

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA**

LCB File No. R032-20

November 30, 2020

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1 and 2, NRS 703.025, 703.154 and 704.210.

A REGULATION relating to gas pipelines; requiring an operator of certain intrastate gas pipelines to conduct periodic leakage surveys; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing federal regulations require a person who engages in the transportation of gas through a distribution system to conduct a leakage survey with leak detector equipment at intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once per calendar year, in business districts. Outside of business districts, federal regulations require a person who engages in the transportation of gas through a distribution system to conduct such a leakage survey at intervals not exceeding either 39 months or 63 months, depending on the type of distribution line. (49 C.F.R. § 192.723)

Existing state law authorizes the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada to adopt regulations to ensure the safe operation and maintenance of storage facilities and intrastate pipelines used to store and transport natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, in its liquid or vapor form, or any mixture thereof. (NRS 703.154)

Section 1 of this regulation requires a person who operates or maintains an intrastate pipeline for the transportation of natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, in its liquid or vapor form, or any mixture thereof, to conduct a leakage survey with leak detector equipment on all such pipelines at least once per calendar year, at intervals not exceeding 15 months.

Section 2 of this regulation establishes January 1, 2023, as the effective date of this regulation.

Section 1. Chapter 703 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. A person who operates or maintains any intrastate pipeline in this State which is used to transport natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, in its liquid or vapor form, or any mixture thereof, shall conduct a leakage survey with leak detector equipment on any such intrastate pipeline, including, without limitation, tests of the atmosphere in gas, electric, telephone, sewer and water system manholes, at cracks in pavement and sidewalks, and at other locations providing an opportunity for finding gas leaks, at least once per calendar year, at intervals not exceeding 15 months.

2. As used in this section, “pipeline” has the meaning ascribed to it in 49 C.F.R. § 192.3, as adopted by reference in NAC 704.460.

Sec. 2. This regulation becomes effective on January 1, 2023.