

11-H Purging

DESC O&M Manual - Version 2022.5 October 5, 2022

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1.0 SCOPE

This chapter describes the procedures for purging pipelines.

2.0 REGULATORY REFERENCES

49 CFR Part 192 § [192.629](#), ADB-2021-01

3.0 PROCEDURE(S)

[3.1 Emissions Minimization](#)

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3.1 Emissions Minimization [ADB-2021-01]

The following considerations should be made before releasing natural gas to atmosphere.

- (a) When operational conditions allow, one or more of the following methods to reduce the amount of gas released to open atmosphere from a Blowdown should be considered.
- (b) Methods include the following:

- (1) Consumption of the gas / diverting gas to another pipeline.
- (2) Use stopper fittings to minimize pipe segment that need to be isolated and blowdown;
- (3) Use of an emission control device (e.g. ZEVAC), per [GD-OM-L-030-001, Portable Compression Unit Operating Procedure](#), and/or
- (4) Flare the gas

(i) when flaring is the determined option, the procedure user should coordinate with an experienced contractor.

(c) If any of the above options are not feasible, draw down pressure as much as possible, and safely blowdown the pipe segment to atmosphere following the procedural requirements below.

3.2 Pressure Reduction and Purging [ADB-2021-01]

Prior to pressure reduction and purging, perform the required notifications and preliminary actions outlined in section 7 of [GD-OM-L-080-001, Pressure Reductions, Blowdowns, and Purging Pipeline Facilities](#).

For specific requirements for prevention of accidental ignition, reference [Chapter 12-I, Prevention of Accidental Ignition](#).

For specific requirements for control of static electricity, reference [Chapter 1-E Safety](#), section 3.4, Control of Static Electricity.

3.3 Purging IN ½ inch and ¾ inch Service Lines with an EFV Installed

See section 8.3.3.d of [GD-OM-L-080-001, Pressure Reductions, Blowdowns, and Purging Pipeline Facilities](#).

State Specific: South Carolina

See also [DESC Design and Installation Manual Section 1025](#) (online manual).

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

[GD-OM-L-080-001, Pressure Reductions, Blowdowns, and Purging Pipeline Facilities](#)

State Specific: South Carolina

- [Design and Installation Manual \(DESC\)](#) (online manual)

7.0 APPENDICES

State Specific: South Carolina

- [2.07.100 - Purge Stack - Vertical Main Outlet](#) (PDF file)
- [2.07.110 - Purge Stack - Horizontal Main Outlet](#) (PDF file)
- [2.07.120 - Purge Stack - Temporary Riser](#) (PDF file)

(UNCONTROLLED IF PRINTED)