

Voting Language for Material Documentation

§ 192.607

Approved GPAC
Language 12/14/17

The proposed rule as published in the Federal Register and the Draft Regulatory Situation, with regard to the provisions for material documentation under § 192.607, are technically feasible, reasonable, cost-effective, and practicable if the following changes are made:

- Clarify that material verification applies to onshore steel transmission lines only (and not distribution or gathering lines).
- In proposed paragraph (a), remove applicability criteria and make material verification a procedure for getting missing or inadequate records or verifying pipeline attributes if and when required by § 192.624 or other code sections. The committee will address the applicability of § 192.607 under each of the methods of MAOP verification discussed in § 192.624 and other sections as appropriate.
- In proposed paragraph (b), delete requirements for creating a material verification program plan.
- In proposed paragraph (c), drop the list of mandatory attributes operators must verify but require operators to keep records developed through this material verification method.

(cont.)



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§ 192.607 (cont.)

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- In proposed paragraph (d):
 - Retain the opportunistic approach of obtaining unknown or undocumented material properties when excavations are performed for other repairs or other reasons, using a one-per-mile standard proposed by PHMSA, but allow operators to use their own statistical approach and submit a notification to PHMSA with their method. Establish a minimum standard of a 95% confidence level for operator statistical methods submitted to PHMSA.
 - Retain flexibility to allow either destructive or non-destructive tests when verification is needed.
 - Incorporate language stating that, if an operator does not receive an objection letter from PHMSA within 90 days of notifying PHMSA of an alternative sampling approach, the operator can proceed with their method. PHMSA will notify the operator if additional review time is needed.
 - Revise the paragraph to accommodate situations where a single material verification test is needed (e.g., additional information is needed for an anomaly evaluation/repair).

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(cont.)

- Drop accuracy specifications (retain requirement that test methods must be validated and that calibrated equipment be used)
- Drop mandatory requirements for multiple test locations for large excavations (multiple joints within the same excavation).
- Reduce number of quadrants at which NDE tests must be made from 4 to 2.
- Delete specified program requirements for how to address sampling failures and replace with a requirement for operators to determine how to deal with sample failures through an expanded sample program that is specific to their system and circumstances. Require notification to provide expanded sample program to PHMSA, and require operators establish a minimum standard that sampling programs must be based on a minimum 95% confidence level.
- Clarify the applicability of 192.607 (d)(3)(i)

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