — Special surveys — as required; and~~
 - ~~(e) — Where the gas system has cast iron, wrought iron, or ductile iron, or noncathodically protected bare steel, galvanized steel, or coated steel pipe — at intervals not exceeding eight months, but at least twice each calendar year.~~~~
- ~~(4) — Business areas and buildings of public assembly. — Leakage surveys of business areas and public buildings shall be conducted on the following basis:
 - ~~(a) — All business structures and buildings of public assembly within 100 feet of an active pipeline, whether or not served with gas, shall be considered for survey;~~
 - ~~(b) — Where gas service lines exist, a survey shall be conducted at the building wall at the point of entrance, using a bar hole if necessary;~~
 - ~~(c) — Surveys shall be conducted within all buildings where leakage has been detected at the outside wall at all points where escaping gas could be expected to penetrate into and accumulate inside the building; and~~~~

- ~~(d) — Service piping, riser piping and meter(s) shall be checked with soap solution or by use of a gas detection instrument.~~
- ~~(5) — Special surveys. Special leakage surveys shall be conducted in the following circumstances:
 - ~~(a) — Prior to paving or resurfacing, following street alterations or repairs, where gas facilities are under the area to be paved, and where there is a substantial probability that damage could have occurred to the gas facilities, an appropriate gas survey, including manholes and other street openings, shall be made;~~
 - ~~(b) — In areas of sewer, water, or other substructure construction adjacent to underground gas facilities, where there is a substantial probability that damage could have occurred to the gas facilities, an appropriate gas detection survey shall be made following the completion of installation but prior to paving;~~
 - ~~(c) — Unstable soil areas where active gas lines could be affected;~~
 - ~~(d) — Special surveys shall be made annually of places of public congregation when an active gas service line serves the building or where active gas service lines or mains are located with such close proximity as to present a possible hazard should leakage occur, for example, churches; schools; and hospitals;~~
 - ~~(e) — Special surveys shall be made of abnormal areas. Special surveys shall be conducted in areas of unusual activity, including, but not limited to, foreign construction, possible ground movement, flooding, earthquake, and explosions.~~~~
- ~~(6) — Leak survey records. For the most current and immediately preceding survey of an area, the following information shall be maintained:
 - ~~(a) — Description of system and area surveyed (this could include maps and leak survey logs);~~
 - ~~(b) — Survey results;~~
 - ~~(c) — Survey method;~~
 - ~~(d) — Names of those making survey;~~
 - ~~(e) — Survey dates; and~~
 - ~~(f) — In addition to the above, the following records shall be kept for pressure drop test:
 - ~~(i) — The name of the gas company, the name of the gas company employee responsible for making the test, and the name of any test company used;~~
 - ~~(ii) — Test medium used;~~
 - ~~(iii) — Test pressure;~~
 - ~~(iv) — Test duration;~~~~~~

- (v) ~~Pressure recording charts, or other record of pressure readings; and~~
 - (vi) ~~Test results.~~
- (7) ~~Self audits. In order that the effectiveness of the leak detection and repair program may be evaluated, the following self audits shall be performed as frequently as necessary, but at intervals not exceeding three years:~~
- (a) ~~Leak survey schedule — assure that it is commensurate with the Minimum Federal Safety Standards for gas lines, Subpart M Maintenance, and the general condition of the pipeline system as required by other applicable regulations;~~
 - (b) ~~Survey effectiveness — evaluate survey results to assure that a consistent evaluation of leaks is being made throughout the system; and~~
 - (c) ~~Check adequacy of records.~~
- (1) Operators must perform gas leak surveys using a gas detection instrument covering the following areas:
- (a) Over all mains, services, and transmission lines including the testing of the atmosphere near a utility (gas, electric, telephone, sewer, or water) and other underground structures;
 - (b) Through cracks in paving, in wall-to-wall paved areas, and in sidewalks;
 - (c) Along walls of businesses and buildings of public assembly that are within 100 feet of an active pipeline;
 - (d) On all above ground piping (may be checked with either a gas detection instrument or with a soap solution);
 - (e) Where a gas service line exists, at the building wall point of entrance, using a bar hole where necessary (within business districts the entire service length must be surveyed); and
 - (f) Within all buildings where gas leakage has been detected at the outside wall, and, at all points where escaping gas could potentially migrate into and accumulate inside the building;
- (2) Gas detection instruments must be maintained, calibrated, and operated in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation. If there is no manufacturer's recommendation, then instruments must be calibrated monthly not to exceed 45 days but at least 12 times per year.

- (3) Gas leak surveys must be conducted according to the following minimum frequencies:
- (a) Business districts - once each calendar year, not to exceed 15 months between surveys;
 - (b) Residential areas - as frequently as necessary, but not to exceed 5 years between surveys;
 - (c) Places or buildings of public assembly - once each calendar year, not to exceed 15 months;
 - (d) Mains operating above 250 psig - once each calendar year, not to exceed 15 months between surveys;
 - (e) Where the gas system has cast iron, wrought iron, copper, or non-cathodically protected steel - twice each calendar year, not to exceed 7 1/2 months between surveys; and
 - (f) Bare pipeline segments that have been cathodically protected due to corrosion that resulted in leakage - twice each calendar year, not to exceed 7 1/2 months between surveys.
- (4) Special leak surveys must be conducted under the following circumstances:
- (a) Prior to paving or resurfacing, following street alterations or repairs where gas facilities are under the area to be paved, and where there is potential that damage could have occurred to gas facilities;
 - (b) In areas where substructure construction occurs adjacent to underground gas facilities, and there is potential that damage could have occurred to the gas facilities, operators must perform a gas leak survey following the completion of construction, but prior to paving;
 - (c) Unstable soil areas where active gas lines could be affected; and
 - (d) In areas and at times of unusual activity, such as earthquake, floods, and explosions.

- (e) After third party excavation damage to services, operators must perform a gas leak survey from the point of damage to the service tie-in.
- (5) Survey records must be kept for a minimum of five years. At a minimum, survey records must contain the following information:
- (a) Description of the system and area surveyed (this could include maps and leak survey logs.);
 - (b) Survey results;
 - (c) Survey method;
 - (d) Name of the employee who performed the survey;
 - (f) Survey dates; and
 - (g) Instrument tracking or identification number.
- (6) Each operator must perform self audits of the effectiveness of its leak detection and record keeping programs. Operators must maintain records of the self audits for five years. Self audits must be performed as frequently as necessary, but not to exceed three years between audits. At a minimum, self audits should ensure that:
- (a) Leak survey schedules meet the minimum federal and state safety requirements for gas pipelines;
 - (b) Consistent evaluations of leaks are being made throughout the system;
 - (c) Repairs are made within the timeframe allowed;
 - (d) Repairs are effective; and
 - (e) Records are accurate and complete.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-188, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R105, § 480-93-188, filed 5/18/77.]

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule.

WAC 480-93-190 ~~Being aware of construction work near gas company facilities.~~

~~All gas companies shall subscribe to the available "one call locating service" in every area their facilities are located. Every gas company shall establish procedures for obtaining prompt notice and full information concerning the commencement and progress of all construction work in areas in close proximity to gathering lines, mains, service lines, transmission lines, and other gas facilities. The object of such a program will be to lessen the probability of incurring damage to the company's underground facilities.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-190, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-190, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-190, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]~~

- ~~(1) — Every gas company shall give prompt telephonic notice to the commission, within six hours of occurrence, of every accident, incident, or hazardous condition, arising out of its operations which:
 - ~~(a) — Results in a fatality or personal injury requiring hospitalization;~~
 - ~~(b) — Results in damage to the property of the company and others of a combined total exceeding five thousand dollars (automobile collisions and other equipment accidents not involving gas or gas handling equipment need not be reported under this rule);~~
 - ~~(c) — Is significant, in the judgment of the company, even though it does not meet the criteria of (a) and (b) of this subsection;~~
 - ~~(d) — Results in the taking of a high pressure supply or transmission pipeline or a major distribution supply pipeline out of service or lowering its pressure fifty percent or more below its normal operating pressure; or~~
 - ~~(e) — Results in the news media reporting the occurrence, even though it does not meet the criteria of (a) through (d) of this subsection.~~~~
- ~~(2) — Such reports shall be verified in detail in writing if not so reported initially and shall include at least the following:
 - ~~(a) — Name(s) and address(es) of any person or persons injured or killed or whose property was damaged;~~
 - ~~(b) — The extent of such injuries and damage;~~
 - ~~(c) — A description of the accident, incident, or hazardous condition to include date, time, and place;~~~~

- ~~(d) — A description of the gas facilities implicated in the accident, incident, or hazardous condition and the system operating pressure at that time, and the maximum operating pressure of the facilities implicated;~~
- ~~(e) — The date and time the gas facility was made safe;~~
- ~~(f) — The date, time, and type of any temporary or permanent repair made; and~~
- ~~(g) — A report shall be available to the commission within three months, upon request, of the failure analysis of any accident, incident, or hazardous condition which was due to construction or material failure.~~

~~Routine or planned maintenance and operational activities of the company which result in company controlled plant and equipment shut downs, reduction in system pressures except as noted above, flaring or venting of gas, and normal leak repairs are not to be considered reportable items under this section.~~

- ~~(3) — Every gas company shall file a copy of every required RSPA F-7100.1-1 and F-7100.2-1 leak report with the commission. Names and telephone numbers of commission personnel authorized to take telephonic leak reports will be furnished and kept current under a separate letter to every company.~~
- ~~(3) — All gas companies shall file with the commission, and with appropriate officials of all municipalities within which such gas companies have facilities, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of responsible officials of such gas companies who may be contacted in the event of an emergency. In the event of any changes in gas company personnel, immediate notification thereof shall be given to the commission and municipalities.~~

WAC 480-93-200 Reports associated with operator facilities and operations.

~~(1) Every gas company shall give prompt telephonic notice to the commission, within six hours of occurrence, of every accident, incident, or hazardous condition, arising out of its operations which:~~

- ~~—— (a) Results in a fatality or personal injury requiring hospitalization;~~
- ~~—— (b) Results in damage to the property of the company and others of a combined total exceeding five thousand dollars (automobile collisions and other equipment accidents not involving gas or gas handling equipment need not be reported under this rule);~~
- ~~—— (c) Is significant, in the judgment of the company, even though it does not meet the criteria of (a) and (b) of this subsection;~~
- ~~—— (d) Results in the taking of a high pressure supply or transmission pipeline or a major distribution supply pipeline out of service or lowering its pressure fifty percent or more below its normal operating pressure; or~~
- ~~—— (e) Results in the news media reporting the occurrence, even though it does not meet the criteria of (a) through (d) of this subsection.~~

~~————(2) Such reports shall be verified in detail in writing if not so reported initially and shall include at least the following:~~

~~————(a) Name(s) and address(es) of any person or persons injured or killed or whose property was damaged;~~

~~————(b) The extent of such injuries and damage;~~

~~————(c) A description of the accident, incident, or hazardous condition to include date, time, and place;~~

~~————(d) A description of the gas facilities implicated in the accident, incident, or hazardous condition and the system operating pressure at that time, and the maximum operating pressure of the facilities implicated;~~

~~————(e) The date and time the gas facility was made safe;~~

~~————(f) The date, time, and type of any temporary or permanent repair made; and~~

~~————(g) A report shall be available to the commission within three months, upon request, of the failure analysis of any accident, incident, or hazardous condition which was due to construction or material failure.~~

~~————Routine or planned maintenance and operational activities of the company which result in company controlled plant and equipment shut downs, reduction in system pressures except as noted above, flaring or venting of gas, and normal leak repairs are not to be considered reportable items under this section.~~

~~————(3) Every gas company shall file a copy of every required RSPA F-7100.1-1 and F-7100.2-1 leak report with the commission. Names and telephone numbers of commission personnel authorized to take telephonic leak reports will be furnished and kept current under a separate letter to every company.~~

~~————(4) All gas companies shall file with the commission, and with appropriate officials of all municipalities within which such gas companies have facilities, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of responsible officials of such gas companies who may be contacted in the event of an emergency. In the event of any changes in gas company personnel, immediate notification thereof shall be given to the commission and municipalities.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-200, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-200, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-200, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

(1) Every operator must give notice to the commission by telephone within two hours of occurrence of every incident or hazardous condition arising out of its operations that:

(a) Results in a fatality or personal injury requiring hospitalization;

- (b) Results in damage to the property of the operator and others of a combined total exceeding five thousand dollars (automobile collisions and other equipment accidents not involving gas or gas handling equipment need not be reported under this rule);
 - (c) Results in the evacuation of a dwelling, building, or area of public assembly;
 - (d) Results in the unintentional ignition of gas;
 - (e) Results from construction defects or material failure;
 - (f) Results in the un-controlled release of gas for more than two hours;
 - (g) Is significant, in the judgment of the operator, even though it does not meet the criteria of (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) of this subsection;
 - (h) Results in the taking of a high pressure supply or transmission pipeline or a major distribution supply pipeline out of service or lowering its pressure fifty percent or more below its normal operating pressure;
 - (i) Results in the news media reporting the occurrence, even though it does not meet the criteria of (a) through (h) of this section;
 - (j) Results in a pipeline or system operating at low pressure dropping below the safe operating conditions of attached appliances and gas equipment;
 - (k) Whenever a pipeline, operating in excess of 250 psig, is taken out of service;
 - (l) Unscheduled interruptions to the service furnished by any operator to an industrial customer, a master meter customer, or 25 or more distribution customers; or
 - (m) Results in damage and leakage of a four-inch nominal diameter and larger pipeline.
- (2) Routine or planned maintenance and operational activities of the operator that result in operator-controlled plant and equipment shut downs, reduction in

system pressures except as noted in section (1) above, flaring or venting of gas, and normal leak repairs are not reportable items under this section.

- (3) When a pipeline or system pressure exceeds the maximum allowable operating pressure or the maximum pressure allowed by proximity considerations outlined in WAC 480-93-020, the operator must notify the commission by telephone within two hours, to be followed by written explanation within thirty days;
- (4) Operators must provide to the commission the reports required in section (1) above, verified in detail in writing within 30 days of the initial telephonic report. At a minimum, written reports must include the following:
 - (a) Name(s) and address(es) of any person or persons injured or killed or whose property was damaged;
 - (b) The extent of such injuries and damage;
 - (c) A description of the incident or hazardous condition including the date, time, and place;
 - (d) A description of the gas facilities involved in the incident or hazardous condition, the system operating pressure at that time, and the maximum allowable operating pressure of the facilities involved;
 - (e) The date and time the gas facility was made safe;
 - (f) The date, time, and type of any temporary or permanent repair made; and
 - (g) The cost of the incident to the operator.
- (5) Operators must provide to the commission a written report within 30 days of receiving the failure analysis of any incident or hazardous condition that was due to construction or material failure.
- (6) Operators must file with the commission a copy of every RSPA F-7100.1-1 and F-7100.2-1 annual report required by US Department of Transportation, Office of Pipeline Safety. In addition to the above required forms, operators must file with the commission the report titled, "Damage Prevention Statistics", with the

corresponding RSPA fiscal year. The Damage Prevention Statistics report must include in detail the following information:

- (a) Number of gas related One-Call locate requests completed in the field;
 - (b) Number of third-party damages incurred; and
 - (i) specific cause of damage.
 - (ii) locates not accurate;
 - (iii) operator failed to use reasonable care; or excavated prior to locates.
- (7) Operators must file with the commission, and with appropriate officials of all municipalities where operators have facilities, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the responsible officials of the operator who may be contacted in the event of an emergency. In the event of any changes in operator personnel, the operator must notify immediately the commission and municipalities.
- (8) Operators must send daily reports of construction and repair activities electronically to the commission. Operators may send reports either by facsimile or e-mail to the commission. The reports must be received no later than 10:00 AM each day of the scheduled work, and must include both operator and contractor construction and repair activities.
- (9) When an operator is required to file a copy of a RSPA Drug Testing and Alcohol Testing MIS “EZ” Data Collection Form with the Federal Office of Pipeline Safety, the operator must simultaneously submit a copy of the form to the commission.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-200, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-200, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-200, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule.

~~WAC 480-93-210 Interruptions to service.~~

~~Interruptions to the service furnished by any gas company to an industrial customer, a master meter customer, or twenty five or more distribution customers, or the failure of any gas facilities, shall be reported to the commission within six hours. When service has been restored, a written report shall be submitted promptly to the commission detailing the cause of the interruption or failure and steps taken to prevent any recurrence.~~

~~This requirement shall not apply to interruptions to service made by gas companies in accordance with the provisions of contracts between such companies and their customers or other planned interruptions carried out in conjunction with normal operational and maintenance requirements of the company.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-210, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-210, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-210, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]~~

Note: Staff recommends deleting this rule.

~~WAC 480-93-220 Rule of precedence.~~

~~Where there is any conflict between the provisions of CFR 49, Part 192 (Minimum Federal Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Standards)) in effect on the date specified in WAC 480-93-999 and any rule specifically set forth herein, the former shall govern.~~

~~These rules shall take precedence over all orders, heretofore made by the commission, insofar as said orders may be inconsistent with these rules.~~

~~These rules shall take precedence over all rules filed or to be filed by gas companies insofar as inconsistent therewith. Rules of the gas companies now on file and inconsistent with the rules herein established shall be properly revised and refiled within sixty days from the effective date of this order.~~

~~[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.310, 01-20-061 (Docket No. A-010827, General Order No. R-491), § 480-93-220, filed 9/28/01, effective 10/29/01; Order R-28, § 480-93-220, filed 7/15/71.]~~

WAC 480-93-223 Civil penalty for violation of RCW 80.28.210 and commission gas safety rules ~~regulations issued thereunder~~—Maximum amount.

- ~~(1) Any gas company which violates any public safety provision of RCW 80.28.210 or regulation issued thereunder is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed twenty-five thousand dollars for each violation for each day that the violation persists. The maximum civil penalty under this subsection for a related series of violations is five hundred thousand dollars. This subsection applies to violations of public safety requirements including WAC 480-90-101 and including chapter 480-93 WAC except for WAC 480-93-160 and 480-93-200 (1)(e).~~
- ~~(2) Any gas company violating any other provision of RCW 80.28.210 or regulations promulgated thereunder, including WAC 480-93-160 and 480-93-200 (1)(e), shall be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed one thousand dollars for each violation for each day that the violation persists, but the maximum civil penalty shall not exceed two hundred thousand dollars for a related series of violations.~~
- ~~(3) The commission may compromise any civil penalty pursuant to RCW 80.28.210.~~
- (1) Any gas company that violates any provisions of chapter 480-93 WAC or WAC 480-93-303 has failed to construct and/or maintain its facilities in a safe and efficient manner in violation of RCW 80.28.210, and is subject to a civil penalty under RCW 80.28.212.
 - (b) The maximum civil penalty under RCW 80.28.212 for violations by a gas company of any provision of chapter 480-93 WAC (other than WAC 480-93-160 and WAC 480-93-200(1)(e)) or WAC 480-93-303 is five thousand dollars for each violation for each day that the violation persists up to a maximum civil penalty of five hundred thousand dollars for a related series of violations.
 - (c) The maximum civil penalty under RCW 80.28.212 for violations by a gas company of WAC 480-93-160 or WAC 480-93-200(1)(e) is one thousand dollars for each violation for each day that the violation persists, up to a maximum civil penalty of two hundred thousand dollars for a related series of violations.
 - (c) The commission may compromise any civil penalty issued under RCW 80.28.212.

- (2) In addition to a civil penalty under RCW 80.28.212, any public service company that violates RCW 80.28.210 or any rule issued thereunder, may also be subject to civil penalties under RCW 80.04.405 and/or RCW 80.04.380.
- (3) Any officer, agent, or employee of any public service company who aids or abets in the violations of RCW 80.24.210 or any rule issued thereunder, is subject to a civil penalty under RCW 80.04.405.
- (4) Any officer, agent, or employee of any public service company violating RCW 80.28.210 or who procures or aids and abets such a violation, may be subject to civil penalties under RCW 80.04.385.
- (5) Any corporation other than a public service company that is subject to RCW 80.28.210 and that violates any provision of chapter 480-93 WAC, has failed to construct and/or maintain its facilities in a safe and efficient manner in violation of RCW 80.28.210, and is subject to a civil penalty under RCW 80.04.387.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 95-19-057 (Order R-433, Docket No. UG-950625), § 480-93-223, filed 9/15/95, effective 10/16/95.]

WAC 480-93-230 Modification/waivers. Exemptions from rules in chapter 480-93 WAC.

~~If a gas company determines that an undue hardship or an unsafe condition may result from the application of any rule in this chapter, application may be made to the commission to deviate from the rule. Every request for a deviation shall be accompanied by full and complete justification for such requested deviation. The petitioning company shall describe how it will meet the requirements of this chapter in the absence of the waived rule, which may include proposed amendments to this chapter. Requests for waiver will be written, properly documented, and submitted to the commission. A gas company shall concurrently submit to the commission all petitions for waiver of any gas safety rule filed with the federal government or other governmental authority.~~

- (1) The commission may grant an exemption from the provision of any rule in this chapter, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes.

- (2) To request a rule exemption, an operator or other entity must file with the commission a written request identifying the rule for which an exemption is sought, giving a full explanation of the reason for requesting the exemption.
- (3) The commission will assign a docket number, if it does not arise in an existing docket, and will schedule the request for consideration at one of its regularly scheduled open meetings or, if appropriate under chapter 34.05 RCW, in an adjudication. The commission will notify the person requesting the exemption, and other affected persons, of the date of the hearing or open meeting when the commission will consider the request.
- (4) In determining whether to grant the request, the commission may consider whether application of the rule would impose undue hardship on the petitioner, of a degree or a kind different from hardship imposed on other similarly situated persons, and whether the effect of applying the rule would be contrary to the purposes of the rule.
- (5) The commission will enter an order granting or denying the request or setting it for hearing, pursuant to Chapter 480-07 WAC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. 92-16-100 (Order R-375, Docket No. UG-911261), § 480-93-230, filed 8/5/92, effective 9/5/92; Order R-28, § 480-93-230, filed 7/15/71; Order R-5, § 480-93-230, filed 6/6/69, effective 10/9/69.]

WAC 480-93-240 Annual pipeline safety fee methodology.

- (1) Every gas company and every interstate gas pipeline company subject to inspection or enforcement by the commission will pay an annual pipeline safety fee as established in the methodology set forth in section (2) below.
- (2) The fee will be set by general order of the commission entered before July 1 of each year and will be collected in four equal installments payable on the first day of each calendar quarter, beginning July 1, 2001.
 - (a) The total of pipeline safety fees will be calculated to recover the costs of the legislatively authorized workload represented by current appropriations, less the amount received in federal funds through the Federal Department of Transportation's Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Program base grant. Federal grants, other than the federal base grant, received by the commission for additional activities not included or

anticipated in the legislatively directed workload will not be credited against company pipeline safety fees, nor will the work supported by such grants be considered a cost for purposes of calculating such fees.

- (b) Total pipeline fees as determined in subsection (a) will be divided between gas companies and interstate gas pipeline companies based on two components:
 - (i) The first component is direct assignment of average costs associated with a company's standard inspections, including the average number of inspection days per year, which will be determined annually. Standard inspections are conducted to comply with the state's participation requirement under the "Guidelines for States Participating in the Pipeline Safety Program" of the Federal Department of Transportation, Office of Pipeline Safety.
 - (ii) The second component is an allocation of the remaining program costs that are not directly assigned in (i). Distribution of these costs between gas companies and interstate gas pipeline companies will be based on miles of transmission lines as defined in WAC 480-93-005(18) and miles of main as defined in WAC 480-93-005(12) operated within Washington state.
 - (c) The commission general order setting fees pursuant to this rule will detail the allocation of program costs between gas companies and interstate gas pipeline companies, and the specific calculation of each company's pipeline safety fee.
- (3) By April 1 of each year every gas company and every interstate gas pipeline company subject to this section must file an annual report as prescribed by the commission that is necessary to establish the annual pipeline safety fee. By June 1 of each year the commission staff will mail to each company subject to this section an annual invoice showing an estimate of the quarterly amounts.
 - (4) All funds received by the commission for the pipeline safety program will be deposited to the pipeline safety account. For those companies subject to RCW 80.24.010, the portion of the company's total regulatory fee applicable to pipeline safety will be transferred from the public service revolving fund to the pipeline safety account.

- (5) Any company wishing to contest the amount of the fee imposed under this section must pay the fee and, within 6 months of the due date of the fee, file a petition in writing with the commission requesting a refund. The petition must state the name of the petitioner; the date and the amount paid, including a copy of any receipt, if available; the amount of the fee that is contested; and any reasons why the commission may not impose the fee. The commission may grant the petition administratively or may set the petition for adjudication or for brief adjudication.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160 and 2001 c 238 § 2. 02-03-016 (Docket No. UG-010522, General Order No. R-497), § 480-93-240, filed 1/4/02, effective 2/4/02.]

WAC 480-93-999 Adoption by reference.

~~In this chapter, the commission adopts by reference all or portions of regulations and standards identified below. They are available for inspection at the commission branch of the Washington state library. The publications, effective dates, references within this chapter, and availability of the resources are as follows:~~

~~— **Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations**, cited as 49 CFR, including all appendices and amendments is published by the United States Government Printing Office.~~

~~— (1) The commission adopts the version in effect on July 1, 2001.~~

~~— (2) This publication is referenced in WAC 480-93-005, 480-93-010, 480-93-015, 480-93-110, 480-93-124, 480-93-155, 480-93-180 and 480-93-220.~~

~~— (3) Copies of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations are available from the Seattle office of the Government Printing Office and from various third party vendors.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.310. 01-20-061 (Docket No. A-010827, General Order No. R-491), § 480-93-999, filed 9/28/01, effective 10/29/01.]

In this chapter, the commission adopts by reference all or portions of regulations and standards identified below. They are available for inspection at the commission branch of the Washington state library. The publications, effective dates, references within this chapter, and availability of the resources are as follows:

- (1) Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations, cited as 49 CFR, Parts 191, 192, 193, and 199 including all appendices and amendments, except for 192.1, 199.1, 193.2001, 193.2005 and 199.2, published by the United States Government Printing Office.
 - (a) The commission adopts the version in effect on October 1, 2002.
 - (b) This publication is referenced in WAC 480-93-005, 480-93-080, 480-93-100, 480-93-110, 480-93-180, and 480-93-18601.
 - (c) Copies of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations are available from the Seattle office of the Government Printing Office and from various third-party vendors.

- (2) The 2001 edition of Section IX of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code.
 - (a) This publication is referenced in WAC 480-93-080

 - (b) Copies of Section IX of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code are available from The American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Park Avenue New York, New York.

- (3) The American Petroleum Institute (API) standard 1104 18th edition.
 - (a) This publication is referenced in WAC 480-93-080.
 - (b) Copies of API standard 1104 18th edition are available from the Office of API Publishing Services in Washington DC.