

Field Verifications Summary Table

This table presents a summary of the investigation techniques to be employed as needed. Additional detail is provided in the discussion sections which follow this table, and in the reference documents. Any requirements above these techniques (e.g. special diameter measurements, etc.) should be communicated in a special drawing in the dig job package.

| Document Section | Method | Description | Desired Property | Investigation Frequency |
|---|-----------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| 1 – DIAMETER | | | | |
| | Measuring tape | Use a Pi measuring tape to measure the circumference of the pipe, as permitted for new pipe in API 5L. | Diameter | Measure the circumference of the pipe in 2 areas for each excavation and diameter. Both measurements should be documented on the form. This measurement is called for in the H-Form (section 2.0). |
| 2 – WALL THICKNESS | | | | |
| | Ultrasonic Inspection | Electronic instrument measures the wall thickness of a solid structure such as the pipe wall. | Wall Thickness | Perform 12 measurements around the circumference of the pipe at quarter points, per §192.109. All within a single excavation. This measurement is called for in the H-Form (section 2.5) |
| 3 – MATERIAL STRENGTH / PROPERTIES | | | | |
| | Laboratory Analysis | Install two pressure control fittings on the pipeline or otherwise remove the pipeline from service, to allow removal of sections of the pipe wall for testing. Perform destructive laboratory testing on the coupon to determine the tensile properties. | Grade / SMYS | Once per excavation if desired. Destructive laboratory testing is referenced in §192.107 and Section II-D of §192 Appendix B. Performed in accordance with tensile testing specified in API 5L. If this test is desired, it will be specifically called for in the dig location job package. Test is rarely used. |
| | ABI Technique | Electrical/mechanical device that determines the average yield strength without destructive testing. The resulting average yield can be used in the Barlow's equation to calculate the MAOP. | Average Yield Strength | 5 individual tests per test location in one excavation. Can be used in place of destructive laboratory testing when confirming material strength. The test should be taken at top-dead-center, at the center of the trench and away from any long seam. If a girth weld is encountered in the trench, 2 tests locations will be selected (one on either side of the girth weld). If this test is desired, it will be specifically called for in the dig location job package. |

| Document Section | Method | Description | Desired Property | Investigation Frequency |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---|---------------------|---|
| | Alloy Analysis | Analysis of small scrapings of the pipe metal to determine the chemical composition. The weldability of the pipe, and some information regarding manufacturing and vintage can be determined based on the results of this analysis. | Metal composition | If the ABI Technique is performed, the samples for this future test should be acquired and forwarded to ATS. If the ABI Technique is used, scrapings should be collected. |
| 4 – LONGITUDINAL SEAM TYPE | | | | |
| | Radiography | Radiographic examination of weld. | Long seam weld type | Radiographic inspection of long seam welds (for pipe that is not seamless) to differentiate between SSAW and DSAW. The ATS Data Sheet for RT Characterization of DSAW vs. SSAW should be completed. In addition this form will be revised to include the assessment of weld quality. If this test is desired, it will be specifically called for in the dig location job package. |
| | Visual | Visual examination of long seam weld. | Long seam weld type | Inspect and photograph external long seams after cleaning. Use PG&E's Gas Standard & Specifications A-11 and other references presented in Section 5 to determine the long seam type by inspection. In accordance with the H-Form, section 2.2 macro-etching will be conducted to discern whether the long seam is ERW or SMLS. This measurement is called for in the H-Form (section 2.2) |
| | Magnetic Particle Exam | Examination of the weld or material using magnetic particle inspection techniques. | Defects | If the visual examination of the pipe surface in the area ground for testing indicates potential cracks or other problems that are not identified on the radiographic examination, then magnetic particle will be used. Although, the results of this analysis are not used to determine the MAOP, this visual surface examination will be conducted to help ensure the integrity of the pipeline and assess the need for any repairs. This measurement is called for in the H-Form (section 2.6) |
| 5 – GIRTH WELD TYPE | | | | |
| | Visual | Visual examination of girth weld. | Girth weld type | Guidance for this inspection is still under development. |
| 6 – PIPELINE COATING | | | | |
| | Sampling | Collection of coating sample to be used for asbestos testing. | Asbestos | This measurement is called for in the H-Form (section 1.1) |