

ITEM ~~XIV~~ **XIII**—Distribution Systems: Leakage Surveys and Procedures; (Ref: Title 49 CFR, Part 192, Section 192.723).

Paragraph (b-1) shall read:

(b-1) A ~~gas detector~~ **leak survey using gas detection equipment** shall be conducted in:

(1) business districts;

(2) areas of high occupancy buildings **as identified in the operator's operations and maintenance procedures**, such as schools, churches, hospitals, apartment buildings; commercial buildings:

(3) built-up residential areas where continuous pavement exists; and

(4) in such other areas as the commission may direct;

once each calendar year at intervals not exceeding ~~one year~~ **fifteen (15) months**.

The surveys in business districts and areas of high occupancy buildings, (1) and (2), shall be made at least to the meter outlet.

Tests shall include tests of the atmosphere in utility manholes, at cracks in the pavement and sidewalks and other locations providing an opportunity for finding gas leakage.

Paragraph (b-2) shall read:

(b-2) Leakage surveys of the distribution system outside of the areas as listed in (b-1) must be made as frequently as necessary but at **least once every five years** at intervals not **to exceed sixty-three (63) months** ~~exceeding five years~~. A vegetation type survey shall not be used as a single means of leakage control.

Paragraph (b-3) shall read:

(A) Beginning January 1, 2009, each operator shall install meters intended for residential service adjacent to the primary residence for new revenue customers or when an existing service is replaced for any reason.

(B) Operators that provide gas service to residential customers where existing meters are not adjacent to the primary residence being served will submit to the division a written plan to leak survey customer's buried piping. The plan shall include the operator's description of compliance with either subsection (C) or (D) of this section, one of which must be conducted every five calendar years at intervals not to exceed sixty-three (63) months. The division shall review the plan and agree to or amend the plan as the division deems necessary.

(C) In accordance with the timeframes provided in subsection (B), each operator shall provide written notification to those residential customers with customer's buried piping. The written notification shall include the following information:

(1) The operator does not maintain the customer's buried piping and is not responsible for damages of any kind stemming from leaks or deterioration of the customer's buried piping .

(2) If the customer's buried piping is not maintained, it may be subject to the potential hazards of corrosion and leakage.

(3) The following should be performed regarding the buried gas piping:

(A) Periodic inspections for leaks.

(B) Periodic inspections for corrosion if the piping is metallic.

(C) Repairs of any unsafe condition discovered during the inspections.

(4) The operator (if applicable), plumbing contractors, and heating contractors can assist in locating, inspecting, and repairing the customer's buried piping.

(5) The operator(if applicable) may, for a reasonable fee, assist in locating, inspecting, and repairing the customer's buried piping.

As part of the written notification required in this subsection and in accordance with the timeframes set out in subsection (B) of this section, the operator shall provide notice to the residential consumer that the operator will conduct a leak detection survey on customer's buried piping if the customer provides the operator the following:

- (1) Express permission to enter onto the property of the customer to conduct the leak detection survey;**
- (2) Mapping of the premises indicating the location of the customer's buried piping.**
- (3) Written acknowledgement of the customer that the operator does not maintain the customer's buried piping, bare steel or otherwise; the operator is not liable or responsible for errors encountered during the leak detection survey; and that the leak detection survey does not guarantee the customer's buried piping is currently not corroded or free of leaks or will be in the future.**

(D) In accordance with the timeframes set out in subsection (C) of this section, the operator will conduct a survey for the presence of natural gas from the outlet of the meter to the nearest building wall of the structure fed by the customer's buried piping. If the location of the customer's buried piping is not known the survey should include the entire length of the building wall nearest the meter setting.

For purposes of this section, the term "customer's buried piping" shall mean buried bare steel piping that is between the outlet of the meter and the entry of the building wall of a residential dwelling. The term does not include the following:

- (1) farm taps;**
- (2) diversions to structures other than the residential dwelling located on the premises;**
- (3) services directly off mains that have an operating pressure of 60 psig or greater; or**
- (4) services with meter settings adjacent to the structure being served.**

Paragraph (c) shall read:

(c) All leaks reported, regardless of the origin of the reports shall be recorded on suitable report forms. These report forms should provide space for all pertinent information. Each leak reported shall be accounted for, and actions taken in response to leaks shall be documented and filed in a systematic manner.

Paragraph (c-1) shall read:

(c-1) All leaks reported shall be investigated promptly and classified in ~~a manner~~ ~~whereby~~ **accordance with procedures outlined in the operator's operations and maintenance plan. Such procedures shall include acceptable response times and shall ensure that** gas leakage that is hazardous to life ~~and/or~~ or property shall receive immediate attention for repairs.

Paragraph (c-2) shall read:

(c-2) Leak indications where repairs are not completed shall be rechecked on subsequent surveys, **depending on the operator's classification and in accordance with the operator's procedures.**

Paragraph (d) shall read:

(d) Records shall be made covering these surveys, inspections and repairs made. These records, along with any other routine or unusual inspections and repairs, shall be kept in the file of **the** operating company.