

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER REGULATIONS

1.01 DEFINITIONS

“Company” or “Gas Company” means all entities, individuals, or corporations to which G.L. c. 164, § 148 applies.

“Complex Project” means any engineering work that requires a job-specific design plan, such as the following:

- A. Installation that creates or reconfigures district pressure regulator stations or gate/take stations.
- B. Installation of new compressor stations.
- C. Installation, uprating, or abandonment of intrastate transmission lines.
- D. Installation work on distribution mains that:
  - 1. Involves two or more tie-ins;
  - 2. Requires a bypass; or
  - 3. Changes the system operating pressure.
- E. Uprating or abandonment of distribution mains.
- F. All distribution main replacement projects pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145.
- G. Distribution main replacement/extension projects within or crossing any public or private rights-of-way, including installation on bridges or installation that uses trenchless technology.
- H. Installation of service lines that require the bypass of a distribution line to supply service.
- I. Installation or abandonment of service lines that require an interruption of flow in the distribution main.
- J. Installation or abandonment of service lines connecting to a distribution main with an MAOP exceeding 60 p.s.i.g.
- K. Installation of service lines if 2” or greater in nominal diameter.

- L. Installation or reconfiguration of LNG vaporization facilities.
- M. Installation of large volume meter sets if the inlet line to the meter is 4” or greater in nominal diameter.
- N. Installation, reconfiguration, or annual review of relief valve capacity calculations per 49 C.F.R § 192.739 for district regulator and relief valve stations.

“Department” means the Department of Public Utilities.

“Design” refers to the design of new facilities and the design of changes to existing facilities.

“Installation” means either or both design and construction.

“MAOP” means maximum allowable operating pressure.

“Professional Engineer” means a person who, by reason of his special knowledge of the mathematical and physical sciences and the principles and methods of engineering analysis and design acquired by professional education and practical experience, is qualified to practice engineering, as attested by his registration as a professional engineer and certification under G.L. c. 112, § 81E.

“Reconfigure” means to rebuild or relocate parts, and it includes the replacement of any individual component that would alter the MAOP or volumetric capacity, but excludes individual component replacement that has no effect on operation or function.

“Sufficient Knowledge” means having an understanding of the pipeline design, construction, and operations of a company’s gas system.

“Trenchless Technology” means methods used to minimize excavation activity, such as horizontal directional drilling, tunneling, and auger boring.

## 1.02 GENERAL

### (1) Purpose and Scope

The purpose of these Professional Engineer Regulations is to promote the safety of natural gas engineering work or services through the use of professional engineers, with sufficient knowledge of natural gas facilities, to provide direction to gas companies for certain engineering work or services.

These Professional Engineer Regulations do not waive or otherwise modify any provisions of 250 CMR. Further, these regulations may be supplemented by guidelines from the Department's Director of the Pipeline Safety Division or another designee of the Department's Commission.

(2) Incorporation of Guidelines into Operations and Maintenance Procedures

Each gas company shall incorporate these Professional Engineer Regulations into their written procedures under 49 C.F.R. Part 192 as applicable, to ensure compliance with G.L. c. 164, §§ 105A and 148.

(3) Applications for Exceptions

Any gas company may make a written request to the Department for an exception to these Professional Engineer Regulations, in whole or in part. The request shall justify why the exception should be granted and shall demonstrate why the exception sought does not detract from the safety objectives of these guidelines. The request shall state the need for the exception, specific information on the circumstances surrounding the requested exception, the specific provision from which the exception is sought, the time period for which the exception is sought, and a description of any safety consequences that might result from the exception.

The Department may deny the exception or grant the exception as requested, or as modified by the Department and subject to conditions. Any exception or denial shall be issued in writing and shall be made by the Department's Director of the Pipeline Safety Division or another designee of the Department's Commission. Any person aggrieved by a decision regarding a request for an exception may appeal that decision to the Department's Commission. Any appeal shall be in writing and shall be made not later than ten business days following issuance of the written decision on the request for an exception.

1.03 USE OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

(1) Any gas pipeline engineering plans or specifications for engineering work or services on complex projects must be produced by or under the direct charge and supervision of a Professional Engineer with sufficient knowledge of a gas company's natural gas distribution system, and they must bear the Professional Engineer's stamp, in accordance with 250 CMR.

(2) A Professional Engineer must ensure that the plan or specification conforms to the applicable pipeline safety laws, regulations, and standards, and his or her review, and use of a Professional Engineer's stamp must comply with the professional and ethical obligations set forth in 250 CMR 5.00.

- (3) A Professional Engineer's stamp is not required for emergency work, but a Professional Engineer's stamp is required after the emergency has been resolved if the remaining work or services are on a complex project.
- (4) A Professional Engineer's stamp may not be used on standardized plans or specifications. All plans and specifications with a Professional Engineer's stamp must be part of a specific project package and checked for applicability with the specific project requirements.
- (5) A company must ensure that all documents bearing a Professional Engineer's stamp are accurate, complete, and correct prior to commencing the work.

#### 1.04 DOCUMENTATION

At a gas company's office within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, each company shall maintain the plans and specifications that must bear a Professional Engineer's stamp pursuant to either these regulations or guidelines from the Department's Director of the Pipeline Safety Division. These plans and specifications shall be readily accessible upon request by the staff of the Department, and they shall be maintained in accordance with the document retention timelines set forth in 49 C.F.R. Part 192.