

in ASME/ANSI B31.8S, Appendix SP-A3.

(ii) Selection and implementation of an integrity assessment method and remediation of the threat, if conditions for SCC are identified. An operator must use the bell hole examination and evaluation technique to assess SCC, as specified in ASME/ANSI B31.8S, Appendix SP-A3.

(6) *Confirmatory direct assessment.* An operator using the confirmatory direct assessment method as allowed in paragraph (k)(3) of this section must have a plan that meets the following requirements:

(i) *Threats.* For any covered segment on which confirmatory direct assessment is used, the focus must be on identifying damage resulting from external corrosion, internal corrosion and third party damage.

(ii) *External corrosion plan.* An operator's plan for confirmatory direct assessment for identifying external corrosion must include processes for pre-assessment, indirect examination, direct examination and remediation.

(A) The pre-assessment must follow the requirements in paragraph (h)(3)(ii) of this section, and include identification of External Corrosion Direct Assessment (ECDA) regions.

(B) The indirect examination must follow the requirements in paragraph (h)(3)(iii) of this section, except that the examination may be conducted using only one indirect examination tool suitable for the application.

(C) The direct examination must follow the requirements in paragraph (h)(3)(v) of this section with the following exceptions—

(1) Excavation of all immediate action indications is required in each ECDA region;

(2) Excavation of at least one high risk indication that meets the criteria of scheduled action is required in each ECDA region; and

(3) No excavation is required for indications categorized as monitored indications.

(D) The remediation must follow the requirements in paragraph (h)(3)(vi) of this section.

(iii) *Internal Corrosion plan.* An operator's plan for confirmatory direct assessment for identifying internal corrosion must include processes for pre-assessment, identification of Internal Corrosion Direct Assessment (ICDA) Regions, identification of excavation locations, direct examination and remediation.

(A) The pre-assessment must follow the requirements in paragraph (h)(4)(ii)(A) of this section.

(B) The identification of ICDA Regions must follow the requirements in paragraph (h)(4)(ii)(B) of this section.

(C) The identification of excavation locations and excavation must follow the requirements in paragraph (h)(4)(ii)(C) of this section, except that the operator must identify for excavation at least one high risk location in each ICDA Region.

(D) The direct examination (excavation) and remediation must follow the requirements in paragraph (h)(4)(ii)(D) of this section, except that the operator is to choose one high risk location in each ICDA Region for excavation.

(iv) *Third party damage.* An operator's plan for confirmatory direct assessment for identifying third party damage must include identification of pipeline segments where construction or other groundbreaking activity was reported near the pipeline right-of-way since the previous assessment. The confirmatory direct assessment for third party damage must follow the requirements in paragraph (g)(3)(i) of this section.

(i) *What actions must be taken to address integrity issues?*

(1) *General requirements.* An operator must take prompt action to address all anomalous conditions that the operator discovers through the integrity assessment. In addressing all conditions, an operator must evaluate all anomalous conditions and remediate those that could reduce a pipeline's integrity. An operator must be able to demonstrate that the remediation of the condition will ensure that the condition is unlikely to pose a threat to the long-term integrity of the pipeline. If an operator is unable to respond within the time limits for certain conditions specified below, the operator must temporarily reduce the operating pressure of the pipeline. An operator must determine the temporary reduction in operating pressure using section 851.42 of ASME/ANSI B31.8 for dents and gouges, ASME/ANSI B31G or RSTRENG for corrosion, or reducing the operating pressure to a level not exceeding 80% of the level at the time the condition was discovered. (See Appendix A to this part 192 for incorporation by reference and availability information). A reduction in operating pressure cannot exceed 365 days without an operator taking further remedial action to ensure the safety of the pipeline.

(2) *Discovery of condition.* Discovery of a condition occurs when an operator has adequate information about the condition to determine that the condition presents a potential threat to

the integrity of the pipeline. An operator must promptly, but no later than 180 days after conducting an integrity assessment, obtain sufficient information about a condition to make that determination, unless the operator demonstrates that the 180-day period is impracticable. If the operator cannot make the necessary determination within the 180-day period, an operator must notify OPS of the reasons for the delay and the expected time for obtaining the information.

(3) *Schedule for evaluation and remediation.* An operator must complete remediation of a condition according to a schedule that prioritizes the conditions for evaluation and remediation. Unless a special requirement for remediating certain conditions applies, as provided in paragraph (h)(3)(vii) or paragraph (i)(4) of this section, an operator must follow the schedule in ASME/ANSI B31.8S. If an operator cannot meet the schedule for any condition, the operator must justify the reasons why it cannot meet the schedule and that the changed schedule will not jeopardize public safety. An operator must notify OPS in accordance with paragraph (n) of this section if it cannot meet the schedule and cannot provide safety through a temporary reduction in operating pressure.

(4) *Special requirements for scheduling remediation.*

(i) *Immediate repair conditions.* An operator's evaluation and remediation schedule must follow ASME/ANSI B31.8S, Section 7 in providing for immediate repair conditions. To maintain safety, an operator must temporarily reduce operating pressure or shut down the pipeline until the operator completes the repair of these conditions. An operator must treat the following conditions as immediate repair conditions:

(A) A calculation of the remaining strength of the pipe shows a predicted failure pressure less than 1.1 times the established maximum operating pressure at the location of the anomaly. Suitable remaining strength calculation methods include, ASME/ANSI B31G "Manual for Determining the Remaining Strength of Corroded Pipelines" (1991); AGA Pipeline Research Committee Project PR-3-805 ("A Modified Criterion for Evaluating the Remaining Strength of Corroded Pipe" (December 1989)); or an alternative equivalent method of remaining strength calculation. These documents are incorporated by reference and available at the addresses listed in Appendix A to Part 192.