

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Each operator of a hazardous liquid or carbon dioxide pipeline system shall file Form PHMSA F 7000-1 for an accident that meets the criteria in 49 CFR §195.50 as soon as practicable but not more than 30 days after discovery of the accident. Requirements for submitting reports are in §195.54 and §195.58.

Releases during maintenance activities are not to be reported if the spill was less than 5 barrels, not otherwise reportable under 49 CFR §195.50, did not result in water pollution as described by 49 CFR §195.52(a)(4), was confined to company property or pipeline right-of-way, and was cleaned up promptly. Any spill of 5 gallons or more to water during a maintenance activity is required to be reported.

Form PHMSA F 7000-1 and these instructions can be found on <http://phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline/library/forms>. The applicable documents are included in the section titled Accidents/Incidents/Annual Reporting Forms.

## ONLINE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Accident Reports must be submitted online through the PHMSA Portal at <https://portal.phmsa.dot.gov/portal>, unless an alternate method is approved (see Alternate Reporting Methods below).

You will not be able to submit reports until you have met all of the Portal registration requirements – see

<https://portal.phmsa.dot.gov/PHMSAPortal2/staticContentRedesign/howto/PortalAccountCreation.pdf>

Completing these registration requirements could take several weeks. Plan ahead and register well in advance of the report due date.

Use the following procedure for online reporting:

1. Go to the PHMSA Portal at <https://portal.phmsa.dot.gov/portal>
2. Enter PHMSA Portal Username and Password ; press *enter*
3. Select OPID; press “*continue*” button.
4. On the left side menu under “Incident/accident (2010 to present)” select “**ODES 2.0**”
5. Under “**Create Reports**” on the left side of the screen, select “Hazardous Liquid” and proceed with entering your data.
6. Click “**Submit**” when finished with your data entry to have your report uploaded to PHMSA’s database as an official submission of an Accident Report; or click “**Save**” which doesn’t submit the report to PHMSA but stores it in a draft status to allow you to come back to complete your data entry and report submission at a later

time. *Note: The “Save” feature will allow you to start a report and save a draft of it which you can print out and/or save as a PDF to email to colleagues in order to gather additional information and then come back to accurately complete your data entry before submitting it to PHMSA.*

7. Once you click “**Submit**”, the system will check if all applicable portions of the report have been completed. If portions are incomplete, a listing of these portions will appear above the row of Parts, and the report will not be submitted until all required items are complete. If all applicable portions have been completed, the system will show your Saved Incident/Accident Reports in the top portion of the screen and your Submitted Incident/Accident Reports in the bottom portion of the screen. *Note: To confirm that your report was successfully submitted to PHMSA, look for it in the bottom portion of the screen where you can also view a PDF of what you submitted.*

**Supplemental Report Filing** – Follow Steps 1 through 4 above, and double-click a submitted report from the Submitted Incident/Accident Reports list. The report will default to a “Read Only” mode that is pre-populated with the data you submitted previously. To create a supplemental report, click on “Create Supplemental” found in the upper right corner of the screen. At this point, you can amend your data and make an official submission of the report to PHMSA as either a Supplemental Report or as a Supplemental Report *plus* Final Report (see “Specific Instructions, PART A, Report Type”), or you can use the “Save” feature to create a draft of your Supplemental Report to be submitted at some future date.

#### **Alternate Reporting Methods**

Operators for whom electronic reporting imposes an undue burden and hardship may submit a written request for an alternate reporting method. Operators must follow the requirements in §195.58(d) to request an alternate reporting method and must comply with any conditions imposed as part of PHMSA’s approval of an alternate reporting method.

### **RETRACTING A 30-DAY WRITTEN REPORT**

An operator who reports an accident in accordance with §195.54 (oftentimes referred to as a 30-day written report) and upon subsequent investigation determines that the event did not meet the criteria in §195.50 may request that the report be retracted. Requests to retract a 30-day written report are to be emailed to [InformationResourcesManager@dot.gov](mailto:InformationResourcesManager@dot.gov). Requests are to include the following information:

- a. The Report ID (the unique 8-digit identifier assigned by PHMSA)
- b. Operator name
- c. PHMSA-issued OPID number
- d. The number assigned by the National Response Center (NRC) when an immediate notice was made in accordance with §195.52. If Supplemental Reports were made to the NRC for the event, list all NRC report numbers associated with the event.
- e. Date of the event
- f. Location of the event
- g. A brief statement as to why the report should be retracted.

Note: PHMSA no longer requests that operators rescind erroneously reported “Immediate Notices” filed with the NRC in accordance with §195.52 (oftentimes referred to as “Telephonic Reports”).

## SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Certain data fields must be completed before an Original Report will be accepted. An Original Report will not be able to be submitted online until the required information has been provided, although your partially completed form can be saved online so that you can return at a later time to provide the missing information.

1. An entry should be made in each applicable space or check box, unless otherwise directed by the section instructions.
2. If the data is unavailable, enter “Unknown” for text fields and leave numeric fields and fields using check boxes or “radio” buttons blank.
3. Estimate data only if necessary. Provide an estimate in lieu of answering a question with “Unknown” or leaving the field blank. Estimates should be based on best-available information and reasonable effort.
4. For unknown or estimated data entries, the operator should file a Supplemental Report when additional information becomes available.
5. If the question is not applicable, please enter “N/A” for text fields and leave numeric fields and fields using check boxes or “radio” buttons blank. Do not enter zero unless this is the actual value being submitted for the data in question.
6. If **OTHER** is checked for any answer to a question, include an explanation or description on the line provided, making it clear why “Other” was the necessary selection.
7. Pay close attention to each question for the phrase:
  - a. *(select all that apply)*
  - b. *(select only one)*

If the phrase does not exist for a given question, then “select only one” should apply. “Select only one” means that you should select the single, primary, or most applicable answer. **DO NOT SELECT MORE ANSWERS THAN REQUESTED.** “Select all that apply” requires that all applicable answers (one or more than one) be selected.

8. **Date format** = mm/dd/yy or for year = /yyyy/
9. **Time format:** All times are reported as a 24-hour clock:

**Time format Examples:**

- a. (0000) = midnight = /0/0/0/0/
- b. (0800) = 8:00 a.m. = /0/8/0/0/
- c. (1200) = Noon = /1/2/0/0/
- d. (1715) = 5:15 p.m. = /1/7/1/5/
- e. (2200) = 10:00 p.m. = /2/2/0/0/

**Local time** always refers to time at the site of the accident. Note that time zones at the accident site may be different than the time zone for the person discovering or reporting the event. For example, if a release occurs at a facility in Denver, Colorado at 2:00 pm MST, but an individual located in Houston is filing the report after having been notified at 3:00 pm CST, the time of the accident is to be reported as 1400 hours based on the time in Denver, which is the physical site of the accident.

**PART A – GENERAL REPORT INFORMATION**

**Report Type: (select all that apply)**

Select the appropriate report box or boxes to indicate the type of report being filed. Depending on the descriptions below, the following combinations of boxes - and only one of these combinations - may be selected:

- Original Report only
- Original Report *plus* Final Report
- Supplemental Report only
- Supplemental Report *plus* Final Report

☐ **Original Report**

Select if this is the FIRST report filed for this accident and you expect that additional or updated information will be provided later.

☐ **Original Report** *plus* ☐ **Final Report**

Select **both** Original Report and Final Report if **ALL** of the information requested is known and can be provided at the time the initial report is filed, including final property damage costs and apparent failure cause information. If new, updated, and/or corrected information becomes available, you are still able to file a Supplemental Report.

☐ **Supplemental Report**

Select only if you have already filed an Original Report AND you are now providing new, updated, and/or corrected information, but you are not yet ready to submit a Final Report. Multiple Supplemental Reports are to be submitted, as necessary, in order to provide new, updated, and/or corrected information ***when it becomes available*** and, per §195.54(b)15(c), each Supplemental Report containing new, updated, and/or corrected information is to be filed within 30 days. Submission of new, updated, and/or corrected information is NOT to be delayed in order to accumulate “enough” to “warrant” a Supplemental Report, or to complete a Final Report. ***Supplemental Reports must be filed within 30 days following the Operator’s awareness of new, updated, and/or corrected information.*** Failure to comply

with these requirements can result in enforcement actions, including the assessment of civil penalties as provided in 49 USC 60122.

In cases where an accident results in long-term remediation, an operator may cease filing Supplemental Reports in the following situations and, instead, file a Final Report even when additional remediation costs and recovery of released commodity are still occurring:

1. When the accident response consists only of long-term remediation and/or monitoring which is being conducted under the auspices of an authorized governmental agency or entity.
2. When the estimated final costs and volume of commodity recovered can be predicted with a reasonable degree of certainty.
3. When the volume of commodity recovered over time is consistently decreasing to the point where an estimated total volume of commodity recovered can be predicted with a reasonable degree of accuracy.
4. When the operator can justify (and explain in the Part H – Narrative) that the continuation of Supplemental Report filings in the future will not provide any essential information which will be critically different than that contained in a Final Report filed currently.

In any of these cases, though, if the reported total volume of commodity released or other previously reported data other than “Estimated cost of Operator’s environmental remediation” or “Estimated volume of commodity recovered” is found to be inaccurate, a Supplemental Report is still required.

For Supplemental Reports filed online, all data previously submitted will automatically populate in the form. Page through the form to make edits and additions where needed.

☐ **Supplemental Report** *plus* ☐ **Final Report**

If an Original Report has already been filed AND new, updated, and/or corrected information is now being submitted via a Supplemental Report AND the operator is reasonably certain that no further information will be forthcoming, then Final Report is to also be selected along with Supplemental Report.

If you subsequently find that new, updated, and/or corrected information needs to be provided, submit another Supplemental Report.

**A1. Operator's OPS -Issued Operator Identification Number (OPID)**

For online entries, the OPID will automatically populate based on the selection you made when entering the Portal. If you have log-in credentials for multiple OPID, be sure the report is being created for the appropriate OPID. Contact PHMSA's Information Resources Manager at 202-366-8075 if you need assistance with an OPID. Business hours are 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM Eastern Time.

**A2. Name of Operator**

This is the company name associated with the OPID. For online entries, the name will automatically populate based on the OPID entered in A1. If the name that appears is not correct, you need to submit an Operator Name Change (Type A) Notification.

**A3. Address of Operator**

This is the headquarters address associated with the OPID. For online entries, the address will automatically populate based on the OPID entered in A1. If the address that appears is not correct, you need to change it in the online Contacts module.

**A4. Earliest local time (24-hour clock) and date an accident reporting criteria was met.**

Enter the earliest local date/time an accident reporting criteria was met. In most cases this time will be the same as when the operator identified the failure, which is reported in A13. In some cases, this date/time will be prior to the operator's identification of the failure and must be estimated based on information gathered during the investigation. For example, if a small leak was undetectable by SCADA or leak detection systems and was not identified by the Operator until there were visible signs on the ground surface, the date/time a reporting criteria was met must be estimated.

See "Special Instructions", numbers 8 and 9 for examples of **Date format** and **Time format** expressed as a 24-hour clock.

**A4a.** Select the local time zone where the Accident occurred (select only one).

**A4b.** Select "Yes" if Daylight Saving was in effect at the time of the Accident, or "No" if it was not.

**A5. Location of Accident**

The latitude and longitude of the accident are to be reported as Decimal Degrees with a minimum of 5 decimal places (e.g. Lat: 38.89664 Long: -77.04327), using the WGS84 datums. If you have coordinates in degrees/minutes or degrees/minutes/seconds use the formula below to convert to decimal degrees:

degrees + (minutes/60) + (seconds/3600) = decimal degrees

e.g. 38° 53' 47.904" = 38 + (53/60) + (47.904/3600) = 38.89664°

All locations in the United States will have a negative longitude coordinate, **which has already been included on the data entry form so that operators do not have to enter the negative sign.**

If you cannot locate the accident with a GPS or some other means, there are online tools that may assist you at <http://viewer.nationalmap.gov/viewer/>.

## A6. Commodity Released

Select only one primary description of the commodity and then, where applicable, the secondary description of the commodity, based on the predominant volume released. Only releases of transported commodities are reportable.

☐ **Crude Oil**

☐ **Refined and/or Petroleum Product (non-HVL) which is a Liquid at Ambient Conditions**

**Refined and/or Petroleum Product** includes gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, kerosene, fuel oils, or other refined or petroleum products which are a liquid at ambient conditions. They are flammable, toxic, or corrosive products obtained from distilling or processing of crude oil, unfinished oils, natural gas liquids, blend stocks, and other miscellaneous hydrocarbon compounds. For a non-HVL petrochemical feedstock, such as propylene, report as “other” and specify the name of the commodity (e.g., “propylene”) in the space provided.

☐ **HVL or Other Flammable or Toxic Fluid which is a Gas at Ambient Conditions**

**Highly Volatile Liquids (HVLs)** are hazardous liquids or liquid mixtures which will form a vapor cloud when released to the atmosphere and have a vapor pressure exceeding (40 psia) 276 kPa at 37.8 C.

**Other Flammable or Toxic Fluids** are those defined under 49 CFR 173.120 Class 3—Definitions. Other flammable or toxic fluids which fall under this category include gases at ambient conditions, such as anhydrous ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) and propane. For a petrochemical feedstock, such as ethane or ethylene, which is also classified as a highly volatile liquid, report as “Other HVL” and specify the appropriate name (e.g., “ethane” or “ethylene”) in the space provided.

☐ **CO<sub>2</sub> (Carbon Dioxide)**

☐ **Biofuel/Alternate Fuel (including ethanol blends)**

Fuel Grade Ethanol is denatured ethanol before it has been mixed with a petroleum product or other hydrocarbon; sometimes also referred to as neat ethanol.

Ethanol Blend is ethanol plus a petroleum product such as gasoline. Such mixtures may be referred to as E10 or E85, for example, representing a 10% or 85% blend respectively. In the space provided, specify the percentage of ethanol in the mixture. Blends greater than 95% ethanol should be reported as Fuel Grade Ethanol.

Biodiesel is a diesel liquid distilled from biological feedstocks vs. crude oil. Biodiesel is typically shipped as a blend mixed with a petroleum product. Report the percentage biodiesel in the blend as shown. For pure biodiesel, report 100.

**General Information for Questions 7, 8, and 9:**

**Estimate volumes in barrels.** Barrel means a unit of measurement equal to 42 U.S. standard gallons. If less than 1 barrel, report to 1 decimal place using the conversion table below. Small volumes, including but not limited to those which result in some form of ignition, are to be reported as 0.1 barrels.

If estimated volume is	Report	If estimated volume is	Report
<5 gallons	<b>0.1</b> barrels	24-27 gallons	<b>0.6</b> barrels
5-10 gallons	<b>0.2</b> barrels	28-31 gallons	<b>0.7</b> barrels
11-14 gallons	<b>0.3</b> barrels	32-35 gallons	<b>0.8</b> barrels
15-18 gallons	<b>0.4</b> barrels	36-39 gallons	<b>0.9</b> barrels
19-23 gallons	<b>0.5</b> barrels	40-42 gallons	<b>1.0</b> barrels

**A7. Estimated volume of commodity released unintentionally**

Estimate the amount of commodity released from the pipeline system at the failure site. If the product is consumed by fire inside a tank, do not include the volume consumed by fire in the spill volume, but do include the cost of this commodity in D8. An estimate of the volume released may be based on a variety and/or combination of inputs, including:

- calculations made by hydraulic engineers
- volume added to the pipeline segment to repack the line when the line is placed back in service
- measured volume of free phase commodity recovered, with allowances for commodity that is not recovered.
- volume calculated to be absorbed by soil or water
- volume calculated to have been lost to evaporation (e.g., for gasoline spills)

**A8. Estimated volume of intentional and/or controlled release/blowdown**

This section is completed only for HVL and CO2 releases. Estimate the amount of commodity that was released during any intentional release or controlled blowdown conducted as part of responding to or recovering from the accident. Intentional and controlled blowdown implies a level of control of the site and situation by the operator such that the area and the public are protected during the controlled release.

**A9. Estimated volume of commodity recovered**

**Recovered** means the commodity is no longer in the environment. The commodity could have been removed by: absorbent pads or similar mechanisms; transferring to temporary storage such as a vacuum truck, a frac tank, or similar vessel; soil removal; bio-remediation; or other similar means of removal or recovery. The volume recovered can be estimated based on a variety or combination of the measurement of free phase commodity recovered, the amount calculated to be absorbed by soil or water that was removed from the environment, measurement of oil extracted from absorbent pads, etc.



**A10. Were there fatalities?**

If a person dies at the time of the accident or within 30 days of the initial accident date due to injuries sustained as a result of the accident, report as a fatality. If a person dies subsequent to an injury more than 30 days past the accident date, report as an injury. (Note: This aligns with the Department of Transportation's general guidelines for all jurisdictional transportation modes for reporting deaths and injuries.)

Select “Yes” or “No” and if “Yes” is selected, enter the category of person(s) and number of fatalities resulting from the Accident.

**Contractor employees working for the operator** are individuals hired to work for or on behalf of the operator of the pipeline. These individuals are not to be reported as “Operator employees”.

**Non-Operator emergency responders** are individuals responding to render professional aid at the accident scene including on-duty and volunteer fire fighters, rescue workers, EMTs, police officers, etc. “Good Samaritans” that stop to assist should be reported as “General public.”

**Workers Working on the Right of Way, but NOT Associated with this Operator** means people authorized to work in or near the right-of-way, but not hired by or working on behalf of the operator of the pipeline. This includes all work conducted within the right-of-way including work associated with other underground facilities sharing the right-of-way, building/road construction in or across the right-of-way, or farming. This category most often includes employees of other pipelines or underground facilities operators, or their contractors, working in or near a shared right-of-way. Workers performing work near, but not on, the right-of-way and who are affected should be reported as “General public”.

**A11. Were there injuries requiring inpatient hospitalization?**

Injuries requiring inpatient hospitalization are injuries sustained as a result of the accident which require both hospital admission *and* at least one overnight stay.

Select “Yes” or “No” and if “Yes” is selected, enter the category of person(s) injured, and number of persons injured resulting from the Accident

See A10 for additional definitions that apply.

**A12. What was the Operator’s initial indication of the Failure? (*select only one*)**

Select the option best describing how the operator first became aware of the failure resulting in this accident report. When the selection in A12 is operator staff, indicate whether the staff are employed by the operator or working as a contractor in A12a.

**Controller** per the definition in API RP 1168 means a qualified individual whose function within a shift is to remotely monitor and/or control the operations of entire or multiple sections of pipeline systems via a SCADA system from a pipeline control room, and who has operational authority and accountability for the daily remote operational functions of pipeline systems.

**Local Operating Personnel including contractors** means employees or contractors working on behalf of the operator outside the control room.

**A13.** Enter the date/time of the event reported in A12. The earliest date/time than an accident reporting criteria was met is reported in item A4. In some cases, the operator may become aware of a failure before an accident reporting criteria is met. In other cases, one of more accident reporting criteria may be met before the operator becomes aware of the failure.

**A14. Part of system involved in the Accident (select only one)**

Select the best description of the part of the pipeline system that was involved in the accident. Report pumps under the type of system powered. For example, tank booster pumps are reported as “Onshore Terminal/Tank Farm Equipment and Piping.” For pumps powering belowground storage, select “Onshore Equipment and Piping Associated with Belowground Storage.”

**A15. Was the origin of the accident onshore?**

The answer to A14. will automatically populate this field with Yes or No.

**A16. Operational Status at time Operator identified failure (select only one)**

Select the best description of the operating status of the pipeline system at the date/time reported in A4.

**Post-Construction Commissioning** means the introduction of product, testing and commissioning of the pipeline prior to the start of commercial operations.

**Post-Maintenance/Repair** means purging and packing of the pipeline when returning it to service from maintenance or repairs.

**Routine Start-Up** means the start-up of the pipeline, facility or system in normal operations, or returning from maintenance or other idle status following a time of no flow, but the where the pipeline remained liquid full, and the start-up was being conducted under normal start-up procedures.

**Routine Shutdown** means the stoppage of equipment or the system from a normal operation status.

**Normal Operation, include pauses between batches and during maintenance** means the pipeline is operating normally, and any of the maintenance that is occurring does not require product to be removed from the pipeline or system. Product sampling, inhibitor injection, in-line inspection, installation of repairs, and other activities covered by the operator’s Operation and Maintenance Procedures are examples of the maintenance included in this category.

**Idle** means that the pipeline has been removed from service for commercial reasons or to make repairs. The pipeline may contain product, an inert gas, or be empty. When residual product accumulates in an excavation and ignites, Idle is the proper status.

### **A17. Sutdown**

If A16. is Routine Start-Up or Normal Operation, was the pipeline/facility shut down due to the Accident? Select Yes for any shutdowns that occur as a result of the accident, including but not limited to those required for damage assessment, temporary repair, permanent repair, and clean-up. Do not include equipment shutdowns that do not affect the pipeline or system operation. For example, if a pump shutdown occurred as part of the accident, but the pipeline was able to continue operating, select No. If No is selected, explain the reason that no shutdown was needed in the space provided. A possible explanation for the example above would be “The pipeline continued to operate through the station bypass piping and did not require a pipeline shutdown.”

If Yes is selected, complete questions 17a. and 17b.

#### **17a. Local time (24hr clock) and date of shutdown**

#### **17b. Local time pipeline/facility restarted**

The time is to be shown by 24-hour clock notation, and is to reflect the time in the time zone where the accident was physically located. (See “Special Instructions”, numbers 9 and 10.) Enter the time and date the pipeline was isolated or equipment stopped in 17a. The affected facilities may still contain commodity at this time. Enter the time and date of restart in 17b. The intent with this data is to capture the total time that the pipeline or facility is shutdown due to the accident. If the pipeline or facility has not been restarted at the time of reporting, select “Still shut down” for Question 17b and then include the restart time and date in a future Supplemental Report.

### **A18. Operator Communication with Local, State, or Federal Emergency Responders**

In an Advisory Bulletin dated October 11, 2012, PHMSA reminded Operators of the need to communicate with Emergency Responders in the early stages of a potential Accident. This is typically accomplished by contacting Public Safety Access Points (PSAPs) along the pipeline route. The purpose of the communication is to assist in the identification, location and planning for response to pipeline Accidents through coordination and information sharing.

**A18a.** Select Yes if there was communication about the accident. If A12 is “Notification from Emergency Responder”, A18a. will automatically populate with Yes.

If 18a. is no, skip 18b. and 18c.

**A18b.** Select the party initiating the communication. If A12. is “Notification from Emergency Responder”, A18b. will automatically populate with “Local/State/Federal Emergency Responder”.

**A18c.** Enter the local date and time of the initial communication. If A12. is “Notification from Emergency Responder”, A18c. will automatically populate with the value in A13.

**A19.** Enter the date/time operator responders, company or contract, arrived on site. Chronologically, A19 must be concurrent with or later than A13. These times are to be shown by 24-hour clock notation and reported in the time zone where the accident occurred.

(See “Special Instructions”, numbers 8 and 9.) PHMSA will use this data to calculate accident response times.

**A20.** Enter local time and date of Confirmed Discovery as defined in 49 CFR §195.2.

**A21a. Local time (24-hr clock) and date of initial operator report to the National Response Center**

Enter the time and date of the initial Immediate Notice of the accident to the NRC. The time is to be shown by 24-hour clock notation in the time zone where the incident occurred. All NRC Reports are time stamped for the eastern time zone. Be sure to convert to local time if the accident did not occur in the eastern time zone. (See “Special Instructions”, numbers 9 and 10.)

**A21b. Initial Operator National Response Center (NRC) Report Number**

Accidents meeting the criteria outlined in §195.52 are to be reported directly to the **24-hour National Response Center (NRC) at 1-800-424-8802** at the earliest practicable moment. The NRC assigns numbers to each call. Enter the number assigned to the operator’s initial Immediate Notice (sometimes referred to as the “Telephonic Report”). If a NRC report was not made, select the option that best describes why: NRC Notification Not Required or NRC Notification Required But Not Made.

**A21c. Additional NRC Report Numbers**

If the operator made more than one call to the NRC, enter each additional NRC report number.

**A22. Did the Commodity Ignite?**

If Yes, answer A22a through A22d.

**Ignite** means the released commodity (including liquid vapors) caught fire (including flash fires). If the answer is “Yes,” enter the time and date of the ignition in 22a. The time is to be shown by 24-hour clock notation in the time zone where the accident occurred. If the fire was extinguished, select “Operator/Contractor” or “Local/State/Federal Emergency Responder,” to indicate who extinguished the fire, or select “Allowed to Burn Out,” if it was not extinguished, in 22b.

Enter the estimated volume of commodity consumed by fire in thousand standard cubic feet (mcf) in A22c.

If the accident resulted in an explosion, select Yes in A22d. **Explode** means ignition of the commodity, or its vapor, with a sudden and violent release of energy.

**A23. Flow Control. Pipeline Glossary of terms, including valves are available [here](#)**

If A14. is “Onshore Pipeline, Including Valve Sites” OR “Offshore Pipeline, Including Riser and Riser Bend”, answer A23a through f. The initial response to pipeline emergencies is typically understood to be isolation of the Accident location from the source of the commodity. However, sometimes there are operational means other than valve closures to achieve this goal. These questions are intended to understand the response actions and the time of valve closures intended to isolate the accident location. Valve data is for the first

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upstream or downstream valve selected by the operator to minimize the release volume but may not be the closest to the accident site or the one that was eventually used for the final isolation of the release site for repair.

Upstream of Failure - If an action other than valve closure was taken to isolate the accident site from the upstream pipeline, select “Operational Control” for 23a. and provide a description of the operation control employed.

If 23a. is “Valve Closure”, complete 23b and 23c.

**A23b.** Enter the time of the valve closure that achieved isolation of the accident location from upstream piping.

**A23c.** Identify the type of valve used to initially isolate the release on the upstream side.

Downstream of Failure - If an action other than valve closure was taken to isolate the accident site from the downstream pipeline, select “Operational Control” for 23d and provide a description of the operation control employed.

If 23d is “Valve Closure”, complete 23e and 23f.

**A23e.** Enter the time of the valve closure that achieved isolation of the accident location from downstream piping.

**A23f.** Identify the type of valve used to initially isolate the release on the downstream side.

**A24. Oil Spill Response**

If A6. is “Crude Oil”, “Refined and/or Petroleum Product (non-HVL) which is a Liquid at Ambient Conditions”, or “Biofuel / Alternative Fuel (including ethanol blends)” AND A15. is Onshore, answer questions A24a and A24b.

**A24a.** Did the operator notify a “qualified individual” in the Onshore Oil Spill Response Plan? Select Yes. Otherwise, select No. If Yes, supply the Local time. In accordance with §194.5 *Qualified individual* means an English-speaking representative of an operator, located in the United States, available on a 24-hour basis, with full authority to: activate and contract with required oil spill removal organization(s); activate personnel and equipment maintained by the operator; act as liaison with the OSC; and obligate any funds required to carry out all required or directed oil response activities.

**A24b.** Did the operator activate an Oil Spill Removal Organization (OSRO)?

If an Oil Spill Response Organization (OSRO) was activated in response to the accident, select Yes. Otherwise, select No. If Yes, enter the time the OSRO was activated and the time the OSRO arrived on site in A24d and A24e.

**A25. Number of general public evacuated**

The number of people evacuated is to be estimated based on operator knowledge, or police, fire department, or other emergency responder reports. If there was no evacuation involving the general public, report zero (0).

**PART B – ADDITIONAL LOCATION INFORMATION**

**B1. Pipeline/Facility Name**

Multiple pipeline systems and/or facilities are often operated by a single operator. This information identifies the particular pipeline system or pipeline facility name commonly used by the operator on which the accident occurred, for example, the “West Line 24” Pipeline”, or “Gulf Coast Pipeline”, or “Wooster Terminal”.

**B2. Segment name/ID**

Within a given pipeline system and/or facility, there are typically multiple segment or station identifiers, names, or ID’s which are commonly used by the operator. The information reported here helps locate and/or record the more precise accident location, for example, “Segment 4-32”, or “MP 4.5 to Wayne County Line”, or “Dublin Pump Station”, or “Witte Meter Station”. Preferably, report the segment name that is reported to PHMSA’s National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS).

**If Onshore**

**B3. – B6. Accident Location**

Provide the state, zip code, city, and county/parish in which the accident occurred. If the accident did not occur within a municipality, select Not Within Municipality in the City field.

**B7. and B8. Operator-designated Location**

This is intended to be the designation that the operator would use to identify the location of the accident on its pipeline system. Enter the appropriate milepost, survey station number, or site name. This designator is intended to allow PHMSA personnel to refer to the physical location of the accident using the operator’s maps and records.

**B9. Was this onshore Accident on Federal Land?**

Federal Lands means all lands the United States owns, including military reservations, except lands in National Parks and lands held in trust for Native Americans. Accidents at Federal buildings, such as Federal Court Houses, Custom Houses, and other Federal office buildings and warehouses, are NOT to be reported as being on Federal Lands.

**B10. Location of Accident (select only one)**

**Operator-controlled Property** would normally apply to an operator’s facility, which may or may not have controlled access, but which is often fenced or otherwise marked with discernible boundaries. This “operator-controlled property” does not refer to the pipeline right-of-way, which is a separate choice for this question.

**B11. Area of Accident (as found)**

This refers to the location on the pipeline at which commodity was released, resulting in the accident. It does not refer to adjacent locations in which released commodity may have accumulated or ignited.

**Underground** means pipe, components, or other facilities installed below the natural ground level, road bed, or below the underwater natural bottom.

**Under pavement** includes under streets, sidewalks, paved roads, driveways, and parking lots.

**Exposed due to Excavation** means that a normally buried pipeline had been exposed by any party (operator, operator's contractor, or third party) preparatory to or as a result of excavation. The cause of the release, however, may or may not necessarily be related to excavation damage. This category could include a corrosion leak not previously evidenced by stained vegetation, but found during an ILI dig, or a release caused by a non-excavation vehicle where contact happened to occur while the pipeline was exposed for a repair or examination. Natural forces might also damage a pipeline that happened to be temporarily exposed. In each case, the cause should be appropriately reported in PART G of this form.

**Exposed due to loss of cover** means that erosion, flooding, farming or some other action has removed the cover that was previously over the pipeline, leaving it exposed. This loss of cover may be previously known or unknown by the pipeline operator, but is to be reported in this category if it is believed to have been exposed immediately prior to the Accident. **Loss of cover solely as a result of the Accident should not be reported under this category. For example** – if a pipeline was buried below ground immediately prior to a failure, and the force of the failure unearthed the pipeline – it should still be reported as “Under soil” in this report.

**B11a.** Report the depth of cover in inches that was over the pipeline at the time of the Accident, which may have to be estimated in some cases.

**Aboveground** means pipe, components, or other facilities that are above the natural grade.

**Typical aboveground facility piping** includes any pipe or components installed aboveground such as those at pump stations, storage facilities, valve sites, and breakout tank farms.

**Transition area** means the junction of differing material or media between pipes, components, or facilities such as those installed at a belowground-aboveground junction (soil/air interface), another environmental interface, or in close contact to supporting elements such as those at water crossings, pump stations, launchers and receivers, and breakout tank farms.

**B12. Did Accident occur in a crossing?**

If Yes, select the type of crossing.

Use **Bridge Crossing** if the pipeline is suspended above a body of water or roadway, railroad right-of-way, etc., either on a separately designed pipeline bridge or as a part of or connected to a road, railroad, or passenger bridge.

Use **Railroad Crossing** or **Road Crossing**, as appropriate, if the pipeline is buried beneath rail bed or road bed.

Use **Water Crossing** if the pipeline is in the water, beneath the water, in contact with the natural ground of the lake bed, etc., or buried beneath the bed of a lake, reservoir, stream or creek, whether the crossing happens to be flowing water at the time of the accident or not.

If Water Crossing is selected, answer the remaining questions about the crossing. The name of the body of water should be provided if it is commonly known and understood among the local population. The purpose of this information is to allow persons familiar with the area in which the accident occurred to identify the location and understand it in its local context. Research to identify names that are not commonly used is not necessary since such names would not fulfill the intended purpose. If a body of water does not have a name that is commonly used and understood in the local area, this field may be left blank. For **Approximate Water Depth (ft)** of the lake, reservoir, etc., estimate the typical water depth at the location of the accident, ignoring seasonal, weather-related, and other factors which may affect the water depth from time to time. Pick the best description of the failure location within the water crossing. If the water crossing is 100 ft or more from high water mark to high water mark, indicate yes for the last question.

### **If Offshore**

#### **B13. Approximate water depth (ft.), at the point of the Accident**

This is be the estimated depth from the surface of the water to the seabed at the point of the accident regardless of whether the pipeline is below/on the bottom, underwater but suspended above the bottom, or above the surface (e.g., on a platform).

#### **B14. Origin of the Accident**

Area and Tract/Block numbers are to be provided for either State or OCS waters, whichever is applicable. For Nearest County/Parish, the data collected is intended to allow persons familiar with the area in which the accident occurred to identify the location and understand it in its local context. Accordingly, it is not necessary to take measurements to determine which county/parish is “nearest” in cases where the accident location is approximately equidistant from two (or more). In such cases, the name of one of the nearby counties/parishes is to be provided. For accidents on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) identify the region where the accident occurred by selecting one of the four options listed.

#### **B15. Area of the Accident**

For all Offshore Accidents, specify the area of the Accident by selecting the best description of the area.



## PART C – ADDITIONAL FACILITY INFORMATION

### C1. Is the pipeline or facility [Interstate or Intrastate]?

As defined in section 195.2, **Interstate pipeline** means a pipeline or that part of a pipeline that is used in transportation of hazardous liquids or carbon dioxide in interstate or foreign commerce. A pipeline may be entirely within a single state and be interstate. As defined in section 195.2, **Intrastate pipeline** means a pipeline or that part of a pipeline to which Part 195 applies that is not an interstate pipeline. Operators may refer to Appendix A of Part 195 for further guidance. The value reported here should match both the Annual Report and NPMS submittal value.

### C2. Reserved

### C3. Item involved in Accident

**Pipe** (whether pipe body or pipe seam) means the pipe through which the commodity is transported, not including auxiliary piping, tubing or instrumentation.

**Nominal pipe size.** It is the diameter in whole number inches (except for pipe less than 5”) used to describe the pipe size; for example, 8-5/8” outside diameter pipe has a nominal pipe size of 8. Decimals are unnecessary for this measure (except for pipe with an outside diameter less than 5”). For more details, see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nominal\\_Pipe\\_Size](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nominal_Pipe_Size)

Enter **pipe wall thickness** in inches. Wall thickness is typically less than an inch. Accordingly, use three decimal places to report wall thickness: 0.312, 0.281, etc.

**SMYS** means specified minimum yield strength and is the yield strength prescribed by the specification under which the material is purchased from the manufacturer. If the SMYS is unknown, and the Operator has designated it as 24,000 for the purposes of MAOP calculations, enter 24,000.

**Pipe Specification** is the specification to which the pipe was manufactured, such as API 5L or ASTM A106.

**Pipe seam** means the longitudinal seam (longitudinal or spiral weld) created during manufacture of the joint of pipe.

#### Pipe Seam Type Abbreviations

**SAW** means submerged arc weld

**ERW** means electric-resistance weld

**DSAW** means double submerged arc weld

If the frequency of the ERW pipe seam is unknown, and the pipe was manufactured after 1980, select Longitudinal ERW – High Frequency. Almost all ERW pipe manufactured prior to 1960 is Low Frequency, and both High and Low Frequency ERW pipe was manufactured between 1960 and 1980. If the pipe seam type is ERW, and the manufacture date is unknown, select “Longitudinal ERW – Unknown Frequency” for the seam type.

If a Girth Weld failure occurs, enter the pipe properties in 3b thru 3h. If a Girth Weld failure occurs between two different pipe materials, enter the first set of pipe properties in 3b thru 3h and any different values in 3i through 3o.

If the accident occurred on an item not listed in this section, select “Other” and specify the item that failed in the space provided. **Make every effort to find an item category and avoid the use of “Other” when reporting the Type of Item involved in the accident.**

**C4. Year Item Involved Installed**

Enter the year the item was installed or select Unknown.

In **C4a**, enter the year the item involved was manufactured or select Unknown.

**C5. Material involved in Accident**

Enter the material involved in the accident. If the material is other than Carbon Steel or Plastic, select “Material other than Carbon Steel or Plastic” and specify the type of material in the space provided.

**C6. Type of Accident involved (*select only one*)**

**Mechanical puncture** means a puncture of the pipeline, typically by a piece of equipment such as would occur if the pipeline were pierced by directional drilling or a backhoe bucket tooth. Not all excavation-related damage will be a “mechanical puncture.” (Precise measurement of size – e.g., micrometer – is not needed. Approximate measurements can be provided in inches and one decimal.)

**Leak** means a failure resulting in an unintentional release of the transported commodity that is often small in size, usually resulting in a low flow release of low volume, although large volume leaks can and do occur on occasion. A leak may be a hole or a crack, and includes separation of materials, pullout and loose connections. Typically, a **Leak** can be repaired, whereas a **Rupture** results in the complete failure of the pipeline.

**Rupture** means the pipeline facility has burst, split, or broken and the operation of the pipeline facility is immediately impaired and no longer serviceable. The terms “circumferential” and “longitudinal” refer to the general direction or orientation of the rupture relative to the pipe’s axis. For example; a rupture of a girth weld would be circumferential, whereas a split that followed the length of the pipe (whether in the seam, or not) would be longitudinal. (Precise measurement of size – e.g., micrometer – is not needed. Approximate measurements can be provided in inches and one decimal.)

**PART D – ADDITIONAL CONSEQUENCE INFORMATION**

High Consequence Area is defined in §195.450.

**D1.** If wildlife was impacted, select Yes and indicate the type in D1a. Otherwise, select No.

**D2.** If the spill contaminated soil, select Yes. Otherwise, select No.

**D3.** If a long-term impact assessment is planned or performed, select Yes. Otherwise, select No.

**D4.** If remediation is anticipated, select Yes and select all of the types of remediation anticipated in D4.a. Otherwise, select No.

**D5.** If water was contaminated, select Yes and answer D5.a through D5.c. Otherwise, select No. Surface water can be intermittent, especially in arid portions of the country. If a surface waterbody were dry and spilled product entered the surface body, the operator should report no water contamination. Rain water caught in a berm is not a surface waterbody.

**D5a.** Select all of the types of water contaminated. If “Drinking water” is selected, indicate the subtype(s) contaminated.

**D5b. Estimated amount released in or reaching water**

An estimate of the volume released in or reaching water may be based on a variety and/or combination of inputs, including those mentioned above for PART A, Questions 7 and 8.

**D5c. Name of body of water, if commonly known:**

The name of the body of water should be provided if it is commonly known and understood among the local population. The purpose of this information is to allow persons familiar with the area in which the accident occurred to identify the location and understand it in its local context. Research to identify names that are not commonly used is not necessary since such names would not fulfill the intended purpose. If a body of water does not have a name that is commonly used and understood in the local area, this field should be left blank.

**D6. At the location of this Accident, had the pipeline segment or facility been identified as one that “could affect” a High Consequence Area (HCA) as determined in the Operator’s Integrity Management Program?**

This question should be answered based on the classification of the involved segment in the operator’s integrity management (IM) program at the time of the accident, whether or not consequences to an HCA ensued. It is possible that a release on a pipeline segment that “could affect” an HCA might not actually affect an HCA. It is also possible that releases from segments thought not able to affect an HCA might have such an affect. This could indicate a deficiency in the operator’s IM program for identifying segments that can affect HCAs, and all of this information is useful for PHMSA’s overall evaluations concerning the efficacy of IM regulation.

**D7. Did the released commodity reach or occur in one or more High Consequence Area (HCA)?**

Generally, a spilled commodity will have “reached” an HCA if the spill zone intersects the boundaries of the HCA polygon as mapped by the National Pipeline Mapping System. The HCA maps should be available as a part of each operator’s Integrity Management Program as per §195.452.

Guidance from the Pipeline Performance Tracking System (PPTS) is available at <https://www.api.org/oil-and-natural-gas/wells-to-consumer/transporting-oil-natural-gas/pipeline-performance-tracking-system>, specifically PPTS Advisory 2004-1.

**7a. HCA Type (select all that apply)**

Refer to the definitions in §195.450 listed at the start of Part D. Leave this question blank if the released commodity did not reach or occur in a High Consequence Area.

**D8. Estimated Property Damage**

All relevant costs available at the time of submission must be included on the initial written Accident Report as well as being updated as needed on Supplemental Reports. This includes (but is not limited to) costs due to property damage to the operator's facilities and to the property of others, commodity lost, facility repair and replacement, and environmental cleanup and damage. Do NOT include costs incurred for facility repair, replacement, or change that are NOT related to the accident and which are typically done solely for convenience. An example of doing work solely for convenience is working on non-leaking facilities unearthed because of the accident. Litigation and other legal expenses related to the accident are not reportable.

Operators are to report costs based on the best estimate available at the time a report is submitted. It is likely that an estimate of final repair costs may not be available when the initial report must be submitted (30 days, per §195.54). The best available estimate of these costs should be included in the initial report. For convenience, this estimate can be revised, if needed, when Supplemental Reports are filed for other reasons, however, when no other changes are forthcoming, Supplemental Reports are to be filed as new cost information becomes available. If Supplemental Reports are not submitted for other reasons, a Supplemental Report is to be filed for the purpose of updating or correcting the estimated cost if these costs differ from those already reported by 20 percent or \$20,000, whichever is greater.

**Public and Non-operator private property damage** estimates generally include physical damage to the property of others, the cost of environmental investigation and remediation of a site not owned or operated by the operator, laboratory costs, third party expenses such as engineers or scientists, and other reasonable costs, excluding litigation and other legal expenses related to the accident.

**Cost of commodity lost** includes the cost of the commodity not recovered and/or the cost of recovered commodity downgraded to a lower value or re-processed, and is to be based on the volume reported in PART A, Questions 7 and 9. The volume of commodity consumed by fire inside a tank is not included in A7, but the cost of the commodity should be included in this section.

**Operator's property damage** estimates generally include physical damage to the property of the operator or owner company such as the estimated installed or replacement value of the damaged pipe, coating, component, materials, or equipment due to the accident, excluding litigation and other legal expenses related to the accident.

When estimating the **Cost of repairs** to company facilities, the standard shall be the cost necessary to safely restore pipeline facilities to the pre-accident level of service. Cost of repairs include the cost to access, excavate, and repair the pipeline using methods, materials, and labor necessary to re-establish operations. These costs may include the cost of repair sleeves or clamps, re-routing of piping, or the removal from service of an appurtenance, tank, or pipeline component. When more comprehensive repairs or improvements are

justified but not required for continued operation, the cost of such repairs or replacement is not attributable to the accident. Costs associated with improvements to the pipeline or other facilities to mitigate the risk of future failures are not included.

Estimated costs of **emergency response** include emergency response operations necessary to return the accident site to a safe state, actions to minimize the volume of commodity released, conduct reconnaissance, identify the extent of accident impacts, and contain, control, mitigate, recover, and remove the commodity from the environment, to the maximum extent practicable. They include materials, supplies, labor, and benefits. Costs related to stakeholder outreach, media response, etc. are not to be included. The estimated costs of long-term remediation activities should be included in Environmental Remediation estimates.

**Environmental remediation** includes the estimated cost to remediate a site such as those associated with engineering, scientists, laboratory costs, and the installation, operation, and maintenance of long-term recovery systems, etc.

**Other costs** are to include any and all costs which are not included above. Operators are to NOT use this category to report any costs which belong in cost categories separately listed above.

**Costs** are to be reported in only one category and are not to be double-counted. Costs can be split between two or more categories when they overlap more than one reporting category.

**Injured persons not included in A11.** The number of persons injured, admitted to a hospital, and remaining in the hospital for at least one overnight are reported in A11. **If a person is included in A11, do not include them in D9.**

**D9. Estimated number of persons with injuries requiring treatment in a medical facility but not requiring overnight in-patient hospitalization.**

**If a person is included in D9, do not include them in D10.**

**D10. Estimated number of persons with injuries requiring treatment by EMTs at the site of accident.**

**Buildings Affected** The term ‘affected’ means the building was either evacuated or required repair.

**D11. Enter the number of residential buildings affected.**

**D12. Enter the number of commercial and industrial buildings affected.**

**PART E – ADDITIONAL OPERATING INFORMATION**

**E1. Estimated Pressure**

Enter the operating pressure, in psig, at the location and time of the accident.

**E2. Maximum Operating Pressure (MOP)**

Enter the MOP, in psig, at the point and time of the accident.

**E2a.** Select the response from §195.406(a) that describes the limiting factor for establishing the MOP at the accident site.

**E2b.** Enter the date MOP was established.

**E2c.** If the MOP was established in conjunction with a flow direction reversal, select Yes. If the system is designed for bi-directional flow, select Bi-Directional. Otherwise, select No.

If E2c is Yes, enter the year of the most recent surge analysis in E2d.

**E3. Pressure Description**

The online reporting software will select the appropriate value for E3 based upon the responses to E1 and E2.

**E4. Was the system or facility relating to the Accident operating under an established pressure restriction with pressure limits below those normally allowed by the MOP?**

Consider both voluntary and mandated pressure restrictions. A pressure restriction is to be considered mandated by PHMSA or a state regulator if it was required by an Order, enforcement action, or other formal correspondence from PHMSA.

An “established pressure restriction” is defined as a temporary reduction in the MOP that also requires a revision to the setpoints in the operator’s safety devices, processes or controls to ensure the pressure restriction is not exceeded.

Pressure reductions taken by the operator as a result of a procedural or regulatory requirement, e.g., pipeline repairs, movement, investigations, or a pressure reduction taken because an anomaly identified during an IM assessment could not be repaired within the required schedule (§195.452(h)(3)), are not considered “mandated by PHMSA.”

**E5. Length of segment isolated between valves (ft)**

If A23.a and A23.d are both “Valve Closure”, enter the length in feet between the valves.

**E6. and E7.** Respond to the questions about internal inspection tools.

**E8. Function of pipeline system**

**Gathering** means a crude oil pipeline 8-5/8 inches or less nominal outside diameter that transports petroleum from a production facility.

**Transmission** means all other pipeline assets not meeting the gathering definition.

**% SMYS** means at the maximum operating pressure, the hoop stress created as a percentage of the specified minimum yield strength (SMYS) of the pipe.

**E9. Was a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)-based system in place on the pipeline or facility involved in the Accident?**

This does not mean a system designed or used exclusively for leak detection.

**E9a. Was it operating at the time of the Accident?**

Was the SCADA system in operation at the time of the accident?

**E9b. Was it fully functional at the time of the Accident?**

Was the SCADA system capable of performing all of its functions, whether or not it was actually in operation at the time of the accident? If No, describe functions that were not operational in PART H – Narrative Description of the Accident.

**E9c and d. Did SCADA-based information (such as alarm(s), alert(s), event(s), and/or volume calculations) assist with the initial indication (or confirmed discovery) of the Accident?**

Select Yes if SCADA-based information was used for confirmed discovery of the accident even if the initial indication may have come from other sources. Use of SCADA data for subsequent estimation of amount of commodity lost, etc. is not considered use to confirm the accident. Select No if SCADA-based information was not used to assist with identification of the accident.

**E10. Was a CPM leak detection system in place on the pipeline or facility involved in the Accident?**

This means a system designed and used exclusively for leak detection. Follow instructions for E9. above.

**E11. Was an investigation initiated into whether or not the controller(s) or control room issues were the cause of or a contributing factor to the Accident?**

Select only one of the choices to indicate whether an investigation was/is being conducted (Yes) or was not conducted (No). If an investigation has been completed, select all the factors that apply in describing the results of the investigation.

**Cause** means an action or lack of action that directly led to or resulted in the pipeline accident.

**Contributing factor** means an action or lack of action that when added to the existing pipeline circumstances heightened the likelihood of the release or added to the impact of the release.

**Controller Error** means that the controller failed to identify a circumstance indicative of a release event, such as an abnormal operating condition, alarm, pressure drop, change in flow rate, or other similar event.

**Incorrect Controller action** means that the controller errantly operated the means for controlling an event. Examples include opening or closing the wrong valve, or hitting the wrong switch or button.

## **PART F – DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING INFORMATION**

Requirements for post-accident drug and alcohol tests are in 49 CFR §199.105 and §199.225 respectively. If the accident circumstances were such that tests were not required by these regulations, and if no tests were conducted, select No. If tests were administered, select Yes and report separately the number of operator employees and number of contractors working for the operator who were tested and the number of each that failed such tests.



## PART G – APPARENT CAUSE

### PART G – Apparent Cause

Select the one, single sub-cause listed under sections G1 thru G8 that best describes the apparent cause of the Accident. These sub-causes are contained in the shaded column on the left under each main cause category. Answer the corresponding questions that accompany your selected sub-cause, and enter any secondary, contributing, or root causes of the Accident in Part K – Contributing Factors. Make every effort to find a category that fits the Accident's Apparent Cause and avoid the use of Other and Unknown when possible. Use of Unknown as an Apparent Cause will require the submittal of a Supplemental Report to revise the Apparent Cause when it becomes known.

#### G1 – Corrosion Failure

**Corrosion** includes a release or failure caused by galvanic, atmospheric, stray current, microbiological, selective seam, or other corrosive action. A corrosion release or failure is not limited to a hole in the pipe or other piece of equipment. If the bonnet or packing gland on a valve or flange on piping deteriorates or becomes loose and leaks due to corrosion and failure of bolts, it is to be classified as Corrosion. (Note: If the bonnet, packing, or other gasket has deteriorated to failure, whether before or after the end of its expected life, but not due to corrosive action, it is to be classified under G6 - Equipment Failure.)

#### External Corrosion

**2. Type of corrosion** – NOTE: Stress Corrosion Cracking (SCC) is no longer an option for the type of corrosion. SCC failures are to be reported under cause G5, with a sub-cause of Environmental Cracking-related.

If Stray Current corrosion is selected, specify whether alternating or direct current was involved and describe the source of the stray current.

**4a. Under cathodic protection** means cathodic protection in accordance with §195.563 or §195.573(b). Recognizing that older pipelines may have had cathodic protection added over a number of years, provide an estimate if the exact year cathodic protection started is unknown.

#### Internal Corrosion

#### 9. Location of corrosion

A **low point in pipe** includes portions of the pipe contour in which water might settle out. This includes, but is not limited to, the low point of vertical bends at a crossing of a foreign line or road/railroad, etc., an elbow, a drop out or low point drain.

#### 10. Was the commodity treated with corrosion inhibitors or biocides?

Select Yes if corrosion inhibitors or biocides were included in the commodities transported.

**12. Were cleaning/dewatering pigs (or other operations) routinely utilized?**

**13. Were corrosion coupons routinely utilized?**

For purposes of these Questions 12 and 13, “routinely” refers to an action that is performed on more than a sporadic or one-time basis as part of a regular program with the intent to ensure that water build-up and/or settling and internal corrosion do not occur.

**G2 – Natural Force Damage**

**Natural Force Damage** includes an accident resulting from earth movement, earthquakes, landslides, subsidence, lightning, heavy rains/floods, washouts, flotation, mudslide, scouring, temperature, frost heave, frozen components, high winds, or similar natural causes.

**Earth Movement, NOT due to Heavy Rains/Floods** refers to accidents caused by land shifts such as earthquakes, subsidence, or landslides, but not mudslides which are presumed to be initiated by heavy rains or floods.

**Heavy Rains/Floods** refer to all water-related natural force causes. While mudslides involve earth movement, report them here since typically they are a result of heavy rains or floods.

**Lightning** includes both damage and/or fire caused by a direct lightning strike and damage and/or fire as a secondary effect from a lightning strike in the area. An example of such a secondary effect would be a forest fire started by lightning that results in damage to a pipeline system asset which results in an accident.

**Temperature** includes weather-related temperature and thermal stress effects, either heat or cold, where temperature was the initiating cause.

**Thermal stress** refers to mechanical stress induced in a pipe or component when some or all of its parts are not free to expand or contract in response to changes in temperature.

**Frozen components** would include accidents where components are inoperable because of freezing and those due to cracking of a piece of equipment due to expansion of water during a freeze cycle.

**High Winds** includes damage caused by wind-induced forces. Select this category if the damage is due to the force of the wind itself. Damage caused by impact from objects blown by wind would be reported under G4 - Other Outside Force Damage.

**Tree/Vegetation Root** includes damages caused by tree and vegetation roots.

**Snow/Ice impact or Accumulation** should be indicated when snow and/or ice caused damage to the hazardous liquid pipeline asset which results in an accident.

**Other Natural Force Damage.** Select this sub-cause for types of Natural Force Damage not included otherwise, and describe in the space provided. If necessary, provide additional explanation in PART H – Narrative Description of the Accident.

Answer Questions 6 and 6a if the accident occurred in conjunction with an extreme weather event such as a hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado. If an extreme weather event related to something other than a hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado was involved, indicate Other and describe the event in the space provided.

### **G3 – Excavation Damage**

**Excavation Damage** includes a release or failure resulting directly from excavation damage by operator's personnel (oftentimes referred to as “first party” excavation damage) or by the operator’s contractor (oftentimes referred to as “second party” excavation damage) or by people or contractors not associated with the operator (oftentimes referred to as “third party” excavation damage). Also, this section includes a release or failure determined to have resulted from previous damage due to excavation activity. For damage from outside forces OTHER than excavation which results in a release, use G2 - Natural Force Damage or G4 - Other Outside Force, as appropriate. Also, for a strike, physical contact, or other damage to a pipeline or facility that apparently was NOT related to excavation and that results in a delayed or eventual release, report the accident under G4 as “Previous Mechanical Damage NOT related to Excavation.”

**Excavation Damage by Operator (First Party)** refers to accidents caused as a result of excavation by a direct employee of the operator.

**Excavation Damage by Operator’s Contractor (Second Party)** refers to accidents caused as a result of excavation by the operator’s contractor or agent or other party working for the operator.

**Excavation Damage by Third Party** refers to accidents caused by excavation damage resulting from actions by personnel or other third parties not working for or acting on behalf of the operator or its agent.

**Previous Damage due to Excavation Activity** refers to accidents that were apparently caused by prior excavation activity and that then resulted in a delayed or eventual release. Indications of prior excavation activity might come from the condition of the pipe when it is examined, or from records of excavation at the site, or through metallurgical analysis or other inspection and/or testing methods. Dents and gouges in the 10:00-to-2:00 o’clock positions on the pipe, for instance, may indicate an earlier strike, as might marks from the bucket or tracks of an earth moving machine or similar pieces of equipment.

**If Excavation Damage by Third Party is selected, answer question 1**

**1. and 1a. Prior Notification** Indicate whether you received prior notification of the excavation activity. If yes, indicate all of the notification sources.

**1b. through 1e. One-Call State Law Exemptions** Per the primary Accident Investigator results, indicate whether State law exempted the excavator from notifying a one-call center.

If yes, select the type of exemption from the list. If “Other” is selected, enter text describing the exemption. Describe the exempting authority and exempting criteria.

2. Complete these questions for any excavation damage sub-cause. Instructions for answering these questions can be found at <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/operator-resources/damage-information-reporting-tool-dirt-users-guide>

**NOTE: If you have or will be reporting the information in questions 3 thru 14 to CGA-DIRT, select “No” in question 2 to avoid duplication of data submitted to CGA.**

#### **G4 – Other Outside Force Damage**

**Other Outside Force Damage** includes, but is not limited to, a release or failure resulting from non-excavation-related outside forces, such as nearby industrial, man-made, or other fire or explosion; damage by vehicles or other equipment; failures due to mechanical damage; and, intentional damage including vandalism and terrorism.

**Nearby Industrial, Man-made or other Fire/Explosion as Primary Cause of Accident** applies to situations where the fire occurred before - and *caused* - the release. Examples of such an accident would be an explosion or fire at a neighboring facility or installation (chemical plant, tank farm, other industrial facility) or structure, debris, or brush/trees that results in a release at the operator’s pipeline or facility. This includes forest, brush, or ground fires that are caused by human activity. If the fire, however, is known to have been started as a result of a lightning strike, the accident’s cause is to be classified under G2 - Natural Force Damage. Arson events directed at harming the pipeline or the operator should be reported as G4 - Intentional Damage (see below).

**Damage by Car, Truck, or Other Motorized Vehicle/Equipment NOT Engaged in Excavation.** An example of this sub-cause would be a stopple tee that releases commodity when damaged by a pickup truck maneuvering near the pipeline. Other motorized vehicles or equipment include tractors, backhoes, bulldozers and other tracked vehicles, and heavy equipment that can move. Include under this sub-cause accidents caused by vehicles operated by the pipeline operator, the pipeline operator’s contractor, or a third party, and specify the vehicle/equipment operator’s affiliation from one of these three groups. Pipeline accidents resulting from vehicular traffic loading or other contact should also be reported in this category. If the activity that caused the release involved digging, drilling, boring, grading, cultivation or similar activities, report under G3 - Excavation Damage.

**Damage by Boats, Barges, Drilling Rigs, or Other Maritime Equipment or Vessels Set Adrift or Which Have Otherwise Lost Their Mooring.** This sub-cause includes impacts by maritime equipment or vessels (including their anchors or anchor chains or other attached equipment) that have lost their moorings and are carried into the pipeline facility by the current. This sub-cause also includes maritime equipment or vessels set adrift as a result of severe weather events and carried into the pipeline facility by waves, currents, or high winds. In such cases, also indicate the type of severe weather event. Do NOT report in this sub-cause accidents which are caused by the impact of maritime equipment or vessels while they are engaged in their normal or routine activities; such accidents are to be reported as “Routine or Normal Fishing or Other Maritime Activity NOT Engaged in Excavation” under this section G4 (see below) so long as those activities are not excavation activities. If

those activities are excavation activities such as dredging or bank stabilization or renewal, the accident is to be reported under G3 - Excavation Damage.

**Routine or Normal Fishing or Other Maritime Activity NOT Engaged in Excavation.**

This sub-cause includes accidents due to shrimping, purse seining, oil drilling, or oilfield workover rigs, including anchor strikes, and other routine or normal maritime-related activities UNLESS the movement of the maritime asset was due to a severe weather event (this type of accident should be reported under “Damage by Boats, Barges, Drilling Rigs, or Other Maritime Equipment or Vessels Set Adrift or Which Have Otherwise Lost Their Mooring” in this section G4); or the accident was caused by excavation activity such as dredging of waterways or bodies of water (this type of accident is to be reported under G3 - Excavation Damage).

**Electrical Arcing from Other Equipment or Facility** such as a pole transformer or adjacent facility’s electrical equipment.

**Previous Mechanical Damage NOT Related to Excavation.** This sub-cause covers accidents where damage occurred at some time prior to the release that was apparently NOT related to excavation activities, and would include prior outside force damage of an unknown nature, prior natural force damage, prior damage from other outside forces, and any other previous mechanical damage other than that which was apparently related to prior excavation. Accidents resulting from previous damage sustained during construction, installation, or fabrication of the pipe or weld from which the release eventually occurred are to be reported under G5 - Material Failure of Pipe or Weld. (See this sub-cause for typical indications of previous construction, installation, or fabrication damage.) Accidents resulting from previous damage sustained as a result of excavation activities should be reported under G3 – Previous Damage due to Excavation Activity. (See this sub-cause for typical indications of prior excavation activity.)

**Intentional Damage**

**Vandalism** means willful or malicious destruction of the operator’s pipeline facility or equipment. This category would include arson, pranks, systematic damage inflicted to harass the operator, motor vehicle damage that was inflicted intentionally, and a variety of other intentional acts.

**Terrorism**, per 28 CFR §0.85 General Functions, includes the unlawful use of force and violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives. Operators selecting this item are encouraged to also notify the FBI.

**Theft of commodity or Theft of equipment** means damage by any individual or entity, by any mechanism, specifically to steal, or attempt to steal, the transported commodity or pipeline equipment.

**Other** Describe in the space provided and, if necessary, provide additional explanation in PART H – Narrative Description of the Accident.

**Other Outside Force Damage.** Select this sub-cause for types of Other Outside Force Damage not included otherwise, and describe in the space provided. If necessary, provide additional explanation in PART H – Narrative Description of the Accident.

#### **5-11 Additional Data for Damage by Car, Truck, or Other Motorized Vehicle/Equipment NOT Engaged in Excavation**

When answering the questions, include information that can be substantiated from police reports or other investigative reports.

The following definitions apply for reporting the type of motorized vehicle in Question 10: **Motorcycle/All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV)** - All two or three-wheeled motorized vehicles, and some four-wheeled vehicles are to be reported in this category. Typical vehicles in this category have saddle type seats and are steered by handlebars rather than steering wheels. This category includes motorcycles, motor scooters, mopeds, motor-powered bicycles, and three-wheel motorcycles. Additionally, four-wheeled off-road and all-terrain vehicles (sometimes referred to as “four-wheelers”) are to be reported under this category.

**Passenger Car** -- All sedans, coupes, and station wagons manufactured primarily for the purpose of carrying passengers and including those passenger cars pulling recreational or other light trailers.

**Small Truck** - All two-axle, four-tire, vehicles, other than passenger cars. Included in this classification are pickups, panels, vans, and other vehicles such as campers, motor homes, ambulances, hearses, carryalls, and minibuses.

**Bus** - All vehicles manufactured as traditional passenger-carrying buses with two axles and six tires or three or more axles. This category includes only traditional buses (including school buses) functioning as passenger-carrying vehicles. Modified buses should be considered to be a truck and should be appropriately classified.

**Large Truck** - All vehicles on a single frame including trucks, camping and recreational vehicles, motor homes, etc., with two or more axles and at least two rear wheels on each side

When specifying the type of protection in Question 13, select the category “Barricades” for Jersey barriers, fencing, and other structures that are other than Guard Rails or Bollards/Guard Posts. If “Other” is selected, enter text describing the protection.

#### **G5 – Material Failure of Pipe or Weld**

Use this section to report material failures **only if** “Item Involved in accident” (PART C, Question 3) is “**Pipe**” (whether “**Pipe Body**” or “**Pipe Seam**”) or “**Weld.**” Indicate how the sub-cause was determined or if the sub-cause is still being investigated.

This section includes releases in or failures from defects or anomalies within the material of the pipe body or within the pipe seam or other weld due to manufacturing processes, material imperfections, defects resulting from poor construction, installation, or fabrication practices, and in-service stresses such as vibration, fatigue, and environmental cracking.

**Design-, Construction-, Installation-, or Fabrication-related** includes a release or failure caused by improper design practices, a dent, gouge, excessive stress, or some other defect or anomaly introduced during the process of constructing, installing, or fabricating pipe and pipe welds in the field, including welding or other activities performed at the construction

job site. Included are releases from or failures of wrinkle bends, field welds, and damage sustained in transportation to the construction or fabrication site. Not included are failures due to seam defects, which are to be reported as Original Manufacturing-related (see below). If a river crossing were directionally drilled and tied into a buried pipeline without adequate accommodation for expansion and contraction of the pipe in the drill hole and the pipeline facility fails at the tie-in, this represents an improper design practice. Select “Design-, Construction-, Installation-, or Fabrication-related” as the sub-cause.

**Original Manufacturing-related (NOT girth weld or other welds formed in the field)** includes a release or failure caused by a defect or anomaly introduced during the process of manufacturing pipe, including manufacturing and handling of the plate materials, seam defects and defects in the pipe body. This option is not appropriate for wrinkle bends, field welds, girth welds, or other joints fabricated in the field. Use this option for failures such as those due to defects of the longitudinal weld or inclusions in the pipe body. If the girth welds were completed at the pipe mill (such as in the case of double joints welded prior to delivery to the jobsite) report those failures in this category.

**Environmental Cracking-related** includes failures by Stress Corrosion Cracking, Sulfide Stress Cracking, Hydrogen Stress Cracking, Hard Spots or other environmental cracking mechanism.

If **Design, Construction, Installation, Fabrication-related** or **Original Manufacturing-related** is selected, then select any contributing factors. Examples of Mechanical Stress include failures related to overburden or loss of support.

## **G6 – Equipment Failure**

This section applies to failures of items other than “Pipe” (“Pipe Body” or “Pipe Seam”) or “Weld”.

**Equipment Failure** includes a release or failure resulting from: malfunction of control/relief equipment including valves, regulators, or other instrumentation; failures of compressors, or compressor-related equipment; failures of various types of connectors, connections, and appurtenances; failures of the body of equipment, vessel plate, or other material (including those caused by construction-, installation-, or fabrication-related and original manufacturing-related defects or anomalies); and, all other equipment-related failures.

**Malfunction of Control/Relief Equipment.** Examples of this type of accident cause include: overpressurization resulting from malfunction of a control or alarm device; relief valve malfunction; valves failing to open or close on command; or valves which opened or closed when not commanded to do so. If overpressurization or some other aspect of this accident was caused by incorrect operation involving human error, the accident should be reported under G7 - Incorrect Operation.

**ESD System Failure** means failure of an emergency shutdown system.

**Other Equipment Failure.** Select this sub-cause for types of Equipment Failure not included otherwise, and describe in the space provided. If necessary, provide additional explanation in PART H – Narrative Description of the Accident.

#### **G7 – Incorrect Operation**

**Incorrect Operation** includes a release or failure resulting from operating, maintenance, repair, or other errors by facility personnel or pipeline controllers, including, but not limited to improper valve selection or operation, inadvertent overpressurization, or improper selection or installation of equipment in the field. If the failure occurs in the pipe body or weld, and is a result of inadequate design or a design error, the accident is to be reported under G5 – Material Failure of Pipe or Weld, Design-, Construction-, Installation-, or Fabrication-related.

**Other Incorrect Operation.** Select this sub-cause for types of Incorrect Operation not included otherwise, and describe in the space provided. If necessary, provide additional explanation in PART H – Narrative Description of the Accident.

#### **G8 – Other Accident Cause**

This section is provided for accidents whose cause is currently unknown, or where investigation into the cause has been exhausted and the final judgment as to the cause remains unknown, or where a cause has been determined which does not fit into any of the main cause categories listed in sections G1 thru G7. PHMSA will review all G-8 cause selections and determine if it meets the definition of any category listed in G1 thru G7 before a Final Report is accepted for closure. All sub cause categories of “Unknown” require a Supplemental Report to be filed before being accepted as Final.

If the accident cause is known but doesn’t fit into any category in sections G1 thru G7, select **Miscellaneous** and enter a description of the accident cause, continuing with a more thorough explanation in PART H - Narrative Description of the Accident.

If the accident cause is unknown at the time of filing this report, select **Unknown** in this section and specify one reason from the accompanying two choices. Once the operator’s investigation into the accident cause is completed, the operator is to file a Supplemental Report as soon as practicable either reporting the apparent cause or stating definitively that the cause remains Unknown, along with any other new, updated, and/or corrected information pertaining to the accident. This Supplemental Report is to include all new, updated, and/or corrected information pertaining to *all* portions of the report form known at this time, and not only that information related to the apparent cause.

**Important Note:** Whether the investigation is completed or not, or if the cause continues to be unknown, Supplemental Reports are to be filed reflecting new, updated, and/or corrected information *as and when this information becomes available*. In those cases in which investigations are ongoing for an extended period of time, operators are to file a Supplemental Report within one year of their last report for the accident even in those instances where no new, updated, and/or corrected information has been obtained, with an explanation that the cause remains under investigation in PART H – Narrative Description



of Accident. Additionally, final determination of the apparent cause and/or closure of the investigation does NOT preclude the need for the operator's filing of additional Supplemental Reports as and when new, updated, and/or corrected information becomes available.

## **PART J – COMPLETED INTEGRITY INSPECTIONS**

**Complete the following if the “Item Involved in Accident” (from PART C, Question 3) is Pipe or Weld and the “Cause” (from Part G) is:**

- Corrosion (any subCause in Part G1); or**
- Previous Damage due to Excavation Activity (subCause in Part G3); or**
- Previous Mechanical Damage NOT Related to Excavation (subCause in Part G4); or**
- Material Failure of Pipe or Weld (any subCause in Part G5)**

### **J1. Internal Inspection Tools**

If Yes, for each tool and technology used, select type of internal inspection tool and technology and indicate year of most recent and previous runs.

**Axial Magnetic Flux Leakage (MFL)** is an in-line inspection (ILI) tool that uses a non-destructive testing (NDT) method of imposing a magnetic flux in the steel pipe for the detection of corrosion and pitting. The basic principle behind MFL ILI involves magnetizing the steel pipe to a saturation level with a magnetic field. MFL ILI tools can be either low- and high-resolution tools, with more modern tools being high-resolution MFL ILI tools.

**Circumferential/Transverse Wave Magnetic Flux Leakage (MFL)** is an in-line inspection (ILI) tool that induces the magnetic flux field into the steel pipe in the circumferential direction, which allows the measurement of longitudinally oriented anomalies such as tunnel corrosion and longitudinal weld anomalies.

**Ultrasonic** is an in-line inspection (ILI) tool that introduces a shear wave ultrasound beam into the steel pipeline inspection area at an angle, which allows detection of abnormalities based on the reflection and refraction of the beam. Can be used to detect and size planar (crack and crack-like) anomalies or measure wall thickness and detect instances of wall loss.

**Geometry/Deformation** is an in-line inspection (ILI) tool designed to record mechanical or geometric conditions such as changes in the pipe internal diameter, including dents, ovalities, wrinkles, expansions, and misalignments.

**Electromagnetic Acoustic Transducer (EMAT)** is an in-line inspection (ILI) tool that generates an ultrasonic pulse within the steel pipe without a liquid couplant. EMAT ILI consists of a magnet and an electrical coil, which uses electro-magnetic forces to introduce sound energy into the steel pipe. EMAT ILI is used to detect cracking flaws in steel pipe.

**Cathodic Protection Current Measurement (CPCM)** is an in-line inspection (ILI) tool capable of reading and recording the magnitude and polarity of current supplied by cathodic protection (CP). CPCM ILI measures direct current (DC) and alternating current (AC)

voltage gradients from CP current or induced AC as the CPCM ILI tool traverses along the pipeline.

**Complete J1b. only when the “Cause” (from Part G) is: Previous Damage due to Excavation Activity (subCause in Part G3); or Previous Mechanical Damage NOT Related to Excavation (subCause in Part G4)**

**J1b.** Indicate if you have reason to believe the internal inspections were completed before the damage was sustained.

## **J2. Hydrotest**

Has one or more hydrotest or other pressure test been conducted since original construction at the point of the Accident? Information from the initial post-construction hydrostatic test is NOT reported in J2.

## **J3. Direct Assessment**

Has Direct Assessment been conducted on this segment? This refers to direct assessment as defined in §195.553. Instances in which one or more indirect monitoring tools (e.g., close interval survey, DCVG) have been used that might be used as part of direct assessment but which were not used as part of the direct assessment process defined in §195.553 do NOT constitute a Direct Assessment for purposes of this question.

If J3 is yes, enter the year of the most recent assessment(s) in J3a.

## **J4. Non-destructive Examination**

Indicate if one or more non-destructive examination been conducted prior to the Accident at the point of the Accident since January 1, 2002. If Yes, enter the most recent year of the examination(s) in J4a.

# **PART K – CONTRIBUTING FACTORS**

**Contributing factor** means an action or lack of action that when added to the existing circumstances heightened the likelihood of the release or added to the impact of the release. The Apparent Cause of the accident is contained in Part G. Do not report the Apparent Cause again in this Part K. If Contributing Factors were identified during a root cause analysis, select all that apply and explain each in the Narrative.

# **PART H – NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE ACCIDENT**

Concisely describe the accident, including the facts, circumstances, and conditions that may have contributed directly or indirectly to causing the accident. Include secondary, contributing, or root causes when possible, or any other factors associated with the cause that are deemed pertinent. Use this section to clarify or explain unusual conditions and to explain any estimated data.

If you selected Miscellaneous in section G8, the narrative is to describe the accident in detail, including all known or suspected causes and possible contributing factors.

**PART I – PREPARER AND AUTHORIZED PERSON**

The Preparer is the person who compiled the data and prepared the responses to the report and who is to be contacted for more information (preferably the person most knowledgeable about the information in the report or who knows how to contact the person most knowledgeable). Enter the Preparer's e-mail address if the Preparer has one, and the phone and fax numbers used by the Preparer.

The Authorized Person is responsible for assuring the accuracy and completeness of the reported data. In addition to their title, a phone number and email address are to be provided for the Authorized Person.