



Description	This procedure is designed to give general information for pipeline start-up and shutdown. Refer to the PSOM for specific procedures.
Regulatory Applicability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regulated Transmission Pipelines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regulated Gathering Pipelines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regulated Distribution Pipelines
Frequency	As needed
Reference	49 CFR 192.605(b)(5) <i>Procedural Manual for Operations, Maintenance and Emergencies</i> WTG P-192.629 Purging of Pipeline
Forms / Record Retention	None
Related Specifications	None
OQ Covered Task	0301 <i>Manually Opening and Closing Valves</i> 1381 <i>Operate Gas Pipeline – Local Facility Remote Control Operations</i> 1401 <i>Operate Liquids Pipeline – Local Facility Remote Control Operations</i> (In order to perform the tasks listed above; personnel must be qualified in accordance with West Texas Gas's Operator Qualification program or directly supervised by a qualified individual.)



Procedure Steps

Prior to starting-up or shutting down a pipeline; identify/notify affected external customers and appropriate internal company personnel.

Start-up

These procedures can be used on new pipeline installations or those pipelines that have been repaired.

1. If the pipeline has been pressure tested, remove any test medium; prepare the system to be purged of all air by the use of gas. Make sure all vents or valves used in the purging process are equipped with vents at least 6 feet above the ground. If necessary to protect the public, barricade the area, and stop vehicle traffic and other sources of ignition.
2. The flow of purge gas must be of sufficient pressure and volume to ensure a complete exclusion of air. The entire segment of pipeline and related equipment must be purged. (**REVIEW PIPELINE PURGING PROCEDURES IN P-192.629**).
3. After purging is completed, all open valves must be closed to prevent air from re-entering the system.
4. The pipeline and related equipment can now be pressured to the normal operating pressures. The pressurization process must be slow and steady. Pressure indicators must be monitored continuously to make certain that the system is not pressured above the established system MAOP.
5. Once the system is pressured to normal operating pressure, all valves, vents, regulators, etc. Should be checked for normal operations.

Shutdown

1. To begin the shutdown procedure, first close the upstream block valve and any additional pressure sources to stop the flow of gas into the pipeline. This will prevent over pressuring of a pipeline. Isolate the downstream block valve at the other end of the pipeline or segment.
2. If the gas pressure must be vented, precautions must be taken to prevent danger to the public, public property, our employees and our facilities. (**REVIEW PIPELINE PURGING PROCEDURES IN P-192.629**).