



IWG Update

October 2019

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Infringement Working Group Chairman

Update

- 2019 Progress to Date
 - Progress on Good Practice Guides
 - 2019 IWG Report

- 2019/2020 Work Programme

Good Practice Guides

- GPG for working safely near underground pipelines –
Published

- GPG for Local Authority Planners
Ready for role out
– **Production of accompanying Local Authority presentation to aid in roll out.**

- Utility and Contractor GPG first draft produced

Infringers and IWG Report

□ IWG Annual Report 2018

□ Produced

□ Summary of results

- » Increase in overall infringements up to 788
- » Increase in reporting of C category limited potential for damage
- » Decrease in reporting of B category serious potential to cause harm
- » 2x A1 Actual damage events (caused by re-profiling of land and fencing.
- » Most common landuse where infringements occurring – Farmland
- » Increase in infringements caused by contractors

2019/2020

IWG Work Programme

- Completing Contractor and Utility GPG
- Develop involvement with organisations such as NFU
- Aim to work with Agricultural colleges – understanding how we could fit into one of their courses
- New updated Working near High Pressure pipelines Video being investigated

Working Safely Near High Pressure Suite of Leaflets

Aimed at:

Agricultural Industry

4. What to do in an emergency
If, as a result of the activities you uncover ground or come into contact with a pipeline, then:

- Shut down all working machinery
- Remove all sources of ignition
- Remove everyone from the immediate area of the pipeline and move to a safer area
- If the pipeline is leaking dial 999 inform police and emergency services
- Do not attempt to seal a leaking pipeline
- If the leak is burning, do not attempt to extinguish the fire
- Contact the pipeline operator's emergency telephone number. This can be obtained either from a nearby pipeline marker post, or all communications you will have had from the pipeline operator or on the documentation provided by the pipeline operator prior to your commencing work
- Follow the advice provided by the pipeline operator and then let them make the situation safe

Further Assistance and Pipeline Operators
The UKOPA website contains the company information details for all UKOPA members, visit www.ukopa.co.uk/emergency/

The UKOPA presentation about working safely near high pressure pipelines can be found at www.ukopa.co.uk/relevant-documents-and-information please do take a look at this and share with any staff and contractors working for you.

Pipeline operators are here to help, so please do contact them prior to any work taking place or if you have any queries.

UKOPA
United Kingdom Onshore Pipeline Operators' Association

www.ukopa.co.uk

Hazards

Buried pipelines in the UK transport a variety of products at pressures up to 100 bar. This includes flammable and explosive products such as oil, natural gas, ethylene and petroleum gas which have obviously explosive potential such as water. The hazardous nature of the products is magnified in the high pressures, and should, for example a natural gas pipeline operating at 7% bar, an explosion could occur that may result in the death of people nearby. Damage to an oil pipeline operating at 100 bar could result in extensive environmental harm.

Any damage to a pipeline or its coating can affect its integrity that could result in a failure immediately if enough damage is done, or in the future if the damage deteriorates with time through no fault of its own. It is therefore essential that safety procedures are complied with when working near to a pipeline.

The hazardous nature of these pipelines is recognised in UK legislation through the Pipeline Safety Regulations (Regulation 15 of the States Part). No person shall cause or allow damage to a pipeline or any thing to a damage to persons. This applies to persons working near such pipelines, and doing so, simply could result in prosecution by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

Notifiable Activities

Prior to working in the vicinity of High Pressure Pipelines, you should contact the pipeline operator who will provide any guidance and advice required.

2.1 Ditching & Drainage

- Ditch clearing
- Dredging, widening or creation of waterways/ponds, etc.
- Damage investigatory workshops
- Use of powered machinery to clear materials

2.2 Planting of Trees & Shrubs

Planting within the assessment should not take place without prior discussion with the pipeline operator.

2.3 Excavations (incl pits for Carcass burial)

All excavations are notifiable activities.

2.4 Fires

Should not be built or ignited within the pipeline assessment.

2.5 Wind turbines and solar farms

Contact pipeline operator at earliest possibility (UKOPA have produced good practice guides for both).

2.6 All other works (incl piling & boring)

Please contact the pipeline operator for any other agricultural work not covered in this document. They will be more than happy to discuss any potential issues.

2.7 Sub-soil & Mole ploughing

Should not take place without prior discussion with the pipeline operator.

2.8 Construction Work including

- Temporary or permanent trackroads
- Installation of water pipes, drains or sewers
- Property extensions including permitted development
- Change of use of existing building

2.9 Ground Cover & Storage of Materials

- Depth of cover must not be reduced or increased
- Materials not stacked or stored in the vicinity of the pipeline or within pipeline assessment

Information, Instruction & Training

Contractors and operators shall make it an increased level of risk when they work on your land, so make sure they know where the pipelines are and discuss and agree with the pipeline operator they need to take before they start work. Above detailed instructions may be needed for those workers whose first language is not English.

The location of a pipeline is normally indicated by marker posts at the edges of fields. Remember though that marker posts can be accidentally moved or damaged. Also, pipelines may not necessarily run in a straight line between points. By contacting the pipeline operator in advance, an operator representative can visit your land to locate and mark out the pipeline and advise what works can and cannot be done safely.

The location of a pipeline is normally a FREE service.

Contractors

4. What to do in an emergency
If, as a result of the activities you uncover ground or come into contact with a pipeline, then:

- Shut down all working machinery
- Remove all sources of ignition
- Remove everyone from the immediate area of the pipeline and move to a safer area
- If the pipeline is leaking dial 999 inform police and emergency services
- Do not attempt to seal a leaking pipeline
- If the leak is burning, do not attempt to extinguish the fire
- Contact the pipeline operator's emergency telephone number. This can be obtained either from a nearby pipeline marker post, or all communications you will have had from the pipeline operator or on the documentation provided by the pipeline operator prior to your commencing work
- Follow the advice provided by the pipeline operator and then let them make the situation safe

Further Assistance and Pipeline Operators
The UKOPA website contains the company information details for all UKOPA members, visit www.ukopa.co.uk/emergency/

The UKOPA presentation about working safely near high pressure pipelines can be found at www.ukopa.co.uk/relevant-documents-and-information please do take a look at this and share with any staff and contractors working for you.

Pipeline operators are here to help, so please do contact them prior to any work taking place or if you have any queries.

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Hazards

This Good Practice Guide is aimed at contractors and any one else who may work near High Pressure Pipelines (specifically buried pipelines) and outlines what you can do to reduce the risks when working near them. Working near high pressure pipelines is dangerous. If machinery makes contact with the pipeline, damage can occur that could result in immediate failure or failure over a longer period of time.

It is common for utility companies, highways agency and / or landowners (amongst others) to instruct contractors to complete works. It is however the responsibility of the contractor to ensure any proposed works are planned correctly and precautions made to protect high pressure pipelines where appropriate.

Prior to working in the vicinity of high pressure pipelines, as indicated in section 4, you should contact the pipeline operator who will provide any guidance and advice necessary to adequately plan the works.

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2.1 Construction Works
Such as, but not limited to:

- Installation of water pipes, drains or sewers or other serviceabilities
- Electrical installations/works
- Property extensions (including permitted development)
- Change of use of existing buildings
- Erecting sheds or summer house/extension of hard standings

2.2 Roadworks
Such as, but not limited to:

- Breaking Ground
- Construction of temporary or permanent trackroads

2.3 Excavations

- All excavation works (such as, but not limited to, open cut, vacuum excavating, new services, repair work, etc) are notifiable activities.
- You should contact the pipeline operator at the planning stage in order that the correct advice can be obtained.

2.4 Piling, Boring and Seismic Surveys

Please contact the pipeline operator who will provide any guidance and advice required.

2.5 Heavy Vehicle Crossing

Special requirements are needed for heavy vehicles to cross over 10" pipelines. Please contact the pipeline operator who will provide specific advice.

2.6 Fencing

Installation of new or replacement fence / fence posts or gateposts.

2.7 Ground Cover & Storage of Materials

- Depth of cover must not be reduced or increased
- Materials not stacked or stored in the vicinity of the pipeline or within pipeline assessment

2.8 Planting of Trees & Shrubs and other garden work

Planting within the assessment should not take place without prior discussion with the pipeline operator.

2.9 Fires

Should not be built or ignited within the pipeline assessment.

2.10 Wind turbines and solar farms

Contact pipeline operator at earliest possibility (UKOPA have produced good practice guides for both).

2.11 All other works

Please contact the pipeline operator for any other work not covered in this document. They will be more than happy to discuss any potential issues.

3 Information, Instruction & Training

Staff and contractors may be at an increased level of risk when they are working in the vicinity of any High Pressure Pipeline. Please make sure they know where the pipelines are and discuss and agree with them the procedures they need to take before they start work. More detailed instructions may be needed for those workers whose first language is not English.

The location of a pipeline is normally indicated by marker posts at the edges of fields and road verges. Remember though that marker posts can be accidentally moved or damaged. Also, there may not be any pipeline present and pipelines may not necessarily run in a straight line between points. By contacting the pipeline operator in advance, an operator representative can visit your land to locate and mark out the pipeline, and advise what works can and cannot be done safely. In some circumstances, monitoring may be required whilst work is being carried out.

The location of a pipeline is normally a FREE service.

Any Questions please?