

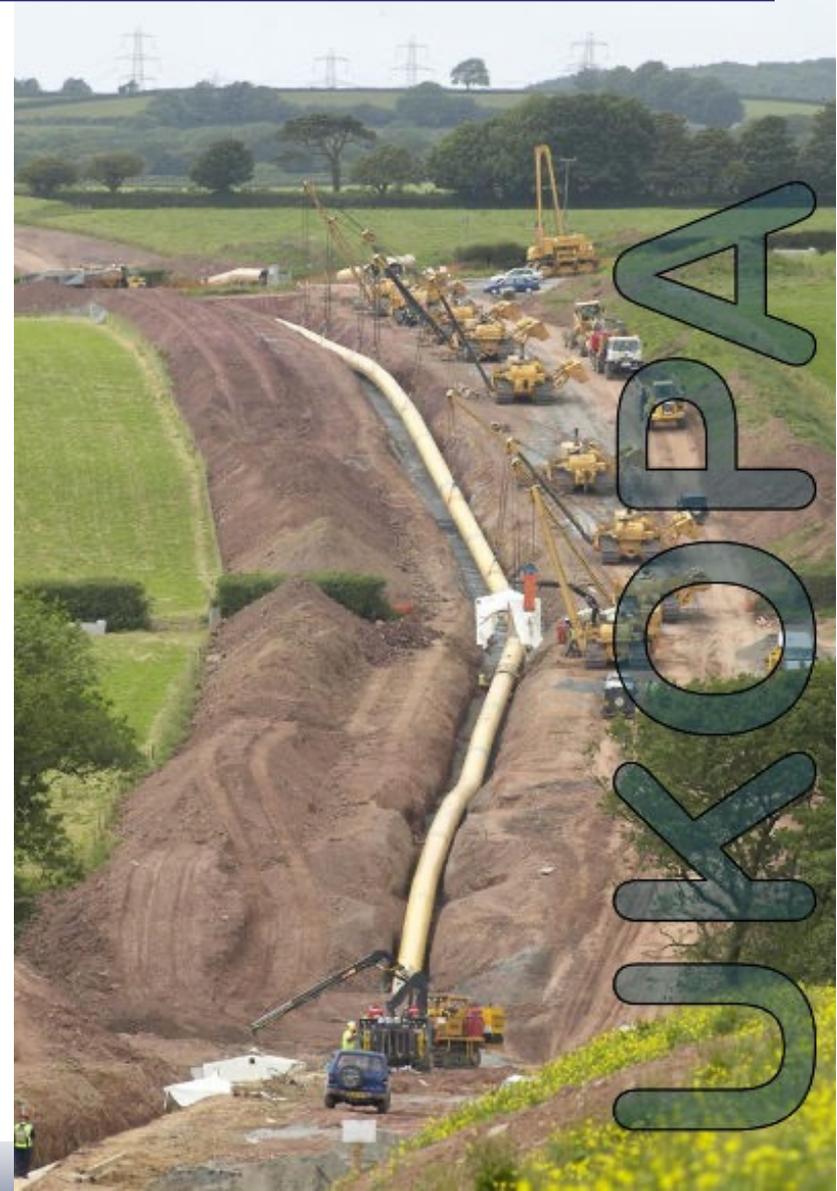
UKOPA

United Kingdom Onshore Pipeline Operators' Association

IWG Update February 2024

Carl Scott
IWG Chair

www.ukopa.co.uk



Introduction

- The aim of the UKOPA Infringement Working Group (IWG) is to provide information and expert opinion, direction and guidance on pipeline safety to UKOPA members and industry stakeholders.
 - Chair – Carl Scott
 - 26 people
 - 21 UKOPA member organisations.
 - Recently updated Terms of Reference for 2024.



Microsoft Word
7 - 2003 Documer

IWG Objectives

- To share knowledge and good practice on pipeline safety between UKOPA members.
- To produce and maintain pipeline safety good practice guides and technical briefing notes.
- To develop, maintain, review and update systems and processes for monitoring pipeline infringement data.
- To review, interpret, consult and influence Regulators' proposals for pipeline safety.
- To represent UKOPA, where appropriate, on external safety groups.

January 2024 IWG meeting

- 1st meeting of the year took place in Ashby De La Zouch on 31st January.
 - Highly Attended both in person and on Teams
 - An excellent meeting where we discussed the 2024 infringement database, our work plan for 2024 and CATS very kindly shared their pipeline awareness video with us.
 - Both the workplan and budget where prepared for this weeks board members meeting.

2024 Work Programme

- Compile 2024 Infringement Report. The aim is to get all the data in by the end of February.
- Updating our Landex e-learning module and making it accessible to a wider audience.
- Review Good Practice Guides GPG 015 / 029
- Create UKOPA's own Pipeline awareness video.

Infringement Database



- The 2022 infringement report was not published until November 23.
- This means the Data in the report can be up to almost 2 years out of date.
- The IWG are working hard to resolve any data input issues that are delaying this with our aim being to collect all data by the end of February each year with the Infringement database report being published by Easter every year.
- The 2022 document reported 2x A infringements which we are currently in the process of producing learning briefs from.

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UKOPA Report

2022 Infringement database report

UKOPA/RP/23/02 draft 1 for comment

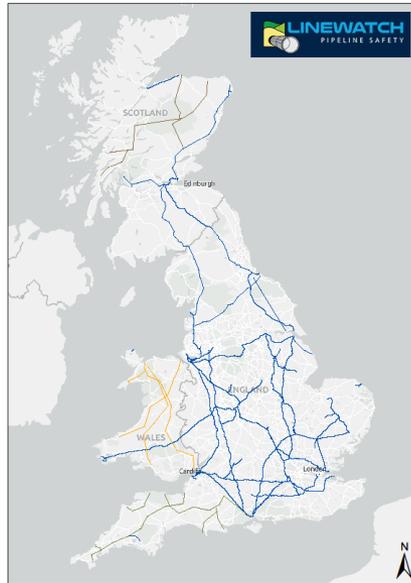
November 2023

Working with Agricultural Colleges (Landex)



- Objective to integrate a learning module with the next generation of people working in agricultural field or likely to encounter pipelines to promote pipeline awareness.
- Learning module has been rolled out to Landex colleges for 2 years now and in 2024 we are bringing it to UKOPA's website for use of all members and their organisations.
- Statistics received to date
 - All 33 Landex Colleges have accessed the materials
 - Over 5000 users have completed the course.
 - Over 90% of users who completed the course received C- grade or higher (70%)
 - Average session duration - 28mins
 - With the course being opened up to UKOPA members and anyone within their organisations (including any contractors working around pipelines) we hope to hugely increase the user numbers in 2024.

Example slides from the course.



UKOPA Overview

UKOPA (UK On Shore Pipeline Operators Association) is an industry group comprised of **30** UK onshore HP pipeline operators.

The length of pipelines operated by our members is nearly **30,000km** (nearly 5 times the distance between London and New York).

A recognised and authoritative view: 

Good Practice Guides & Technical Bulletin 

It produces Good Practice Guides and Technical Bulletins and carries out research to support the industry. 



High pressure pipelines

- HP pipelines are the most efficient and safest way to transport large quantities of hydrocarbon products over large distances.
- They transport hydrocarbon products including gas, crude oil and petrochemicals
- HP pipelines are predominately made of steel
- HP pipelines are wrapped in a protective coating (which can easily be damaged)
- They are nominally laid at 1.1 mtrs deep (although this might vary)
- They can be anything from approximately 6" to 42" in diameter
- They operate at up to 120 bar - approximately 50 times the pressure of a car tyre
- They run cross country (through farmland, under roads and rivers)
- Most of us are unaware that they are there

Contacting a pipeline operator

- Pipeline operators engage with landowners on a regular basis, including:
 - An annual letter
 - Prior to any line walking taking place
 - Before any other works are conducted
 - Pipeline operators contact details will be on maker posts that are found on field boundaries, where pipelines change directions and road crossings
 - Contact details are also included on any communications received from pipeline operators
 - On the pipeline operator website
 - Please contact the pipeline operator prior to undertaking work, operators services are (normally) free of charge
- <https://www.ukopa.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Contractor-Working-Safely-Jan20.pdf>

IWG –Good Practice Guides



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Good Practice Guide
Managing Pipeline Infringements
UKOPA/GP/015 Edition 1
April 2018

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Good Practice Guide
Local Authority Planners information regarding On Shore
Pipelines and Associated Installations
UKOPA/GP/029 Edition 1
January 2019

Due 2024:

UKOPA/GPG/15 Managing pipeline infringements – Initial review has taken place between the sub group, with the changes being reviewed at May's meeting.

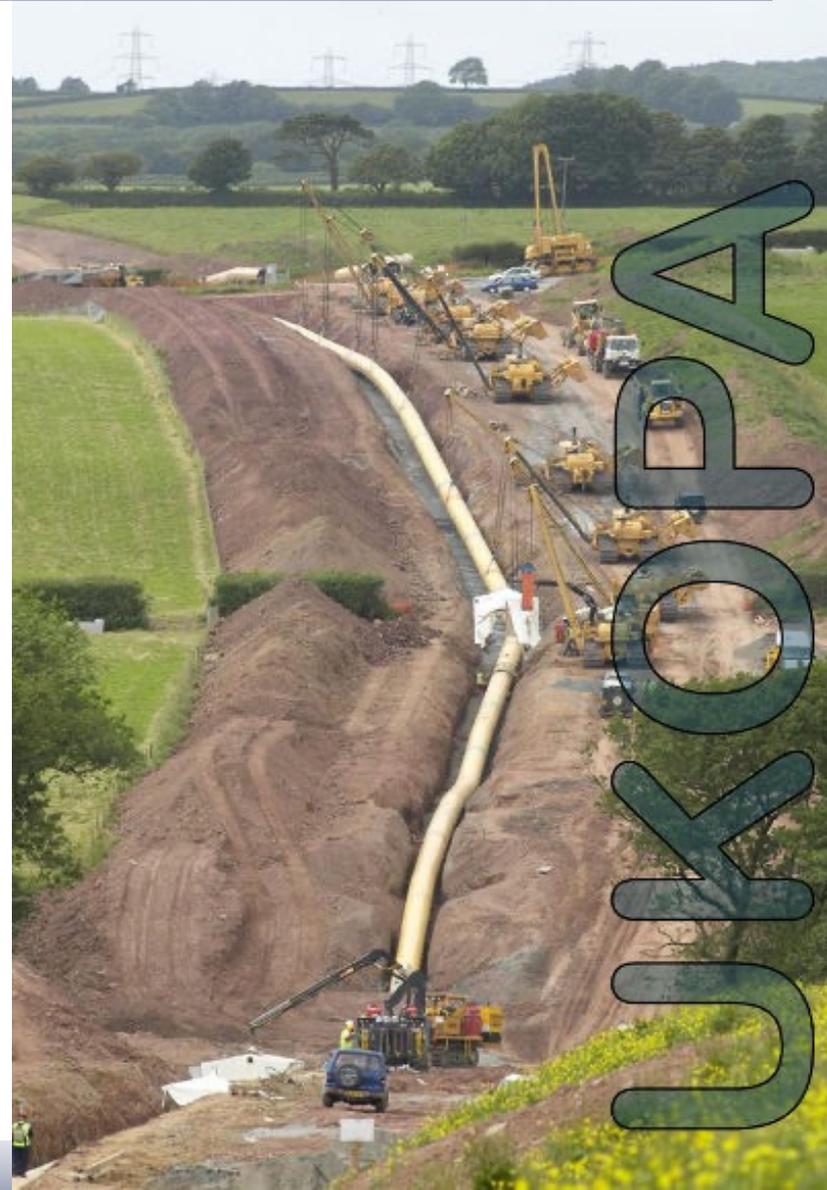
UKOPA/GPG/29 Local Authority Planners information regarding On Shore Pipelines and Associated Installations – A sub group is set to have a initial review before May's meeting with the whole group providing information they share with Local Authorities so we can update the UKOPA LA slides.

Hazard awareness video

- IWG was lucky enough to be shown the CATS safety awareness video at its recent meeting.
- The IWG was impressed with the video and the strong message it gave out, this increasing the desire of the group to produce our own safety video.
- In the coming months the IWG are looking to gather ideas for snippet videos that can be shared on social media and then put together to produce one video raising awareness of pipeline safety.

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Riverbank erosion exposing pipeline.



Riverbank erosion exposing pipeline.

- In early 2022 during a routine linewalk, a section of riverbank was found to be eroded exposing a section of underground pipeline.
- Planning immediately took place to remediate to issue, This involved planning with the LA's, local waterways agency, environmental agency, specialist diving contractors and expert pipeline repair specialists.
- The riverbank had to be rebuilt using environmentally approved materials, as well as the pipeline needing inspecting and re-supporting from underneath before any backfill taken place.
- In November 2022 the remediation works successfully took place.



Riverbank erosion exposing pipeline.

