

- A plan for confirmatory direct assessment (§ 192.931) if the operator plans to use this method for reassessment.
- Provisions for adding preventive and mitigative measures to protect the high consequence area. (§ 192.935.)
- A performance plan as outlined in Section 9 of ASME/ANSI B31.8S that includes the required performance measures in § 192.943.
- Record keeping provisions (§ 192.947).
- A management of change process as outlined in Section 11 of ASME/ANSI B31.8S.
- A quality assurance process as outlined in Section 12 of ASME/ANSI B31.8S.
- A communication plan that includes the elements of Section 10 of ASME/ANSI B31.8S, and that includes procedures for addressing safety concerns raised by (1) OPS; and (2) a State or local pipeline safety authority when a covered segment is located in a State where OPS has an interstate agent agreement. This process for addressing safety concerns raised by interstate agents is a requirement imposed by statute.
- Procedures for providing (when requested), by electronic or other means, a copy of the operator's risk analysis or integrity management program to OPS or to a State or local pipeline safety authority when a covered segment is located in a State where OPS has an interstate agent agreement. This requirement to provide the information to an interstate agent is imposed by statute.
- Procedures for ensuring that each integrity assessment is being conducted in a manner that minimizes environmental and safety risks.
- A process for identification and assessment of newly-identified high consequence areas. (§ 192.905 and § 192.921)

Section 192.913 When May an Operator Deviate Its Program From Certain Requirements of This Subpart and Use a Performance-Based Option?

ASME/ANSI B31.8S allows an operator to deviate from some specific provisions of the standard if the operator has a mature integrity management program that addresses the intent of those provisions in a different manner. This is called a performance-based program, as compared to a prescriptive program (*i.e.*, one meeting the literal provisions of the standard). The rule describes the essential features of a performance-based or a prescriptive integrity management program. The rule allows an operator to deviate from

certain integrity management program requirements if it has a performance-based program that has demonstrated exceptional performance.

To qualify for exceptional performance an operator must—

- Have completed at least two integrity assessments of all covered pipeline segments.
 - Be able to demonstrate that each assessment effectively addressed the identified threats on the covered segments.
 - Remediate all anomalies identified in the more recent assessment according to the remediation requirements in the rule. The remediation requirements are set forth in § 192.933.
 - Incorporate the results and lessons learned from the more recent assessment into the operator's data integration and risk assessment.
 - Have a performance-based integrity management program that meets or exceeds the performance-based requirements of ASME/ANSI B31.8S, and includes certain minimum elements. The minimum elements are: (1) A comprehensive process for risk analysis; (2) all risk factor data used to support the program; (3) A comprehensive data integration process; (4) A procedure for applying lessons learned from assessment of covered pipeline segments to non covered pipeline segments. A covered segment is one within the scope of Subpart O; (5) A procedure for evaluating incidents within the operator's sector of the pipeline industry for implications both to the operator's pipeline system and to the operator's integrity management program; (6) A performance matrix that demonstrates the program has been effective in ensuring the integrity of the covered segments by controlling the identified threats to the covered segments; (7) Semi-annual performance measures beyond those required in § 192.943 that are part of the operator's performance plan (see § 192.911(i)); and (8) An analysis that supports the desired integrity reassessment interval and the remediation methods to be used for all covered segments.
- Once an operator has demonstrated that it has satisfied the requirements for exceptional performance, the operator may deviate from the prescriptive requirements of ASME/ANSI B31.8S and of Subpart O in two instances:
- The time frame for reassessment as provided in § 192.939 except that reassessment by an allowable method (*e.g.*, confirmatory direct assessment) must be carried out at intervals no longer than seven years; and
 - The time frame for remediation as provided in § 192.933, as long as the

operator demonstrates that the revised time frame will not jeopardize the safety of the covered segment.

Section 192.915 What Knowledge and Training Must Personnel Have To Carry Out an Integrity Management Program?

The rule has requirements for supervisory personnel and for other personnel with integrity management program functions. These requirements apply to both personnel employed by the operator and contractor personnel used to perform integrity management program functions.

For supervisory personnel, the integrity management program must provide that each supervisor whose responsibilities relate to the integrity management program possesses and maintains a thorough knowledge of the integrity management program and of the elements for which he or she is responsible. The program must provide that any person who qualifies as a supervisor for the integrity management program has appropriate training or experience in the area for which the person is responsible.

The integrity management program must provide criteria for the qualification of any person

- Who conducts assessments;
- Who reviews and analyzes the results from an integrity assessment; or
- Who makes decisions on actions to be taken based on these assessments.

The program must also include criteria for the qualification of persons

- Who implement preventive and mitigative measures to carry out the requirements of the rule, including the marking and locating of buried structures; or
- Who directly supervise excavation work carried out in conjunction with an integrity assessment.

Section 192.917 How Does an Operator Identify Potential Threats to Pipeline Integrity and Use the Threat Identification in Its Integrity Program?

The rule requires that an operator's integrity management program begin with an identification of the potential threats to which the pipeline is subjected. The program then is constructed to deal with those threats.

Threat identification. The rule requires an operator to identify and evaluate all potential threats to each covered pipeline segment. These potential threats include, but are not limited to:

- The threats listed in Section 2 of ASME/ANSI B31.8S and
- Time dependent threats such as internal corrosion, external corrosion, and stress corrosion cracking;