

Kansas Administrative Regulations

Kansas Corporation Commission

Article 11.—Natural Gas Pipeline Safety

82-11-1. Definitions.

The following terms, as used in this article and in the identified sections of the federal regulations adopted by reference, shall be defined as specified in this regulation:

(a) "Area of residential development" means a location in which over 25 residential customers are being, or are expected to be, added over the period in which the area is to be developed.

(b) "Barhole" means a small hole made near gas piping to extract air from the ground.

(c) "Combustible gas indicator" means a type of leak detection equipment capable of detecting and measuring gas concentrations in the atmosphere with minimum detection accuracy of 0.5% gas in the air.

(d) "Commission" means state corporation commission of Kansas.

(e) "Confined space" means any subsurface structure, including vaults, tunnels, catch basins and manholes, that is of sufficient size to accommodate a person and in which gas could accumulate.

(f) "Construction project" means the construction of either of the following:

(1) Any jurisdictional pipeline installation, including new, replacement, or relocation projects, in which the total piping installed during the project is in excess of 400 feet for small gas operators or 1,000 feet for all other gas operators; or

(2) any other significant pipeline installation that is subject to these safety standards.

(g) "Department of transportation" means U.S. department of transportation.

(h) "Exposed pipeline" means buried pipeline that has become uncovered due to erosion, excavation, or any other cause.

(i) "Flame ionization" means a type of leak detection equipment that uses a technology that continuously draws ambient air through a hydrogen flame and thereby provides an indication of the presence of hydrocarbons.

(j) "Gas-associated structure" means a device or facility utilized by a gas company, including a valve box, vault, test box, and vented casing pipe, that is not intended for storing, transmitting, or distributing gas.

(k) "Gas pipeline safety section" means the gas pipeline safety section of the state corporation commission of Kansas.

(l) "Inspector" means an employee of the gas pipeline safety section of the state corporation commission of Kansas.

(m) "Leak detection equipment" means a device, including a flame ionization unit, combustible gas indicator, and other equipment as approved by the gas pipeline safety section, that measures the amount of hydrocarbon gas in an ambient air sample.

(n) "Lower explosive limit" and "LEL" mean the lowest percent of concentration of natural gas in a mixture with air that can be ignited at normal ambient atmospheric temperature and pressure.

(o) "Odorometer" means an instrument capable of determining the percentage of gas in air at which the odor of the gas becomes detectible to an individual with a normal sense of smell.

(p) "Small gas operator" means an operator who engages in the transportation or distribution of gas, or both, in a system having fewer than 5,000 service lines.

(q) "Small substructure" means any subsurface structure, other than a gas-associated structure, that is of sufficient size to accommodate a person and in which gas could accumulate, including telephone and electrical ducts and conduit, and non-associated valve and meter boxes.

(r) "Sniff test" means a qualitative test performed by an individual with a normal sense of smell. The test is conducted by releasing small amounts of gas in order to determine whether an odorant is detectible.

(s) "Town border station" means a pressure-limiting station that reduces the pressure of the gas stream delivered downstream of the station, normally located within or immediately adjacent to the gas purchase point, at which natural gas ownership passes from one party to another, neither of which is the ultimate consumer.

(t) "Underground leak classification" means the process of sampling the subsurface atmosphere for gas using a combustible gas indicator in a series of available openings

or barholes over, or adjacent to, the gas facility. If applicable, the sampling pattern shall include sample points that indicate sustained readings of 0% gas in air in the four cardinal directions.

(u) "Utility division" means the utility division of the state corporation commission of Kansas.

(v) "Yard line" means the buried, customer-owned, individually metered piping between the outlet of the meter and the outside wall of a residential premises.

(Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 66-1,150 and 66-1,157a; effective, T-82-10-28-88, Oct. 28, 1988; effective, T-82-2-25-89, Feb. 25, 1989; revoked, T-82-3-31-89, April 30, 1989; effective May 1, 1989; amended July 7, 2003; amended Jan. 25, 2008; amended Jan. 9, 2015.)

***** Authenticated Kansas Administrative Regulation *****