



## Pipeline Safety Auditing: Federal Compliance Guide

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### new & noteworthy

- **PHMSA Final Rule for Gas Gathering Lines:** The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has expanded design, operations and maintenance, and reporting requirements for natural gas gathering pipelines because of their increased risk to public safety. Gas gathering pipelines collect unprocessed gas from production facilities to main lines. Prior to the rule change, gas lines in a Class 1 location (a rural area with 10 or fewer buildings intended for human occupancy within a 1-mile-long class-location unit) were exempt from reporting and safety requirements. Because of an increase in domestic gas production, PHMSA has created two additional categories of gas gathering pipelines—Type C and Type R. Type C gathering lines must meet expanded design, operation and maintenance, and reporting requirements. Type R pipelines (or “reporting-regulated gathering pipelines”) are only subject to incident and annual reporting requirements. The final rule requires operators of all onshore gas gathering lines to report incidents and file annual reports under 49 CFR 191 beginning in calendar year 2022.

Tab A has been updated to reflect the regulatory changes in this PHMSA Final Rule.

### highlights of this release

- **Tab A—Natural Gas Systems:**
  - Introduction: The Key Compliance Definitions have been updated to add a definition for “composite material.” The definition for “regulated onshore gathering line” has been revised to include Type C and Type R, and separate definitions for “regulated onshore gathering” and “reporting-regulated gathering” have been added.
  - Rulebook: The term “transmission pipeline” has been changed to “transmission system” throughout, and requirements for the two additional classifications for regulated gathering lines—Type C and Type R—have been incorporated where relevant.
  - Rulebook paragraph 1.6 has been updated to provide information on incident reporting requirements under 49 CFR 191.5, which have been changed effective May 16, 2022.
  - Rulebook paragraph 1.7 has been updated to provide information on annual reporting requirements under 49 CFR 191.17, which have been changed effective for calendar year 2022.
  - Rulebook paragraph 1.8 has been updated to show that the new classification of “reporting-regulated gathering pipeline” is not subject to safety-related condition reporting.

# release notes

*please review*

- Rulebook paragraph 1.9 has been updated to add regulatory changes regarding the notification for actions that differ from those prescribed in 49 CFR 192.18.
- Rulebook paragraph 2.1 has been updated to add regulatory changes for determining the classification of gathering lines under 49 CFR 192.8, and regulatory changes that will come into effect on November 16, 2022 regarding pipeline records.
- Rulebook paragraph 2.2 has been updated to remove operating requirements that are now outdated for Type A and Type B gathering lines, and to add requirements for Type C gathering lines.

## did you know?

- **PHMSA Review of Pipeline Transportation of Emerging Fuels:** PHMSA has begun to review pipeline transportation of hydrogen and other emerging fuels. At a November 2021, public meeting and forum, PHMSA requested information on the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of leak-prone, legacy cast iron pipelines; integrity of underground fuel storage in hydrogen, carbon dioxide and methane pipelines including utilization of inspection tools and network components on hydrogen pipeline facilities; integrity management of natural gas and hazardous liquids pipelines to include carbon dioxide lines; and methane mitigation from pipeline infrastructure. Additional information on the public meeting can be found at <https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/meetings/MtgHome.mtg?mtg=153>.

### related STP products



- **Onshore and Offshore Upstream Oil and Gas Operations: Federal Auditing Guide** is designed to be used to ensure compliance with Federal Department of Interior (DOI) environmental, health, and safety (EHS) regulatory requirements facing businesses that explore for, and extract, oil and natural gas. This guide serves as a concise reference on DOI EHS regulatory issues, agency interpretations and guidance, facility compliance responsibilities, and good management practices. Available formats: online and via risk management systems.

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