

Distribution Integrity Management - Overview



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Why Integrity Management?

- Regulations are historically specific
 - Design
 - Operations and Maintenance
 - Apply everywhere
- Very safe, but accidents still occur
- Better focus needed to further improve safety

Integrity Management

- Our solution was to embark on a new regulatory regime – integrity management
- Require that operators identify actions needed for specific pipelines
- Hazardous liquid IM – 2000
- Gas Transmission IM - 2003

Why IM for Distribution?

- Urban/suburban location, more mileage, lead to more serious accidents
- Distribution pipeline systems are complex
 - Mains and Services
 - Pipe sizes down to ½ inch
 - Many interconnections
 - Different materials

Developing DIMP

- Study the need – number of serious accidents
- Evaluate how (Report in docket 19854)
- Apply IM principles

The Proposed Rule

- Seven Elements

Written plan

Know infrastructure

Identify threats

Analyze risks

Manage risks

Measure improvement

Report performance

Small Operators

- Distribution pipeline operators come in all sizes
 - Large operators (e.g., major cities)
 - Small operators (e.g., municipal systems)
 - Master meter and LPG
- Smallest operators are simple, low risk
- Must have simpler programs

Regulating DIMP

- States regulate most distribution pipeline operators
- State pipeline regulators will monitor completeness of DIMP plans
- States and PHMSA will follow results

Learn More and Comment

- Webcast is presented in sections
- Notice of proposed rulemaking is in the docket at : <http://www.regulations.gov>
- Docket No. PHMSA-RSPA-2004-19854
- Comment instructions in notice