
 STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1982 No. 1513

PIPE-LINES

The Submarine Pipe-lines Safety Regulations 1982

<i>Made - - - -</i>	<i>25th October 1982</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	<i>27th October 1982</i>
<i>Coming into Operation</i>	<i>19th November 1982</i>

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The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 26(1) and (3)(b), 27(2)(d) and (g) and 32(3) and (4)(a) of the Petroleum and Submarine Pipe-lines Act 1975(a) and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf and after consulting such organisations in the United Kingdom as he considered were representative of persons who would be affected thereby, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Submarine Pipe-lines Safety Regulations 1982 and shall come into operation on 19th November 1982.

(2) In these Regulations—

“the Act” means the Petroleum and Submarine Pipe-lines Act 1975;

“owner”, in relation to a pipe-line in respect of which no person has been designated as its owner in pursuance of section 33(3) of the Act, means the person for the time being entitled to operate it;

“pipe-line works” means works of any of the kinds specified in section 26(2) of the Act;

(a) 1975 c. 74; section 26(3) was amended by the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act 1982 (c. 23), section 25(5); section 32(3)(a) was amended by section 28(2) of the Criminal Law Act 1977 (c. 45).

“proposed owner”, in relation to a proposed pipe-line in respect of which no person has been designated as its proposed owner in pursuance of section 33(3) of the Act, means the person for whom the pipe-line is to be constructed;

“vessel” includes every description of water craft, including non-displacement craft and seaplanes, and any other floating structure.

(3) Reference in these Regulations to a controlled pipe-line shall be construed in accordance with subsection (3) of section 26 of the Act and any such apparatus as is described in section 33(1)(a) and (c) of the Act is prescribed for the purposes of paragraph (b) of that subsection.

Application

2.—(1) Regulations 3 to 8 and 9(1) and (4) below shall cease to have effect in relation to a pipe-line on the expiration of the period of 3 years beginning with the date when the pipe-line was last used for conveying any thing.

(2) Regulations 7 and 9(2) to (4) below shall cease to have effect in relation to a proposed pipe-line remaining uncompleted on the expiration of the period of 3 years beginning with the date when pipe-line works for the completion of the proposed pipe-line were last carried on.

Construction, operation and maintenance

3. All parts of a controlled pipe-line shall be designed, constructed, operated and maintained so as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that—

- (a) every part of it is, where necessary, protected from damage;
- (b) no part of the pipe-line is a danger to any person; and
- (c) except where pipe-line works are carried out for that purpose, the position of the pipe-line does not change.

Inspection schemes

4.—(1) There shall be at all times in force in respect of all parts of a controlled pipe-line a scheme (in this Regulation referred to as the “inspection scheme”) providing for their systematic examination and, in respect of apparatus and works for securing the safe operation of the pipe-line associated with the pipe or system of pipes comprised in the pipe-line, testing, at intervals not exceeding 12 months.

(2) No controlled pipe-line shall be operated during any interval between the carrying out of the successive examinations or testings of any part of the pipe-line which exceeds the interval specified under the inspection scheme for the pipe-line.

(3) The owner of each controlled pipe-line shall appoint a competent person employed by him under a contract of service to be responsible for enforcing the scheme or, if it is divided into sections, each section of it and that person shall be charged with the duty of supervising every examination or testing to be carried out under the scheme or, as the case may be, the section in respect of which he is appointed.

(4) The inspection scheme for a pipe-line (which may be divided into sections) shall specify the nature of the examination and testing to be carried out and the person appointed under paragraph (3) above to be responsible for enforcing the scheme or, if it is divided into sections, each section of it.

(5) Such examination shall as far as is reasonably practicable, be capable of revealing—

- (a) any damage to, or defect in, the pipe-line;
- (b) any change in the position of the pipe-line;
- (c) the extent to which the pipe-line is covered by soil or other material;
- (d) the condition of the seabed in the vicinity of the pipe-line; and
- (e) the extent of marine growth on the pipe-line.

(6) Such testing shall, so far as is reasonably practicable, be capable of revealing any defect in the operation of the apparatus and works for securing the safe operation of the pipe-line associated with the pipe or system of pipes comprised in the pipe-line.

(7) The inspection scheme for a pipe-line or copies thereof shall be preserved and kept at a principal place of business in the United Kingdom of the owner of the pipe-line.

(8) A record of each examination or testing made pursuant to the inspection scheme for a pipe-line, or a copy of that record, together with any document produced in the course of that examination or testing, shall be preserved and kept at a principal place of business in the United Kingdom of the owner of the pipe-line. In this paragraph “document” has the same meaning as in Part I of the Civil Evidence Act 1968 (a).

(9) Each such record shall state in relation to the examination or testing—

- (a) the identity of the pipe-line;
- (b) the name of the owner of the pipe-line;
- (c) its nature and the date on which it was carried out;
- (d) the date when the last examination or testing of like nature was carried out;
- (e) the name and qualifications of, and (if different from the owner of the pipe-line) the name of the employer of, any person engaged in carrying it out;
- (f) particulars of the procedures and any equipment used to carry it out, including, in the case of equipment, particulars of the manufacturer and type and any calibration certificates;
- (g) full results of the use of such procedures and equipment;
- (h) particulars of any circumstances which might have affected its conduct; and
- (i) any damage or defect revealed and the action taken or, in a case where Regulation 5(1) below applies, the action proposed to be taken, to remedy it.

(10) There shall be furnished to the Secretary of State for Energy, within the period of 28 days beginning with the date of the completion of each examination and testing provided for by the inspection scheme for a pipe-line or for any section into which it is divided, a report as to such examination and testing in the form set out in the Schedule to these Regulations or in a form substantially to the like effect signed by the person appointed under paragraph (3) above to be responsible for enforcing the inspection scheme, or the section into which it is divided, as the case may be.

(a) 1968 c.64.

Notification of repairs etc.

5.—(1) Except in an emergency, no works shall be carried out for repairing (except running repairs or minor adjustments), altering, renewing, changing the position of, dismantling or removing a controlled pipe-line or length of controlled pipe-line unless the Secretary of State for Energy had, not less than 3 months before the date on which the carrying out of the works is begun, been notified in writing of the intention to carry out those works and furnished with full particulars in writing of the proposed works and the procedures to be used and the precautions to be taken in connection with their carrying out.

(2) Where any such works are to be carried out in an emergency the owner of the pipe-line shall—

- (a) ensure that immediate steps are taken to give to the Secretary of State for Energy, in the most expeditious manner practicable, notification of the intention to carry out the works;
- (b) within the period of 5 days beginning with the date of such notification, give to the Secretary of State for Energy such particulars as are available of those works in writing; and
- (c) within the period of 1 month beginning with the date of such notification, full particulars of those works in writing.

(3) A record of the materials used, together with particulars of any tests carried out, in connection with any such works, other than works of dismantlement or removal, shall be preserved and kept at a principal place of business in the United Kingdom of the owner of the pipe-line.

Means of control

6.—(1) There shall be provided in respect of each controlled pipe-line effective means for shutting down the pipe-line at each of its initial and terminal points.

(2) There shall be provided in respect of each controlled pipe-line, at a place either in the United Kingdom or in controlled waters at which a competent person appointed by the owner of the pipe-line for the purpose is present at all times, effective means for—

- (a) bringing to the attention of that person any significant alteration in the pressure or rate of flow of any thing conveyed by the pipe-line or the operation of the means provided under paragraph (1) above;
- (b) verifying the accuracy of the signals provided under sub-paragraph (a) above; and
- (c) communicating signals or instructions for operating the means provided under paragraph (1) above.

(3) After 19th May 1983, no controlled pipe-line shall at any time be operated unless—

- (a) there has been furnished to the Secretary of State for Energy a statement of the maximum allowable operating pressure for the pipe-line calculated by the owner of the pipe-line using a formula which is based on recognised principles and which takes account of any circumstances that will affect the operation of the pipe-line at that time; and

- (b) all reasonably practicable steps have been taken to ensure that the pipe-line is not operated when any thing conveyed by the pipe-line exerts at any point a pressure exceeding—
 - (i) except under transient pressure conditions, the maximum allowable operating pressure for the pipe-line;
 - (ii) under such conditions, such pressure as exceeds the maximum allowable operating pressure for the pipe-line by 10 per cent.

Emergency procedures

7.—(1) There shall be provided in respect of each controlled pipe-line a book (in this Regulation referred to as the “emergency procedures manual”) specifying the action to be taken in the event of an emergency relating to the pipe-line, and, in particular, in the following events—

- (a) a discovery of damage to, or defect in, the pipe-line involving an imminent risk of rupture;
 - (b) an escape of any thing from or an entry of any thing into the pipe-line;
 - (c) an explosion or fire; and
 - (d) a failure of any of the means provided under Regulation 6(2) above.
- (2) There shall also be specified in each emergency procedures manual—
- (a) instructions for stopping or reducing the flow of any thing in the pipe-line;
 - (b) instructions for evacuating divers and other persons from the vicinity of an emergency;
 - (c) instructions for obtaining emergency equipment and services and assistance for dealing with deaths or serious injuries, pollution and other damage resulting from an emergency;
 - (d) instructions for operating any equipment provided for use in an emergency; and
 - (e) instructions for communicating with any such installation or premises as is referred to in paragraph (3)(d) below of which the operation or use is likely to be affected by an emergency.
- (3) Each emergency procedures manual shall contain particulars of—
- (a) the location of any equipment provided for use in an emergency;
 - (b) any available search and rescue services and other emergency services;
 - (c) any other public or local authorities who may be able to provide assistance;
 - (d) any installation in controlled waters or premises in the United Kingdom in the vicinity of the emergency or otherwise of which the operation or use is likely to be affected by an emergency; and
 - (e) any other emergency procedures manuals or similar compilations to which reference should be made.
- (4) Each emergency procedures manual shall contain the names and addresses of any public or local authorities to which a particular emergency is to be reported and specify the method of and the time limit for making the report.

(5) A copy of the emergency procedures manual for a controlled pipe-line shall be made available in the appropriate languages at the place at which the means specified in Regulation 6(2) above are provided in respect of the pipe-line and on each part of the pipe-line on which persons are normally present. In this paragraph “appropriate languages”, in relation to any place, means English and such other languages as are necessary to enable the emergency procedures manual to be understood by all persons at that place who may need to refer to it.

(6) A copy of the emergency procedures manual for a controlled pipe-line shall also be kept at a principal place of business in the United Kingdom of the owner of the pipe-line.

Written instructions as to vessels

8.—(1) There shall be provided in respect of each controlled pipe-line written instructions by the owner of the pipe-line specifying the lawful practices to be observed in relation to the movement and anchoring of vessels used for carrying out pipe-line works to reduce, so far as is reasonably practicable, the risk of damage to the pipe-line.

(2) All reasonably practicable steps shall be taken to ensure that—

- (a) such movement and anchoring in respect of each controlled pipe-line is carried out in accordance with the written instructions for the pipe-line; and
- (b) the relevant part of the written instructions is brought to the attention of all persons engaged in those activities.

(3) A copy of the written instructions for a controlled pipe-line shall be kept at a principal place of business in the United Kingdom of the owner of the pipe-line.

Anchoring information

9.—(1) There shall be furnished by the owner of any controlled pipe-line on request to—

- (a) any concession owner for the purposes of the Mineral Workings (Offshore Installations) Act 1971 (a) whose interests may be affected by the position of the pipe-line;
- (b) any installation manager within the meaning of that Act of a mobile offshore installation in the vicinity of the pipe-line;
- (c) any master of a vessel in the vicinity of the pipe-line; or
- (d) any owner of another pipe-line lying within 5 kilometres of the pipe-line,

such information as he may reasonably require as to the position of the pipe-line together with a copy of the written instructions for the pipe-line provided under Regulation 8(1) above. In this paragraph “mobile offshore installation” means an offshore installation within the meaning of the Mineral Workings (Offshore Installations) Act 1971 which can be moved from place to place without major dismantling or modification, whether or not it has its own motive power.

(a) 1971 c. 61; section 44(5) of the Act made an extension to section 6 of the Act of 1971 not relevant to these Regulations; the Act of 1971 was amended by the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act 1982, section 24 and Schedule 3, paragraphs 7 to 11 and Schedule 4.

(2) There shall be furnished by the proposed owner of any proposed controlled pipe-line or by the owner of any controlled pipe-line to any master of a vessel known by such proposed owner or owner, as the case may be, to have the intention of placing any anchor within 5 kilometres of any pipe-line works relating to the proposed pipe-line or pipe-line, as the case may be, proper advice as to the placing of that anchor including—

- (a) particulars of the position of the pipe-line works in relation to the proposed position of the anchor; and
- (b) recommendations as to any practices likely to reduce the risk of the anchor damaging the pipe-line works.

(3) A record of any advice provided by the proposed owner of a proposed pipe-line or the owner of a pipe-line under paragraph (2) above shall be preserved and kept at a principal place of business in the United Kingdom of such proposed owner or owner, as the case may be.

(4) All reasonably practicable steps shall be taken to prevent any master of a vessel used for carrying out pipe-line works in respect of a controlled pipe-line or proposed controlled pipe-line from placing any anchor within 5 kilometres of another pipe-line unless the Secretary of State for Energy had, at least 8 weeks previously, been notified in writing of the intention to place the anchor and furnished with—

- (a) a map showing the pipe-line works and the other pipe-line and the proposed position of the anchor;
- (b) particulars of the practices to be employed to avoid the risk of the anchor damaging the pipe-line works or the other pipe-line;
- (c) the date on which the owner of the controlled pipe-line or the proposed owner of the proposed controlled pipe-line, as the case may be, estimates that any anchor of the vessel will first be placed within 5 kilometres of the other pipe-line; and
- (d) the date on which such owner or proposed owner, as the case may be, estimates that any anchor of the vessel will last be removed from within 5 kilometres of the other pipe-line.

Notification of end of use, etc.

10. In any of the following events, namely, the expiration of the period of 12 months beginning with the date when a controlled pipe-line was last used for conveying any thing and the resumption of use of a controlled pipe-line after the expiration of such a period, the owner of the pipe-line shall, within 28 days after the happening of that event, give notice in writing thereof to the Secretary of State for Energy.

Amendment of the Submarine Pipe-lines (Inspectors, etc.) Regulations 1977

11. The Submarine Pipe-lines (Inspectors, etc.) Regulations 1977 (a) shall be amended as follows:—

- (a) at the end of Regulation 3(1) the following sub-paragraph shall be added:—
 - “(j) require any person to carry out such procedures or conduct such tests as may appear to him likely to facilitate the exercise of the power conferred on him by sub-paragraph (a) above.”

(a) S.I. 1977/835.

- (b) in Regulation 3(5), for the words “and (d)(i) and (ii)” there shall be substituted the words “, (d)(i) and (ii) and (j).”
- (c) at the end of Regulation 7, the following paragraph shall be added:—
- “(3) The punishment for an offence under these Regulations shall be that authorised by section 32(3)(a) of the Act, that is to say, on summary conviction, a fine not exceeding £1,000 or, in Northern Ireland, £400 and, on conviction on indictment, imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years and a fine.”

Offences

12.—(1) In the event of a contravention of any of these Regulations in relation to a pipe-line or a proposed pipe-line, the owner of the pipe-line or the proposed owner of the proposed pipe-line, as the case may be, shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) If, in furnishing any information for the purposes of these Regulations, any person makes or causes to be made on his behalf a statement which he knows to be false or does not believe to be true, he shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) In any proceedings for an offence under paragraph (1) above it shall be a defence for the person charged to prove that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the contravention.

Penalties

13. The penalty for an offence under these Regulations shall be—
- (a) in the case of a contravention of Regulation 3, 4(1) or (2) or 6(1) or (2) and in the case of an offence under Regulation 12(2), on summary conviction, a fine not exceeding £1,000, or, in Northern Ireland, £400;
- (b) in the case of a contravention of Regulation 4(3), 5(1) or (2) or 7(1) to (5), on summary conviction, a fine not exceeding £500, or, in Northern Ireland, £400;
- (c) in the case of a contravention of Regulation 4(4) to (6) or (10), 6(3), 8(1) or (2), 9 or 10, on summary conviction, a fine not exceeding £200; and
- (d) in the case of a contravention of Regulation 4(7) to (9), 5(3), 7(6) or 8(3), on summary conviction, a fine not exceeding £50.

Nigel Lawson,
Secretary of State for Energy.

25th October 1982.

Regulation 4(10)

SCHEDULE

FORM OF INSPECTION REPORT

**REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY
OF EXAMINATION AND TESTING UNDER INSPECTION
SCHEME FOR A SUBMARINE PIPE-LINE**

Name or identity of pipe-line	
Name of owner	
Nature of examination or testing	
Date(s) carried out	
Damage or defects revealed	
Date(s) of last examination or testing of like nature	
Damage or defects revealed by such last examination or testing	
Remedial work carried out or to be carried out	

I certify that the above particulars are correct.

Signature of person responsible for enforcing the scheme, or section of it, to which this report relates

Particulars of signatory

.....
.....198 .

Name
(block capitals)
Position held

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations, which apply to pipe-lines, and in the case of Regulation 9 (anchoring information), also to proposed pipe-lines in, under or over the territorial sea adjacent to the United Kingdom and the sea in any designated area under the Continental Shelf Act 1964 (c. 29), cease to have effect in relation to any pipe-line 3 years after it was last used and in relation to any proposed pipe-line 3 years after works for its completion were last carried on (Regulation 2). The Regulations provide for the safe construction, operation and maintenance of pipe-lines, for there to be inspection schemes providing for the periodical inspection of pipe-lines, and for the prior notification of substantial repairs and alterations etc. to the Secretary of State for Energy (Regulations 3 to 5). They also require the provision of effective means for shutting down any pipe-line and that the maximum allowable operating pressure for any pipe-line should not be exceeded except under transient pressure conditions and then only by 10 per cent (Regulation 6). The Regulations further provide that there should be an emergency procedures manual for each pipe-line and written instructions for the movement and anchoring of vessels engaged in works on any pipe-line (Regulations 7 and 8). There are also provisions dealing with the furnishing of information to those responsible for vessels, offshore installations and other pipe-lines in the vicinity of a pipe-line or, in the case of vessels, a proposed pipe-line, and also to the Secretary of State for Energy as to the anchoring of vessels carrying out pipe-line works near another pipe-line (Regulation 9). Further provisions deal with the notification of the end or resumption of use of a pipe-line, the amendment of the Submarine Pipe-lines (Inspectors, etc.) Regulations 1977 and offences and penalties (Regulations 10 to 13).

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