

PURGING GUIDELINES

GUIDELINES FOR PURGING ABANDONED GAS LINES.

The purpose of this guideline is to provide minimum requirements and information on purging operations.

Purging is the process of expelling gas from the pipe and replacing it with air. This is accomplished by introducing air and allowing the air/gas mixture to escape to the outside atmosphere until 0 percent gas is obtained.

In order to eliminate initial stratification of air and gas, it is important that the introduction of the air be done quickly. It is desirable to establish the turbulent slug as soon as possible.

All purges shall be checked with a combustible gas indicator (CGI) to ensure that the purge has been completed. Monitoring with the CGI at the vent stack or riser shall continue until 0 percent gas is obtained.

Proper safety precautions to protect people first then property from potential hazards shall be implemented and maintained until all purging operations have been completed.

For riser purging operation, the riser shall be grounded to the soil with an electrically conductive wire or cable and connected to a grounding plate or rod. Attach ground wire to stopcock valve or just below the valve to ensure proper grounding. The escaping gas/air mixture shall be expelled in a manner as to prevent the mixture from collecting in a confined area or enveloping the operating personnel.

PURGE STACKS SHALL BE:

- Made of steel.
- Properly grounded using ground clamps and ground rod.
- A minimum of 6 feet above grade when purging from excavations.
- Shall not be directed towards persons, animals or openings to buildings.

PURGING GUIDELINES

GUIDELINES FOR PURGING NEW OR REINSTATED GAS LINES:

The purpose of this guideline is to provide minimum requirements and information on purging operations.

Purging is the process of expelling air from the pipe and replacing it with gas. This is accomplished by introducing gas from the normal feed source and allowing the air/gas mixture to escape to the outside atmosphere until 100 percent gas is obtained.

In order to eliminate initial stratification of air and gas, it is important that the introduction of the gas or air be done quickly. It is desirable to establish the turbulent slug as soon as possible.

All purges shall be checked with a combustible gas indicator (CGI) to ensure that the purge has been completed. Monitoring with the CGI at the vent stack or riser shall continue until 100 percent gas is obtained.

Proper safety precautions to protect people first then property from potential hazards shall be implemented and maintained until all purging operations have been completed.

For riser purging operation, the riser shall be grounded to the soil with an electrically conductive wire or cable and connected to a grounding plate or rod. Attach ground wire to stopcock valve or just below the valve to ensure proper grounding. The escaping gas/air mixture shall be expelled in a manner as to prevent the mixture from collecting in a confined area or enveloping the operating personnel.

PURGE STACKS SHALL BE:

- Made of steel.
- Properly grounded using ground clamps and ground rod.
- A minimum of 6 feet above grade when purging from excavations.
- Shall not be directed towards persons, animals or openings to buildings.