

# 12-D Line Markers for Mains and Transmission Pipelines

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### **1.0 SCOPE**

This chapter describes the procedure for DENC and DESC *Gas* Operations to install *pipeline* markers and signs to identify the location of mains and transmission lines and to reduce the possibility of pipeline damage.

### **2.0 REGULATORY REFERENCES**

49 CFR Part192 § [192.707](#)

### **3.0 PROCEDURE**

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### 3.1 Required Pipeline Markers [[192.707](#)]

Pipeline markers, with information, letter size and stroke width as specified in [section 3.5](#), are required by Federal Regulations in the following locations:

#### (a) Distribution Mains

- (1) At aboveground locations such as exposed pipelines at ditch and stream crossings, bridge attachments, town border stations, regulating stations, and industrial M&R stations.
- (2) At public road and railroad crossings in rural areas as near to the crossing point as practical. For the purposes of this procedure, rural areas are defined as areas that have less than 46 buildings intended for human occupancy per mile of pipeline (*Class 1 locations* or *Class 2 locations*).
- (3) Wherever it is deemed necessary to identify the pipeline to reduce the possibility of damage or interference

#### (b) Transmission Lines

- (1) At aboveground locations such as exposed pipelines at ditch and stream crossings, bridge attachments, town border stations, regulating stations, and industrial M&R stations.
- (2) At all public road and railroad crossings except for *Class 3 locations* or *Class 4 locations* where placement of a line marker is impractical.
- (3) Wherever it is deemed necessary to identify the pipeline to reduce the possibility of damage or interference.

(c) At all pipeline crossings of navigable waterways a US Coast Guard approved sign prohibiting anchoring of vessels is required.

### 3.2 Recommended Pipeline Markers/Indicators

Pipeline markers or indicators are recommended for the following locations:

#### (a) Distribution Mains

- (1) At, or as near as possible, to the end points of pipelines.
- (2) At, or as near as possible, to the end points of the active portion of service lines that have been partially abandoned.

#### (b) Transmission Lines and Distribution Mains (Operating At or Above 100 psig)

- (1) At intervals that permit line of sight to identify that the pipeline is located parallel within, or adjacent to, the road right-of-way unless impractical or there is a damage prevention program in place for that specific section of line.
- (2) At intervals that permit line of sight to identify the pipeline within the pipeline right-of-way in areas where the right-of way is not clearly discernible unless impractical or there is a damage prevention program in place for that specific section of line.
- (3) At both sides of each public road and railroad crossing and as near to the crossing point as practical.

### 3.3 Right-Of-Way Indicators

Pipeline right-of-way boundary stakes or markers (typically white in color) *should* be installed at both sides of road and railroad crossings and at other

### 3.4 Urban Areas

- (a) Each pipeline marker or sign that is used to identify the location of buried pipelines should be placed as close as practical over the buried line.
- (b) Congested urban areas and some areas within road right-of-way preclude the installation and maintenance of pipeline markers and could require alternative pipeline markings such as:
  - (1) Offset warning signs that alert potential excavators that gas pipelines are in the vicinity typically installed at the edge of the road right-of-way or on nearby poles or fence posts (with permission of the owner).
  - (2) Ground level (flush mounted) markers or curb mounted markers.

### 3.5 Information Displayed on Pipeline Markers

- (a) The following information should be displayed on each pipeline marker or sign:
  - (1) The word "Caution," "Warning," or "Danger" followed by the words "Gas Pipeline" all of which *must* be in letters at least one inch high with a one quarter inch stroke.
  - (2) The name of the operator – "Dominion Energy South Carolina."
  - (3) A telephone number (including area code) where the operator can be reached at all times. A toll-free number is preferred.
    - 1-800-815-0083 (DESC)
  - (4) In addition to the above requirements, pipeline markers and signs should include a reminder to call 811 prior to digging.
- (b) The above information should be clearly displayed on a background of sharply contrasting color on each marker or sign.

### 3.6 Marker Specifications

- (a) DENC and DESC Gas Operations typically uses the following types of markers and signs:
  - (1) Yellow fiberglass or polyethylene markers (approx. 3" wide) for above and below ground pipelines
  - (2) Custom-made metal signs (approx. 12" or 18" square) for regulating stations
  - (3) Yellow polyethylene signs (approx. 8"x12") for town border stations and industrial M&R stations
  - (4) Custom-made offset warning signs (approx. 8"x12") for use in areas where pipeline markers cannot be readily installed or maintained.
  - (5) Flush mounted indicators that can be installed at ground level or attached to curbs and sidewalks for use in developed areas where pipeline markers cannot be readily installed or maintained.
  - (6) Large custom designed signs at navigable waterways that meet US Coast Guard specifications for marking pipelines and preventing potential damage from anchoring vessels (contact *Engineering* for required specifications).
- (b) All pipeline indicators, markers and signs used should be approved in accordance with DENC and DESC Gas Operations material specifications and

### **3.7 Marker/Indicator Maintenance and Replacement**

- (a) Pipeline markers and signs required by this procedure should be maintained or replaced as needed. At a minimum, markers and signs should be inspected during scheduled patrols and while other routine operations and maintenance functions are being performed.
- (b) Pipeline indicators and offset signs recommended by this procedure should also be maintained or replaced as deemed necessary by Operations Management responsible for the gas system in that area.

### **4.0 TRAINING/QUALIFICATIONS**

See the appropriate system Operator Qualification Program.

### **5.0 DOCUMENTATION/FORMS**

System specific forms should be used where applicable.

### **6.0 RELATED DOCUMENTS**

None at this time.

### **7.0 APPENDICES**

None at this time.

(UNCONTROLLED IF PRINTED)