



STANDARD PRACTICE

STANDARD PRACTICE NO. 460.21-6

ISSUING DEPARTMENT GAS OPERATIONS

PAGE NO 1 (of) EFFECTIVE 8-1-86

CORPORATE OFFICER GAS DISTRIBUTION

REPLACING
PAGE NO 1 (of) EFFECTIVE 11-1-74

SUBJECT:

VAULT INSPECTION PROCEDURE

PURPOSE

1. To establish a uniform policy for the inspection of vaults, regulator pits, valve pits, or other enclosed underground gas facilities with an internal volume of 200 cubic feet or more.

POLICY

2. All vaults of the type described in Paragraph 1 shall be periodically inspected in accordance with the requirements of this Standard Practice and in accordance with the current edition of the California Public Utilities Commission's General Order 112.

SCOPE

3. This Standard Practice covers the procedural details for inspection of all types of vaults, regulator pits, and valve pits, or other enclosed underground gas facility large enough for a person to enter.

RECISSIONS

4. All previous letters and instructions in conflict with this Standard Practice.

RESPONSIBILITY

5. It shall be the responsibility of the supervisor in the Division or in the Pipe Line Operations Department, who directs the maintenance and operation of the facilities, to establish and maintain procedures to comply with this Standard Practice.

REFERENCES

6. Standard Practice 460.21-5, "Testing Confined Spaces for the Presence of Combustible Gases".
Standard Practice 464-2, "District Regulator Maintenance".
Accident Prevention Rules.
Gas Standard M-53, "Portable Combustible Gas Indicator".
*C.P.U.C. General Order 112d, Paragraph 192.749.

*Paragraph Revised (Portions Underlined)

**Paragraph Added



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APPLICATION

7. Procedural details appear in the supplement to this Standard Practice.

APPROVED BY

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Vice President - Gas Operations

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Division Gas and Electric Operations Managers
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ADDITIONAL COPIES

Additional copies of this Standard Practice may be obtained from Gas Operations, Extension 1604.

*Paragraph Revised (Portions Underlined)
**Paragraph Added

PROCEDURAL DETAILS - VAULT INSPECTION PROCEDURES

GENERAL

8. Before work is begun, all applicable safety precautions shall be taken. For further detail refer to the Company Accident Prevention Rules.
9. All sources of ignition must be kept at a safe distance until it is determined that the atmosphere within the vault does not contain a dangerous gas/air mixture (tests must be conducted as described in Standard Practice 460.21-5).

INSPECTION SCHEDULE

- *10. Vaults, housing pressure-regulating and/or pressure-limiting equipment shall be inspected (in accordance with Standard Practice 464-2). However, the vault must be inspected annually within the period from the month preceeding to the month following the annual anniversary. Where possible, a vault inspection shall be scheduled to coincide with other work, e.g., regulator inspection, zone valve inspection, etc.
11. The above frequencies of inspection are minimums. When conditions require, more frequent inspection shall be performed.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE

12. When a vault is entered for scheduled inspection, the following equipment shall be inspected and substandard conditions corrected or reported:
 - a. Piping and related equipment.
 - b. Vault's frame and cover (or doors) conforms to surface grade, so as not to present a hazard to the public; and so that drainage is adequate.
 - c. Ground level around perimeter of vault conforms to the vault so that it does not present a hazard to the public.
 - d. Mechanical equipment (ladders or hooks, hinges, concrete, etc.) in satisfactory condition.
 - e. Ventilation equipment free of obstruction and operating properly.
 - f. If gas is found in the vault, the equipment in the vault must be inspected for leaks, and any leaks found must be repaired.

REPORTING AND RECORD KEEPING

13. If the inspections described in Paragraph 12 above reveal deviations from acceptable conditions, the deviations shall be reported the same day together with the corrective action taken, if any, to the appropriate gas supervisor.
14. When a vault is entered at a scheduled inspection, the vault shall be shown as inspected on the GASFM (Gas Preventive Maintenance Program) Programmed Report. When the vault is shown as inspected on the GASFM, it shall indicate that the inspection was completed in accordance with provisions of this Standard Practice and that everything was satisfactory or that any deficiencies were reported to the appropriate gas supervisor for correction.
15. When a vault is entered at other than a scheduled inspection, and an inspection is completed in accordance with provisions of this Standard Practice, this fact should be input to GASFM. In this way a duplication of inspections may be eliminated.