

**Operations and Maintenance Procedures Task Manual**  
**Operator: Pacific Energy & Mining Company**  
**PHMSA-issued Operator Identification Number (OPID): 39049**  
**Paradox Natural Gas Pipeline, Grand County, UT**

<b>B31Q Task # 1661</b>	<b>Page 1 of 2</b>
<b>Revision date: 4/14/08</b>	<b>Version: 2.1</b>
<b>Isolating, Abandoning and Deactivating Pipeline Facilities.</b>	<b>TAB# 71</b>

**SCOPE AND PURPOSE**

This procedure provides personnel activities for isolating, abandoning and deactivating pipeline facilities. It describes practices required to comply with §192.727.

**RESPONSIBILITY**

The Pacific Energy & Mining Co., or other designee, is responsible to ensure that isolating, abandoning and deactivating pipeline is performed as described in this procedure.

**PERSONNEL SAFETY (Where Applicable)**

- Personnel shall ensure that safety conditions exist. Anytime components are disconnected from the gas distribution system, there is a chance that gas will escape and cause a hazard.
- Ignition and potential ignition sources should be eliminated.
- A fire extinguisher must be present at the site placed at a suitable location.
- Establish a safety perimeter to prevent bystanders and unauthorized personnel from entering the area of activity.
- Welding activities may not be performed on piping containing a natural gas and air mixture.
- Personnel shall consult the manufacturer's installation and operating instructions for complete information on the uses of different types and styles of isolation and stoppering devices, equipment and tools.

**EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS**

Valve key wrench.  
Ratchet wrench and socket.

Tapping tee hex wrench.  
Stopper and drilling machines with tools and attachments.  
Combustible gas indicator (CGI).  
Routine hand tools.

**OPERATOR QUALIFICATION**

This activity is a covered task under the Operator Qualification Plan and may only be performed by or directed and observed by an individual who is currently qualified to perform isolating, abandoning and deactivating pipeline. Refer to the OQ Plan for specific qualification requirements.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- a. Whenever a pipeline or pipeline section is to be isolated, abandoned, or deactivated, it shall be identified.
- b. If branch lateral lines are connected to the pipeline section being shut down, either:
  - provide an alternate gas supply line (by pass), or
  - all interconnected piping must be identified and defined as part of the effected shut down piping.
- c. Close appropriate valves utilize stopper fittings, end caps, blind flanges, or other appropriate devices to isolate the pipeline or facility.
- d. If service lines are connected to the pipeline section being shut down:
  - all service valves should be secured by locking the valve in the closed position until service is reestablished to the customer's premises, and
  - if possible, all customers should be contacted and advised of the service interruption.
- e. Purge isolated pipeline segment.
- f. If the line is to be disconnected from other activated pipelines (abandoned in place), the piping being shut down must be thoroughly purged. However, the pipeline need not be purged when the volume of gas is so small that there is no potential hazard.

Prepared by: Terry Spencer

Approved by: Tariq Ahmad

Date: 10/10/2018

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- g. Personnel shall verify that the piping does not contain natural gas. A combustible gas indicator is to be employed for this task.
- h. Gas being expelled into the atmosphere must be vented at a place or area where it will be discharged safely.
- i. Seal ends of abandoned pipe.
- j. For a service line, one of the following must be done to prevent the flow of gas to the customer:
  - lock or otherwise secure the valve controlling gas to the service, or
  - install a mechanical device or fitting in the service line or meter set, or
  - disconnect the customer's piping from the gas supply.
- k. Remove any above ground facilities.

**REPORTING/NOTIFICATION**

Complete documentation in accordance with Operations and Maintenance Manual.

**RELATED PROCEDURES**

1641-1651 – Purging with Gas, Air, or Inert Gas.

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