

IP6

10.6 Abandonment of Pipelines

When a pipeline or section thereof is no longer required, it is often impracticable to uplift and remove it. It is essential therefore that it be left in a condition which will not give rise to an emergency.

The abandoned pipeline should be thoroughly purged by the passage of water or a gas such as nitrogen to remove all trace of explosive or toxic gas or vapour. After purging, the pipeline should be left at ambient pressure. It should be divided into sections, the ends of which should be completely sealed.