Definition of Onshore Gas Gathering Lines

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Introduction

The first edition of this recommended practice was published in April 2000 and reaffirmed in January 2013. This RP was incorporated by PHMSA into reference in March 2006.

In August 2011, PHMSA published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) asking for public comment on the need to change the federal pipeline safety standards for gas gathering lines in 49 C.F.R. Part 192. (Docket No. PHMSA-2011–0023; 76 Fed. Reg. 53,086).

In April 2016, PHMSA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) with potential changes to the regulations for onshore gas gathering lines (Docket No. PHMSA-2011–0023; 81 Fed. Reg. 20,721).

The second edition revision effort reflects industry experience using the recommended practice. operators, service providers, regulators, and public interest groups participated in the task group responsible for revising the recommended practice. The primary objective of this revision was to create a more concise document with a focus on clarity for end users.

As of the time of publication of this document, RP 80, 1st Edition was incorporated by reference into U.S. federal regulation (49 CFR 192). The 2nd Edition of RP 80 has not been incorporated by reference into U.S. federal regulation (49 CFR 192). Users of this document may also need to reference the 1st Edition of RP 80.

Definition of Onshore Gas Gathering Lines

1 Scope

This industry standard provides a functional description of onshore natural gas gathering pipelines for the sole purpose of providing users with a practical guide for determining the application of gas gathering in the federal *Gas Pipeline Safety Standards*, 49 CFR Part 192, and state programs implementing these standards. Because of the regional and operational diversity within the natural gas industry, additional guidance is necessary to ensure appropriate and consistent application of the gas gathering line definition. This document does not apply to transportation-related underground gas storage facilities.

2 Normative References

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms, Definitions, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

3.1 Terms and Definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions apply.

3.1.1
commingle
To combine the hydrocarbon streams from two or more wells, units, fields, production zones, or production facilities through a series of pipelines for processing, treatment, and/or delivery to an end user or another pipeline.

3.1.2
extraction and recovery
Operations used to move liquid and/or gas products from an underground reservoir to the surface.

3.1.3
gathering line gas treatment facility
One or a series of gas treatment operations on a gathering line operated for the purpose of removing impurities.

3.1.4
lifting
Refers to mechanical and other means used to move liquid and/or products from the producing interval in the well to the surface.

3.1.5
measurement
The process of gauging or determining the quantity of hydrocarbons.

3.1.6
natural gas processing plant
A natural gas processing operation, other than production processing, operated for the purpose of commercially extracting one or more components, such as natural gas liquids, carbon dioxide, sulfur, or helium from the gas stream. Gas processing plants are not transportation facilities. Operations within these facilities are on gas that has been removed from transportation for processing.

3.1.7
production
The extraction of subsurface liquid and/or gas hydrocarbon resources.