

**Work Programme to Develop  
ACoP and Guidance for Pipeline Emergency Plan Testing and Charging  
Joint Initiative by UKOPA and Local Authorities**

**Background**

Amendments to PSR 1996 Regulation 25 to include testing of pipeline emergency plans, and 26 to include charging for testing of pipeline emergency plans have been agreed by ACDS and are being progressed by HSE. Stakeholder consultation progressed by the Pipeline Emergency Planning Form (PEPF) with respect to the proposed amendments to PSR 1996 Regulations 25 and 26 resulted in the expression of a number of concerns and proposed ways forward. A recommendation supported by key stakeholders was the development of an ACoP and additional guidance relating to the amendments. The development of an effective and practical model requires the expertise and experience of both local authorities and pipeline operators emergency planning and response, cost effective resource management and sharing of good practice. A joint initiative between UKOPA and LA representatives has been created to develop an ACoP and Guidance for pipeline emergency plan testing and charging. The development of the ACoP and Guidance document is progressing in consultation with HSE.

**Purpose**

The purpose of the joint programme of work is to share expertise, experience and resources in order to establish a pipeline emergency plan testing and charging regime that meets the requirements of both local authorities and pipeline operators.

**Current Status**

HSE propose to prepare and issue a draft Consultative Document (CD) covering the proposed amendments to CAPEPLG for informal comment, followed by submission to MHSC, ACDS and HSC for formal sanction. Following stakeholder comment, HSE have proposed that the CD will consist of draft regulations, interpretive guidance and an ACoP, the interpretive guidance and ACoP being published as one document. The interpretive guidance and ACoP would not need to go through the formal process, ie they would not need to be published as part of the CD, but the CD would make reference to them, and they would be presented to CAPEPLG, MHSC and ACDS for comment. A joint group comprising local authority, UKOPA and HSE representatives is working on the drafting of such a document to cover the interests of all stakeholders.

**Drafting of ACoP and Guidance**

The joint group involving local authority and UKOPA representatives is developing an interpretive guidance and ACoP document for Pipeline Emergency Plan Testing and Charging in accordance with the following requirements:

- i) Appropriate HSE consultation and support for the joint development has been sought.
- ii) The document scope and format includes<sup>1</sup>
  - a. Regulations (ie amendments to PSR 1996)
  - b. ACoP (ie methods for compliance)

## c. Guidance (ie background and explanation)

**Summary Programme of Work:**

Action:	Status
1 Agree scope of draft interpretive guidance and ACoP <sup>2</sup>	Complete 26.07.02
2 Establish communication and liaison mechanisms	Complete 26.07.02
3 Prepare draft document in accordance with scope	Complete 26.07.02
4 Circulate draft to CAPEPLG for informal consultation	Agreed 26.07.02
5 Collate and assess response, and hold open Workshop <sup>3</sup> if required to present and agree response	Agreed 26.07.02
6 HSE progress formal Consultation Document <sup>4</sup>	
7 HSE publish amended regulations with ACoP and interpretive Guidance	

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<sup>1</sup> Example document - PSSR

<sup>2</sup> Discussion document Outline ACoP V1.2, prepared by UKOPA EPWG

<sup>3</sup> HSE to host and chair

<sup>4</sup> Consultation Document to comprise Amended Regulations, ACoP and Guidance.