

and continual re-assessments (paragraphs (e), (g) and (k) of this section), and in determining what additional preventive and mitigative measures are needed (paragraph (j) of this section).

(g) *How is the baseline assessment to be conducted?*

(1) *Assessment methods.* An operator must assess the integrity of the line pipe in each covered segment by applying one or more of the following methods depending on the threats to which the segment is susceptible. An operator must select the method or methods best suited to address the threats identified to the segment (See paragraph (f) of this section).

(i) Internal inspection tool or tools capable of detecting corrosion, and any other threats to which the pipe segment is susceptible. An operator must follow ASME/ANSI B31.8S in selecting the appropriate internal inspection tools.

(ii) Pressure test conducted in accordance with subpart J of this part;

(iii) Direct assessment to address threats of external corrosion, internal corrosion, and stress corrosion cracking. An operator must conduct the direct assessment in accordance with ASME/ANSI B31.8S and paragraph (h) of this section;

(iv) Other technology that an operator demonstrates can provide an equivalent understanding of the condition of the line pipe. An operator choosing this option must notify the Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) 180 days before conducting the assessment, in accordance with paragraph (n) of this section.

(2) *Prioritizing segments.* An operator must prioritize the covered pipeline segments for the baseline assessment according to a risk analysis that considers the potential threats to each segment. The risk analysis must comply with the requirements in paragraph (f) of this section.

(3) *Assessment for particular threats.* In choosing an assessment method for the baseline assessment, an operator must take the following actions to address particular threats that it has identified. (See paragraph (f) of this section).

(i) *Third party damage.* An operator must address the third party damage threat through the following:

(A) *Preventive measures.* An operator must implement comprehensive additional preventive measures (see paragraph (j)) to address the threat, and monitor the effectiveness of the preventive measures.

(B) *Assessment tools.* An operator must assess covered segments that are vulnerable to delayed failure following third party damage using internal

inspection tools, such as deformation or geometry tools. An operator may use direct assessment as the primary assessment method for third party damage only if no other approach is feasible, and it is combined with data collection and integration to evaluate segment susceptibility to third party damage. An operator that does not use a geometry tool for the internal inspection or uses direct assessment must excavate and directly examine all indications that could be the result of third party damage.

(ii) *Cyclic fatigue.* An operator must evaluate whether cyclic fatigue or other loading condition (including ground movement, suspension bridge condition) necessitates a periodic assessment for dents and gouges. An evaluation must assume the presence of deep dents, and determine whether loading conditions would lead to failure of such hypothesized dents. An operator must use the results from an evaluation together with the criteria used to evaluate the significance of this threat.

(iii) *Manufacturing and construction defects.* To address manufacturing and construction defects (including seam defects), an operator must perform a pressure test at least once in the life of the segment unless the operator demonstrates why pressure testing is not necessary to address this threat. If an operator does not perform a pressure test, and at anytime the historic operating pressure or other stress condition changes, including any condition that affects cyclic fatigue, the operator must, prior to changing the stress condition, assess the pipeline using an assessment method allowed by this section.

(iv) *ERW pipe.* The methods an operator selects to assess low frequency electric resistance welded pipe or lap welded pipe susceptible to seam failures must be capable of assessing seam integrity and of detecting seam corrosion anomalies.

(v) *Corrosion.* If an operator finds corrosion on a covered pipeline segment that could adversely affect the integrity of the line (conditions specified in paragraph (i)), the operator must conduct an integrity assessment and remediate all pipeline segments with similar material coating and environmental characteristics. An operator must establish a schedule for evaluating and remediating the similar segments that is consistent with the operator's established operating and maintenance procedures under Part 192 for testing and repair.

(4) *Time period.* An operator must comply with the following requirements

in conducting the baseline assessment of the covered segments.

(i) *Internal inspection or pressure test.* An operator that uses an internal inspection tool or pressure test as an integrity assessment method must comply with the following time periods for conducting the assessment.

(A) Unless the exception in paragraph (g)(4)(i)(B) of this section applies, an operator using a pressure test or internal inspection tool as an assessment method must complete the baseline assessment by December 17, 2012. An operator must assess at least 50% of the line pipe being assessed by either of these methods beginning with the highest risk pipe, by December 17, 2007. An operator must prioritize segments for assessment in accordance with paragraphs (f)(3) and (g)(2) of this section, giving highest priority to those segments located in the potential impact zone (refer to Appendix E for guidance).

(B) An operator using a pressure test or internal inspection tool as an assessment method on a pipeline segment located in a moderate risk area (an area within a Class 3 or Class 4 location, but not within the potential impact zone), must complete the baseline assessment by December 17, 2015.

(ii) *Direct assessment.* An operator that uses direct assessment as an integrity assessment method must comply with the following time periods for conducting the assessment.

(A) Unless the exception in paragraph (g)(4)(ii)(B) applies, an operator using direct assessment as an assessment method must complete the baseline assessment by December 17, 2009. An operator must assess at least 50% of the line pipe being assessed by this method, beginning with the highest risk pipe, by December 17, 2006. Direct assessment must be carried out in accordance with paragraph (h) of this section. An operator must prioritize segments for assessment in accordance with paragraphs (f)(3) and (g)(2) of this section, giving highest priority to those segments located in the potential impact zone (refer to Appendix E for guidance).

(B) An operator using direct assessment as an assessment method on a pipeline segment located within a moderate risk area (area in a Class 3 or Class 4 location, but not within the potential impact zone), must complete the baseline assessment of the line pipe being assessed by this method by December 17, 2012.

(5) *Prior assessment.* An operator may use an integrity assessment conducted after December 17, 2007 as a baseline assessment, if the integrity assessment method meets the requirements of this