

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
STANDARD PRACTICEEXECUTIVE OFFICE OR DIVISION GAS OPERATIONSISSUING DEPARTMENT GAS DISTRIBUTION

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STANDARD PRACTICE NO. 463-2NO. 1 EFFECTIVE 8/1/69REPLACING PAGE NO. 1 EFFECTIVE 12/1/65SUBJECT: ABANDONMENT OF GAS MAINS AND SERVICES,
AND CUTTING AND CAPPING INACTIVE SERVICESPURPOSE

- *1. To establish methods and procedures to be used in abandoning Company gas mains and services, and in cutting and capping services in conformance with the requirements of USAS Code B31.8 - 1967 (paragraph 852.3), the rules of CPUC G.O. 112-B (paragraph 215.1), and CPUC G.O. 58-A (paragraph 6a).

RESPONSIBILITY

- **2. Each Division Gas Superintendent shall be responsible for the administration of this standard practice.

DEFINITIONS

- *3. Abandoned pipes are defined as all pieces or sections of mains or services remaining in the ground after being permanently disconnected from the active gas system and removed from plant.

POLICY*4. Abandonment of Mains and Services

- a. Mains and services shall be abandoned when their function is performed by another main or service.
- b. Mains and services shall be abandoned at any time it is decided that they no longer serve any present or foreseeable use.

*5. Cutting and Capping of Services

- a. A service shall be cut and capped at or outside the property line within 120 days after the removal of the structure being supplied, unless a new structure is started within this period and the service will be used to supply this new structure. If there is reason to believe that the service will be utilized within one year, it may be cut and capped near the street side of the property line. If the service is not used by the end of the second year, it shall be abandoned at the first reasonable opportunity by cutting and capping at the main.
- b. Inactive services or stubs shall not be transferred to other mains if the original main is abandoned unless there is evidence that the service will be used within one year.
- c. Records of inactive services and stubs shall be reviewed periodically to decide if the facility should be abandoned, removed, or cut and capped for safety.

PROCEDURE

6. Abandonment details are contained in the Supplement to this Standard Practice.

* Paragraph Revised
** Paragraph Added

[SEE OVER]

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STANDARD PRACTICE

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OR DIVISION GAS OPERATIONS

ISSUING DEPARTMENT GAS DISTRIBUTION

STANDARD PRACTICE NO. 463-2

PAGE NO. 2 EFFECTIVE 8/1/69

REPLACING PAGE NO. 2 EFFECTIVE 12/1/65

SUBJECT: ABANDONMENT OF GAS MAINS AND SERVICES,
AND CUTTING AND CAPPING INACTIVE SERVICES

APPROVED: E. H. FISHER
Vice President - Gas Operations

DISTRIBUTION:	Division Managers	Gas General Foremen
	Division Gas Supts.	Gas Construction Department
	District Managers	Claims and Safety Department
	District Gas Supts.	Director, Procedures Analysis

ADDITIONAL COPIES: Additional copies of this standard practice may be obtained from Gas Operations, 245 Market, San Francisco (ext. 9-1604).

ABANDONMENT DETAILS*7. Main Abandonment

- a. All open ends of abandoned mains shall be sealed.
- b. Long lengths of main shall be plugged at intervals of approximately two blocks, or a maximum of approximately 1000 feet.
 - (1) This provision may be waived or altered for mains in rural areas or in private rights of way by approval of the Gas Distribution Department.
- c. In the abandonment of mains 8" or larger, consideration should be given to the following:
 - (1) Purging with inert gas.
 - (2) Filling the abandoned pipe.
 - (3) Removing the pipe from the ground.

8. Service Abandonment

- a. When services are abandoned:
 - (1) Except as provided in (3) below, the pipe shall be cut as close to the main connection as practicable and the open end of the abandoned pipe shall be sealed.
 - (2) The riser shall be removed from below ground level and the remaining pipe sealed or, if the service passed through or under the building foundation, the pipe shall be cut outside the building and both ends sealed.
 - (3) When a service is abandoned along with the main or when only a portion of the service is abandoned, each service shall be cut on the street side of the property line and both ends sealed. This cut should be made at the most economical location, such as in unpaved parking strips or lawn areas.

9. Valve Abandonment

- a. Valves and curb cocks may be removed and salvaged if the cost of removal is justified. The open ends of the pipe shall be sealed.
- b. If abandoned in place, the valve or curb cock shall be left in the closed position.
- c. Valve boxes shall be removed or broken-in and the hole filled whenever a valve or curb cock is abandoned.

*Paragraph Revised

(See Over)

***10. General**

- a. In every case where a cut is necessary in paragraphs 7, 8, and 9, a piece of pipe at least 18" in length is to be removed and the backfill thoroughly compacted in its place.
- b. Open ends of abandoned pipes are to be sealed by the most appropriate method that will provide a permanent seal. The following methods are suggested:
 - (1) Crushing or flattening the pipe end and seal welding the opening.
 - (2) Welding a plate or a weld cap over the opening.
 - (3) Plugging with concrete or mortar products.
 - (4) Securely plugging with a tightly-driven redwood plug.
 - (5) (For copper pipe) Flattening and bending to 180°.
 - (6) Plugging with polyurethane foam cast in place.

*Paragraph Revised