

State of Florida



# Public Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

**-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-**

**DATE:** September 24, 2009

**TO:** Office of Commission Clerk (Cole)

**FROM:** Office of the General Counsel (Cowdery, Cibula) *AK SMC. WD*  
 Division of Service, Safety and Consumer Assistance (Mills, Fletcher) *AMT*  
 Division of Economic Regulation (Hewitt) *CBH/JS*

**RE:** Docket No. 090396-GU – Initiation of rulemaking to amend rules in Chapter 25-12, F.A.C., pertaining to safety of gas transportation by pipeline.

**AGENDA:** 10/06/09 – Regular Agenda – Rule Proposal – Interested Persons May Participate

**COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED:** All Commissioners

**PREHEARING OFFICER:** Edgar

**RULE STATUS:** Proposal may be deferred

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** None

**FILE NAME AND LOCATION:** S:\PSC\GCL\WP\090396.RCM.DOC

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 CLERK

### Case Background

By letter of December 5, 2008, the Joint Administrative Procedures Committee requested the Office of General Counsel to review all of the rules in Chapter 25-12, Safety of Gas Transportation by Pipeline, to determine whether the rules remain current with Commission, federal, and industry standards and practices. Staff conducted the review as requested. On June 5, 2009, a Notice of Development of Rulemaking was published in the FAW. There was no request for a rule development workshop. This recommendation addresses whether the Commission should propose the amendment of Rules 25-12.004, 25-12.005, 25-12.008, 25-12.022, 25-12.027, 25-12.040, 25-12.041, 25-12.080, 25-12.084, and 25-12.085, F.A.C.

The Commission has jurisdiction pursuant to Section 120.54, F.S. and Chapter 368, F.S.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

### **Discussion of Issues**

**Issue 1:** Should the Commission propose the amendment of Rules 25-12.004, 25-12.005, 25-12.008, 25-12.022, 25-12.027, 25-12.040, 25-12.041, 25-12.080, 25-12.084, and 25-12.085, F.A.C.?

**Recommendation:** Yes, the Commission should propose the amendment of these rules as set forth in Attachment A. (Cowdery, Mills)

**Staff Analysis:** The rules recommended to be proposed for amendment are set forth in Attachment A. Staff is recommending that these rules be amended in order to update outdated language, as follows:

25-12.004, Definitions, (p. 5) should be amended to correct the zip code address for the Commission for accuracy and to update the Pipeline Inspection, Protection, Enforcement, and Safety Act legal citation because the current citation is outdated.

25-12.005, Codes and Standards Adopted, (p. 7) should be amended to adopt the most current three parts of the Code of Federal Regulations, 191, 192 and 199, that cover natural gas pipeline safety and to correct the agency name reference. These corrections are needed because the current citations are outdated.

25-12.008, New, Reconstructed or Converted Facilities, (p. 7) should be amended to delete references to filed plans required by repealed rule 25-12.039 which are therefore obsolete. The Code of Federal Regulation citation should be updated to be current. In addition, staff recommends deleting the requirement that Operating and Maintenance Plans be filed with the Commission. This is because utility Operating and Maintenance Plans are readily available to Commission staff in the field for evaluations. There is no need for such plans to be stored and located in Tallahassee.

25-12.022, Requirements for Distribution System Valves, (p. 9) should be amended to clarify the requirements for sectionalizing valves only, not all valves, and to give a distance exception for location of valves if they are physically impractical to install in areas like river crossings and closed interstate highways.

25-12.027, Welder Qualifications, (p. 10) should be amended to update the outdated references to the current standard and code for welding on pipelines and allow qualification to one standard American Petroleum Institute Standard 1104, Welding of Pipelines and Related Facilities, or to Appendix C, 49 C.F.R. 192 and eliminate reference to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code due to lack of use.

25-12.040, Leak Surveys, Procedures and Classifications, (p. 11) should be amended to clarify the rule's intent that cleared gas leaks are repaired.

25-12.041, Receiving of Gas Reports, (p. 13) should be amended to add clarifying language to the title and rule language, and to delete obsolete references to filed plans required by repealed rule 25-12.039. In addition, staff recommends deleting the requirement that Operating and Maintenance Plans be filed with the Commission. This is because utility Operating and Maintenance Plans are readily available to Commission staff in the field for evaluations. There is no need for such plans to be stored and located in Tallahassee.

25-12.080, General, (p. 13) should be amended to correct an agency name reference for accuracy.

25-12.084, Notice of Accidents and Outages, (p. 13) should be amended to increase the dollar amount threshold that requires the notification of the Commission of natural gas related accidents. This increase is intended to recognize and adjust for the increase in inflation since the rule was originally adopted.

25-12.085, Written Annual Reports Required, (p. 14) should be amended to eliminate the requirement to file forms in triplicate, to update the agency and identification reference to the required form, to change the submittal date to match federal requirements, and to eliminate an unnecessary report. The language proposed to be changed is outdated.

#### **Statement of Estimated Regulatory Cost (SERC)**

The Statement of Estimated Regulatory Costs (Attachment B) notes that the rule amendments would revise and update references to natural gas pipeline safety codes and standards, clarify and edit rule language, and increase the dollar amount for reporting accidents to the Commission. The SERC also states that the rule amendments would reduce the amount of copies filed for a required report and eliminate a report not needed. It also states that there should be no incremental costs for the Commission, affected utilities should have minimal or no costs, customers would not be affected, outside businesses should not be affected, and local governments should have no transactional costs as a result of these amendments.

Based upon the above, staff recommends that the Commission propose the amendment of Rules 25-12.004, 25-12.005, 25-12.008, 25-12.022, 25-12.027, 25-12.040, 25-12.041, 25-12.080, 25-12.084, and 25-12.085, F.A.C., as set forth in Attachment A.

Docket No. 090396-GU  
Date: September 24, 2009

**Issue 2:** Should this docket be closed?

**Recommendation:** Yes. (Cowdery)

**Staff Analysis:** If no requests for hearing or comments are filed, the rules may be filed with the Department of State, and then this docket may be closed.

1 **25-12.004 Definitions.**

2 Definitions contained in codes or standards adopted by these rules are applicable to the rules  
3 and the adopted codes or standards with the following exceptions:

4 (1) "Commission". Unless a different intent clearly appears from the context, the word  
5 "Commission" shall mean the Florida Public Service Commission, 2540 Shumard Oak  
6 Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-~~08500868~~, area code (850) 413-6770.

7 (2) "Utility" or "Operator". Except where a different meaning clearly appears from the  
8 context, the word "Utility" or "Operator" shall be every person, corporation, partnership,  
9 association, public agency, municipality, cooperative gas district or other legal entity and their  
10 lessees, trustees, or receivers, now or hereafter owning, operating, managing or controlling  
11 any gas transmission or distribution facility transporting gas as defined herein and not  
12 specifically exempt from state jurisdiction by the Pipeline Inspection, Protection,  
13 Enforcement, and Safety Act of 2006 (PIPES Act), Pub. L. 109-468 (codified as amended at  
14 49 U.S.C. §60101 (2006)). ~~Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968, Public Law 90-481.~~

15 (3) "Gas". Gas as used herein shall mean natural, manufactured, liquefied petroleum  
16 gas with air admixture, or any similar gaseous substances, but shall not include liquefied  
17 petroleum gas in either the liquid or gaseous form except when stored or used for peak  
18 shaving or standby fuels in conjunction with an operator's system.

19 (4) "Inspector". The term "Inspector" shall apply to a person designated by the utility  
20 vested with the authority to initiate action to assure compliance with the adopted codes.

21 (5) "Distribution System". As used in these rules shall mean any group of  
22 interconnected pipe and facilities operating at a hoop stress of less than 20 percent% specified  
23 minimum yield strength which transports gas from a common source of supply or storage  
24 facility to a customer.

25 (6) "Low Pressure Distribution System" is a gas distribution piping system or portion  
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from existing law.

1 thereof which supplies gas to more than 10 customers through a common pressure reducing  
2 device(s) at a pressure substantially the same as the pressure provided to the customer.

3 (7) "Fusion" means the union of two plastic surfaces that have been heated, or have  
4 had solvents applied, sufficiently to melt and fuse them together.

5 (8) "Gas Meter" means an instrument manufactured primarily for use in measuring,  
6 and indicating or recording the measurement of, the volume of gas that has moved through the  
7 instrument.

8 (9) "Master Meter System" means a pipe system that receives gas through a gas meter  
9 and transports that gas to or for the public, with the gas being delivered through another gas  
10 meter prior to consumption.

11 (10) "Pipeline" means all parts of those physical facilities through which gas moves in  
12 transportation, including pipe, valves, and other appurtenances attached to pipe, compressor  
13 units, metering stations, regulator stations, delivery stations, holders, and fabricated  
14 assemblies. "Pipeline," for the purposes of these rules, unless stated otherwise, includes mains  
15 and service lines.

16 (11) "Main" means a distribution pipeline that serves as a common source of supply  
17 for more than one service line.

18 (12) "Service line" means a distribution pipeline that transports gas from a common  
19 source of supply to a gas meter prior to consumption.

20 (13) "Weld" means the union of metals which have been heated sufficiently to melt  
21 and fuse them together.

22 Specific Authority 368.05(2) FS. Law Implemented 368.03 FS. History--New 6-24-67,  
23 Amended 3-7-70, 11-14-70, 9-21-74, Repromulgated 10-7-75, Amended 10-2-84, Formerly  
24 25-12.04, Amended 1-7-92.

25

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1 **25-12.005 Codes and Standards Adopted.**

2 The Minimum Federal Safety Standards and reporting requirements for pipeline facilities and  
3 transportation of gas prescribed by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety  
4 Administration~~United States Department of Transportation~~ in 49 C.F.R. 191 and 192 (2008) as  
5 amended in 74 Fed. Reg. 2889-01 (January 16, 2009)~~Parts 191 and 192 of Title 49, Code of~~  
6 ~~Federal Regulations (CFR) as amended through January 1, 2001,~~ are adopted as part of these  
7 rules. 49 C.F.R. Part 199 (2008), “Drug and Alcohol Testing,” as amended in 74 Red. Reg.  
8 2889-01 (January 16, 2009)~~through January 1, 2001,~~ is adopted to control drug use, by setting  
9 standards and requirements to apply to the testing and use of all emergency response  
10 personnel under the direct authority or control of a gas utility or pipeline operator, as well as  
11 all employees directly or indirectly employed by gas pipeline operators for the purpose of  
12 operation and maintenance and all employees directly or indirectly employed by intrastate gas  
13 distribution utilities for on-site construction of natural gas transporting pipeline facilities. Part  
14 199 also is adopted to prescribe standards for use of employees who do not meet the  
15 requirements of the regulations.

16 Specific Authority 368.05(2), 350.127(2) FS. Law Implemented 368.03 FS. History—New 11-  
17 14-70, Amended 9-24-71, Revised 9-21-74, Amended 10-7-75, 11-30-82, 10-2-84, Formerly  
18 25-12.05, Amended 8-8-89, 1-7-92, 5-13-99, 4-26-01.

19  
20 **25-12.008 New, Reconstructed or Converted Facilities.**

21 (1) No new or reconstructed system or portion thereof may be:

22 (a) Constructed, until written construction specifications complying with these rules  
23 are developed.

24 (b) Placed in service until:

25 ~~1. The pipeline facilities have been inspected and found to comply with the~~  
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1 construction specifications; and

2 ~~2-Operating and Maintenance Plans have been filed with the Commission.~~

3 (2) Before a piping system can be converted to a regulated gas, the operator must:

4 (a) Have on file with the Commission a general conversion procedure as a part of its  
5 operation and maintenance plan.

6 (b) File a conversion plan with the Commission for the specific system at least 15 days  
7 prior to start of conversion. This plan need not be filed for minor conversions which are  
8 scheduled to be completed in one day and where sectionalizing of the system to be converted  
9 is not planned.

10 (c) Have sufficient inspections performed of the pipeline to assure that it was  
11 constructed in accordance with standards applicable at the time of installation. Visual  
12 inspection of the underground facilities may not be required if adequate construction and  
13 testing records have been maintained.

14 (d) Review the operating and maintenance history of the system to be converted. Any  
15 areas showing abnormal maintenance requirements shall be replaced, reconditioned or  
16 otherwise made safe prior to conversion.

17 (e) Establish the maximum allowable operating pressure no greater than the highest  
18 sustained operating pressure during the 5 years prior to conversion unless it was tested or  
19 updated after July 1, 1970 in accordance with the Subparts J or K of 49 C.F.R. 192 (2008) ~~Part~~  
20 ~~192, Title 49, CFR after July 1, 1970.~~

21 (f) Make a leak survey over the entire converted system concurrent with the  
22 conversion.

23 (g) Determine areas of active corrosion as required by 49 C.F.R. 192 (2008) ~~Part 192,~~  
24 ~~Title 49, CFR~~ and these rules. Required cathodic protection must be accomplished within 1  
25

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1 year after the date of conversion except that buried steel tubing must be protected prior to  
2 placing the system into operation.

3 Specific Authority 368.05(2) FS. Law Implemented 368.05(2) FS. History–New 11-14-70,  
4 Revised 9-21-74, Amended 10-7-75, 10-2-84, Formerly 25-12.08.

5

6 **25-12.022 Requirements for Distribution System Valves.**

7 (1) Valves ahead of regulator stations – A valve shall be installed upstream of each  
8 regulator station for use in an emergency to stop the flow of gas. These valves are to be  
9 installed at a safe distance from the station, but no more than 500 feet from the regulator  
10 station. The distance for the valve location can be greater than 500 feet if physically  
11 impractical to install closer.

12 (2) Sectionalizing valves – Valves shall be spaced within each distribution system to  
13 reduce the time to shut-down a segment of the system in an emergency. In determining the  
14 spacing of these valves, the following factors shall be evaluated:

15 (a) Volume and pressure of gas between valves.

16 (b) Size of area and population density between valves required to isolate the area as  
17 well as the accessibility of the required valves.

18 (c) The minimum number of personnel required to shutdown and restore the area.

19 (d) Other means and availability of required equipment to control the flow of gas in the  
20 event of an emergency.

21 (e) The number and type of customers, such as hospitals, schools, commercial and  
22 industrial loads, etc., that will be affected.

23 (3) Identification – Sectionalizing and other critical valves shall be designated on  
24 appropriate records, drawings or maps used by the operator and shall be referenced to  
25 “permanent” aboveground structures or other field ties so the valves can be readily located.

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1 The valve installation and all records showing these valves must be marked for prompt  
2 identification using any logical designating system. The valve marking must be accomplished  
3 using a durable tag or other equivalent means located as follows:

4 (a) For aboveground valves or valves located in vaults which have to be operated from  
5 within the vault, the marking shall appear on the valve body or hand wheel.

6 (b) For buried valves or valves operated by a key wrench, the marking shall appear in a  
7 visible location on the inside of the curb box or standpipe where the cover will not abrade the  
8 marking.

9 (4) Blowdown valve requirements – Where blowdown valves are used to aid the  
10 evacuation of gas from segments of mains between isolation valves, these valves must:

11 (a) Be protected against tampering and mechanical damage from outside forces.

12 (b) Be designed for safe venting giving consideration to the direction of flow, electric  
13 facility locations, proximity of people, etc.

14 (c) Be readily accessible in the event of an emergency.

15 (5) All the sectionalizing valves which may be necessary for the safe operation of the  
16 system must be inspected and maintenance performed to assure location, access and operating  
17 ability at intervals not exceeding 15 months but at least each calendar year.

18 Specific Authority 368.05(2) FS. Law Implemented 368.05(2) FS. History–New 9-21-74,  
19 Amended 10-7-75, 10-2-84, Formerly 25-12.22.

20  
21 **25-12.027 Welder Qualification.**

22 (1) No welder shall make any pipeline weld unless the welder has qualified in  
23 accordance with Section 3 of American Petroleum Institute Standard 1104, Welding of  
24 Pipelines and Related Facilities ~~17th edition, 1988, 20th edition, October 2005 including~~  
25 Errata/Addendum July 2007 and Errata 2 (2008), ~~Section IX of the American Society of~~

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1 ~~Mechanical Engineers Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code 1977, or Sections 1, 2 & 3 of~~  
2 ~~Appendix C of 49 C.F.R., the Code of Federal Regulations Part 192 (2008), as amended~~  
3 ~~through December 27, 1989,~~ within the preceding 15 months, but at least once each calendar  
4 year.

5 (2) No welder shall weld with a particular welding process unless the welder has  
6 engaged in welding with that process within the preceding six calendar months. A welder who  
7 has not engaged in welding with that process within the preceding six calendar months must  
8 requalify for that process as set forth in subsection (1) herein.

9 Specific Authority 350.127(2), 368.05(2) FS. Law Implemented 368.03 FS. History—New 1-7-  
10 92.

11

12 **25-12.040 Leak Surveys, Procedures and Classification.**

13 (1) Each operator shall perform periodic leakage surveys in accordance with the  
14 following schedule as a minimum:

15 (a) A gas detector instrument survey shall be conducted at intervals not exceeding 15  
16 months but at least once each calendar year in those portions of an operator's service area,  
17 including:

18 1. Principal business districts, master meter systems, and places where the public is  
19 known to congregate frequently.

20 2. Where pipeline facilities, including service lines, are located under surfaces of such  
21 construction that little opportunity is afforded for a leak to vent safely.

22 (b) A gas detector instrument survey to locate leaks throughout areas not included in  
23 subsection (a) above shall be conducted at intervals not exceeding three (3) years on bare  
24 metallic, galvanized steel, coated tubing pipelines, and five (5) years on the remaining pipeline  
25 system, or more frequently if experience indicates.

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1 (2) The following leak classification system shall be used on all leak records and  
2 reports:

3 (a) "Grade 1 Leak" – a leak of gas that represents an existing or probable hazard to  
4 persons or buildings. Prompt action to protect life and property and continuous action until  
5 conditions are no longer hazardous is required.

6 (b) "Grade 2 Leak" – a leak that is not a threat to persons or property at the time of  
7 detection, but justifies scheduled repair based on potential future hazard. These leaks shall be  
8 repaired within 90 days from the date the leak was originally located, unless due to resurvey  
9 the leak was determined to be Grade 3 as defined in subsection (c) below. In determining the  
10 time period for repair, the following criteria should be taken into consideration:

- 11 1. Amount and migration of gas;
- 12 2. Proximity of gas to buildings and subsurface structures;
- 13 3. Extent of pavement;
- 14 4. Soil type and conditions, such as moisture and natural venting.

15 (c) "Grade 3 Leak" – a leak that is not a threat to persons and property and is not  
16 expected to become so. Above ground grade 3 leaks shall be repaired within 90 days from the  
17 date the leak was originally located unless the leak is upgraded or does not produce a positive  
18 leak indication when a soap and water solution, or its equivalent, is applied on suspected  
19 locations at operating pressure. Grade 3 leaks that are underground shall be reevaluated at  
20 least once every 6 months until repaired ~~cleared~~. The frequency of reevaluation shall be  
21 determined by the location and magnitude of the leak.

22 (3) The adequacy of all the repairs of leaks shall be checked by appropriate methods  
23 immediately after the repairs are completed. Where there is residual gas in the ground, a  
24 follow-up inspection using a gas detector instrument must be made as soon as the gas has had  
25 an opportunity to dissipate, but no later than one month for Grade 1 leaks and 6 months for

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1 Grade 2 leaks. The date and status of recheck shall be recorded on the leak repair records.  
2 Specific Authority 368.05(2) FS. Law Implemented 368.05(2) FS. History--New 9-21-74,  
3 Repromulgated 10-7-75, Amended 10-2-84, Formerly 25-12.40, Amended 1-7-92.

4

5 **25-12.041 Receiving of Gas Leak and Emergency Reports.**

6 Each operator must provide a means of receiving and promptly responding to reported gas  
7 leaks and emergencies calls on a 24-hour per day basis. The procedure for accomplishing this  
8 requirement must be included in the operating and maintenance plan ~~filed with the~~  
9 Commission.

10 Specific Authority 368.05(2) FS. Law Implemented 368.05(2) FS. History--New 9-21-74,  
11 Repromulgated 10-7-75, Amended 10-2-84, Formerly 25-12.41.

12

13 **25-12.080 General.**

- 14 (1) All reports or filings required by these rules shall be submitted to the Commission.  
15 (2) Nothing in these rules shall be construed to relieve any operator from responsibility  
16 to file reports or give notifications as required by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety  
17 Administration ~~Federal Department of Transportation~~.

18 Specific Authority 368.05(2) FS. Law Implemented 368.05(2) FS. History--New 11-14-70,  
19 Amended 9-21-74, Repromulgated 10-7-75, Amended 10-2-84, Formerly 25-12.80.

20

21 **25-12.084 Notice of Accidents and Outages.**

22 (1) At the earliest practicable moment following discovery, each operator of facilities  
23 under Commission jurisdiction shall give telephonic notice to the Commission of any event  
24 involving the release of gas from a pipeline that:

25

- (a) Caused a death or a personal injury requiring hospitalization;  
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- 1 (b) Required the taking of any segment of transmission pipeline out of service;  
2 (c) Resulted in gas igniting;  
3 (d) Caused estimated damage to the property of the operator, or others, or both, of a  
4 total of ~~\$10,000~~\$2,500 or more; or  
5 (e) In the judgment of the operator, was significant even though it did not meet the  
6 criteria of subsections (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this ~~subsection~~paragraph.  
7 ~~(2)~~ (2) An operator need not give notice of an event that met only the criteria of  
8 ~~subparagraphs~~subsections (b) or (c) of ~~subsection (1)~~this paragraph, if it occurred solely as a  
9 result of, or in connection with, planned or routine maintenance or construction.  
10 ~~(3)~~ (2) Each operator shall immediately report to the Commission any distribution  
11 system-related accident or failure which interrupts service to either 10 ~~percent~~% or more of its  
12 meters or 500 or more meters.  
13 Specific Authority 350.127(2), 368.05(2) FS. Law Implemented 368.03, 368.05(2) FS.  
14 History—New 9-21-74, Repromulgated 10-7-75, Amended 10-2-84, Formerly 25-12.84.  
15  
16 **25-12.085 Written Annual Reports Required.**  
17 (1) Each operator of a distribution system shall submit an annual report ~~in triplicate~~ on  
18 Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration~~Department of Transportation~~ Form  
19 PHMSARSPA F 7100.1-1 (12-05) for each distribution system. In the case of an operator who  
20 has more than one distribution system, a combined annual report must be submitted which  
21 includes all facilities operated within the State of Florida subject to the Commission's  
22 jurisdiction.  
23 ~~(a) Each distribution system.~~  
24 ~~(b) In the case of an operator who has more than one distribution system, a combined~~  
25 ~~annual report must be submitted which includes all facilities operated within the State of~~

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1 ~~Florida subject to the Commission's jurisdiction.~~

2 (2) Each operator of a distribution system shall, for facilities that operate at 20 percent  
3 or more of the specified minimum yield strength, or that are used to convey gas into or out of  
4 storage, submit an annual reports for those facilities on Pipeline and Hazardous Materials  
5 Safety Administration ~~in triplicate on Department of Transportation Form PHMSARSPA F~~  
6 7100.2-1(12-05).

7 (3) Each operator of a transmission system ~~or a gathering system under Commission~~  
8 ~~jurisdiction~~ shall submit an annual reports on Pipeline and Hazardous Safety Administration in  
9 triplicate on Department of Transportation Form PHMSARSPA F 7100.2-1(12-05).

10 (4) All the above reports must be submitted for the preceding calendar year so as to be  
11 received by the Commission no later than March 15th ~~February 10~~ of each year.

12 Specific Authority 350.127(2), 368.05(2) FS. Law Implemented 368.03, 368.05(2) FS.  
13 History—New 11-14-70, Amended 9-21-74, Repromulgated 10-7-75, Amended 10-2-84,  
14 Formerly 25-12.85.

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16 Gas Pipeline Safety Rules.kc.doc

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**-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-**

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**DATE:** July 31, 2009  
**TO:** Office of General Counsel (Cowdery)  
**FROM:** Division of Economic Regulation (Hewitt) *CSA* *col* *aw* *TS*  
**RE:** Proposed Amendments to Rule 25-12.004, Definitions, F.A.C., Rule 25-12.005 Codes and Standards Adopted, F.A.C., Rule 25-12.008 New, Reconstructed or Converted Facilities, F.A.C., Rule 25-12.022 Requirements for Distribution System Valves, F.A.C., Rule 25-12.027 Welder Qualification, F.A.C., Rule 25-12.040 Leak Surveys, Procedures and Classification, F.A.C., Rule 25-12.041 Receiving of Gas Reports, F.A.C., Rule 25-12.080 General, F.A.C., Rule 25-12.084 Notice of Accidents and Outages, F.A.C., Rule 25-12.085 Written Annual Reports Required.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED RULE AMENDMENTS

*1. Why are the rule amendments being proposed?*

The rule amendments would revise and update references to natural gas pipeline safety codes and standards, clarify and edit rule language, and increase the dollar amount for reporting accidents to the Commission. Also, rule amendments would reduce the amount of copies filed for a required report and eliminate a report not needed.

*2. What do the rules do and how do they accomplish the goal?*

The rules regulate gas pipeline safety in Florida by requiring adherence to safety standards and codes.

IMPACT ON THE PSC

*Incremental costs*

There should be no incremental costs for the Commission.

*Incremental benefits*

There would be some benefit from reducing the number of copies filed and eliminating an unneeded report.



WHO BESIDES THE PSC WILL BE AFFECTED BY ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

*Utilities*

Any pipeline company would have to adhere to the latest codes and standards unless specifically exempt from state jurisdiction by the National Pipeline Act.

*Customers*

No customers would be affected.

*Outside business and local governments*

Small businesses, small cities or small counties would not be affected from amending the above rules.

HOW ARE THE PARTIES ABOVE AFFECTED BY THE ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSAL

*Estimated transactional costs to individuals and entities*

*Utilities*

The utilities or companies that would be affected should have minimal or no costs to comply with the updated and clarified rule amendments. They would benefit from filing fewer copies of a report and elimination of an unneeded report.

*Customers*

No customers would be affected.

*Outside businesses including specifically small businesses*

Outside businesses should not be affected by the proposed rule amendments.

*Local governments*

Local governments should have no transactional costs from the rule amendments.

ANY OTHER PERTINENT COMMENTS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF THE PROPOSED RULE

No other pertinent comments are germane to the proposed rule amendments.

CH:kb  
cc: Mary Andrews Bane  
Chuck Hill  
Ed Mills