

# Pipeline Safety

**Dig Safely**

# HISTORY of Pipeline Regulation

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1917- LEGISLATURE DECLARES PIPELINES TO BE COMMON CARRIERS

JULY 27, 1937, THE RRC BEGAN TO ENFORCE ODORIZATION OF NATURAL GAS

1971 – COMMISSION ADOPTS FEDERAL PIPELINE SAFETY RULES FOR NATURAL GAS

1985 – COMMISSION ADOPTS FEDERAL PIPELINE SAFETY RULES FOR HAZARDOUS

# History . . .

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## *Authorization*

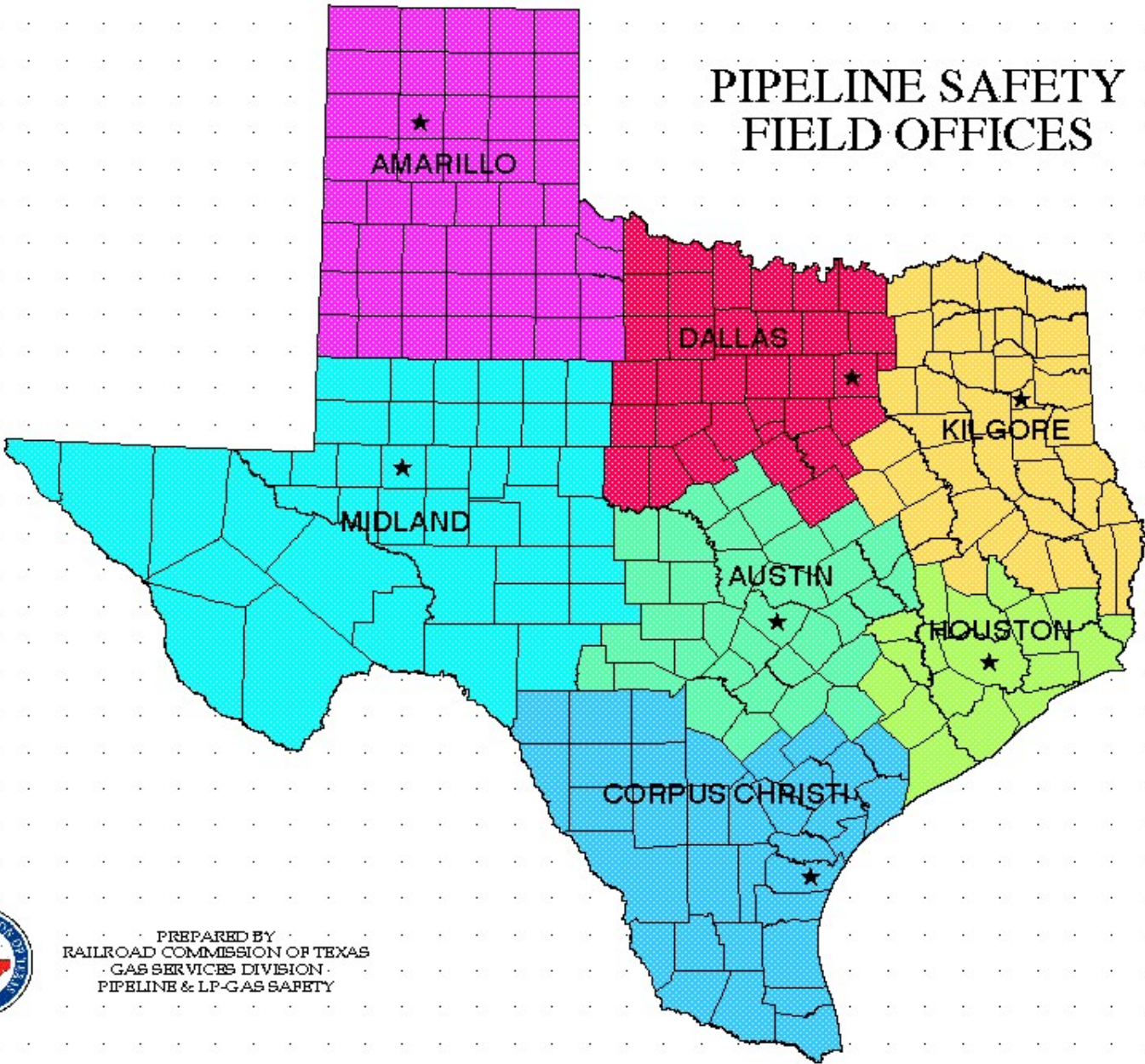
Texas Natural  
Resources Code

Texas Utilities Code

Texas Admin Code

16 TAC Chapter 8

# PIPELINE SAFETY FIELD OFFICES



PREPARED BY  
RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS  
GAS SERVICES DIVISION  
PIPELINE & LP-GAS SAFETY

# Pipeline Safety Personnel

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- Budgeted for 25 Field Inspectors located in seven regional offices
- Two technical positions in Headquarters
- Administrative support staff for accident reporting, data entry, fee collections, and federal reporting

# Overview of pipeline safety responsibilities

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Safety Evaluations

Accident Investigations

Special investigations

Customer inquiries

Assisting operators

# Pipeline Safety Activities

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- Pipeline Safety conducts over 2,500 safety evaluations per year on distribution, transmission, and hazardous liquids pipeline facilities.
- We also investigate pipeline accidents and conduct special investigations to handle complaints from both the public and operators.

# Miles of Pipelines

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## RRC Regulated

43,000 natural gas  
transmission

28,000 hazardous  
liquids

90,000 distribution  
and master meter

## Federal Regulated

80,000 miles of  
natural gas and  
hazardous liquids  
interstate  
transmission

## NON regulated

35,000 gas and  
crude gathering

# SYSTEMS IN TEXAS

Transmission / gathering - 2726 systems

... 42,681 miles

Hazardous liquid pipelines - 1165 systems

... 28,235 miles

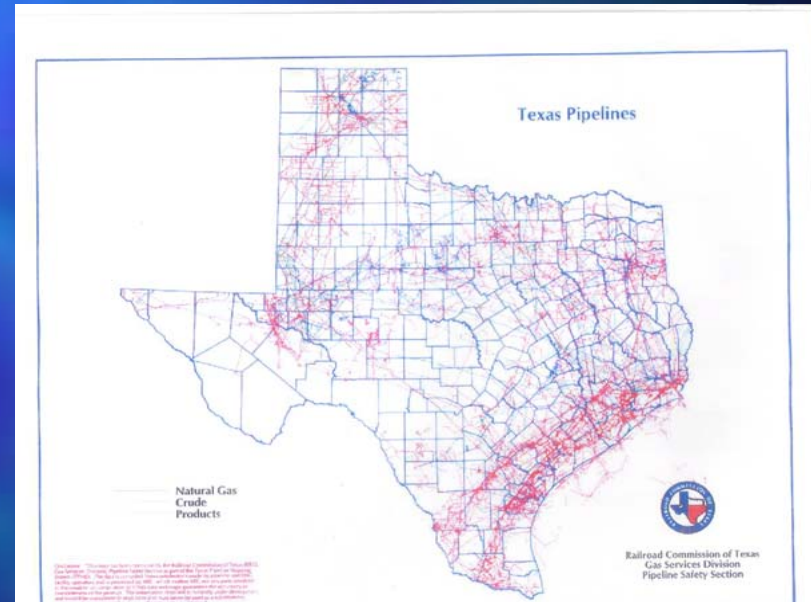
Distribution - 1957 systems.....85,000 miles

Municipal - 93 systems....5,000 miles

Other systems – 2413 (master meters)

# Looking at the Big Picture

- Texas has over 270,000 miles of underground pipelines in the State
- Texas leads the nation in the number of incidents related to pipelines



# Focus on Safety

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- Texas continues to have the largest number of reportable incidents involving pipelines attributed to third party damage.
- Last year alone of the written reports 77% of the incidents were caused by third party damage
- 93% of the incidents in 2005 on distribution were caused by third party

# Current Activity to Reduce Incidents

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- Strengthen damage prevention to underground pipelines by adopting some of the Common Ground Best Practices to address some of the voids in the Texas Damage Prevention Law
  - Provide an enforcement mechanism for damages on underground pipeline facilities.

# Recent Initiatives

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- Created an online data entry system for pipeline operators to file reports required under the Pipeline Safety Rules, and include plastic pipe inventory and incident reporting, pipeline proximity to school locations, and integrity assessment progress reports. These systems were available for on line entry in March 2007.

# Recent Activity Continued

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- Actively support damage prevention initiatives in the State. Became the enforcement agency for damage prevention involving pipelines in September 2007.
- Created online third party damage reporting system to allow excavators, pipeline operators, and the general public to report damages to pipeline facilities and report any violations of the damage prevention regulations. Since the system came on line on September 15, 2007, there have been over 6,000 reports of damages.

# Activities Continued

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- Initiated two pipeline safety related rulemakings one to require reporting of all repaired leaks by pipeline operators and the other to increase the leak survey frequency of pipelines dependent upon their associated risks, requires time frames for pipeline repairs, and requires a listing of repaired leaks for risk analysis.

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# INTRODUCTION to Pipelines

Search

**Pipeline Systems**

**Hydrocarbons**  
What are they?  
How are they formed?

**Natural Gas**


**Not Poisonous**

**No Odor**

**Crude Oil**

## Introduction Overview

1.1



① ②

① A pipeline system is a network of pipes and other components connected together to transport gaseous or liquid products from a source to a customer or other destination. Depending on the product and the type of pipeline system, the distances transported may be very short or very long.

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your resource for energy pipeline information

# pipeline 101

## Welcome to Pipeline 101

-  Introduction
-  Overview
-  Pipelines & You
-  Health Safety  
Security Environment
-  Operating Pipelines
-  Business of Pipelines
-  Design & Construction
-  Technology in Pipelines




**Pipelines are really the energy lifelines of almost every daily activity.** Pipelines play a role in everyone's lives and are essential to the nation's industries. Yet few people are aware of the work done by the country's 200,000-mile petroleum pipeline network that delivers the products that are integral parts of America's economy. It is a network that delivers the nation's crude oil and petroleum products (such as gasoline, jet fuel, home heating oil) reliably, safely, efficiently, and economically.

**Why Pipeline 101?** The term "101" refers to introductory courses on any given topic. "Pipeline 101" seeks to be your introductory resource for energy pipeline information, expanding in the future to provide more comprehensive content to meet the needs of various audiences. We invite you to explore the pipeline industry, from the steel in the ground, to the people and technologies that ensure reliable energy delivery and safe operation.

The information in Pipeline 101 has been compiled from industry, government and research experts and published materials.

**More information on the liquid petroleum pipeline industry is continually being developed and added to Pipeline 101. Please visit us often.**



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## About Oil and Natural Gas

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# About Oil & Natural Gas

## In This Section

Oil and natural gas touch our lives in countless ways every day. Together, they supply 65 percent of our nation's energy. They fuel our cars, heat our homes and cook our food.

But did you know that oil and natural gas also help generate the electricity that powers our daily lives? Or that crude oil supplies the building blocks for everything from dent-resistant car fenders to soft drink bottles to camping equipment?

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## Common Ground Alliance

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Whether you are a facility owner or operator, locator, design professional, One-Call Center employee, excavator, contractor, or other stakeholder, ensuring the safety of those who work or live in the vicinity of underground facilities and protecting vital services is everyone's responsibility.

The Common Ground Alliance is a nonprofit organization dedicated to shared responsibility in damage prevention and promotion of the damage prevention Best Practices identified in the Common Ground Study Report. Building on the spirit of shared responsibility resulting from the Common Ground Study, the purpose of the CGA is to ensure public safety, environmental



**CGA**  
Common Ground Alliance



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# Office of Pipeline Safety

- Initiatives
- Online Library
- Pipeline Statistics
- Regulations
- Regions
- Training & Pubs.
- Online Data Entry
- Forms

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## OPS What's New & Events

## Mission Statement

To ensure the safe, r  
environmentally sound op  
nation's pipeline transpor

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Home Page > Executive Branch > Code of Federal Regulations

## Code of Federal Regulations (CFR): Main Page

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government. It is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to Federal regulation. Each volume of the CFR is updated once each calendar year and is issued on a quarterly basis. [More](#).



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**Most Current Data (2004-2003)**

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**1996 through 2003**  
Based on CFR update schedule

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# One-Call Board of Texas

**If You Need Utility Lines Marked or Located...  
Please Call 1-800-545-6005**

8140 Burnet Rd., Suite 228  
P.O. Box 684562, Austin, TX 78768-4562  
(512) 477 - 2255, Fax (512) 467 - 6664  
[TxAssocHQ@aol.com](mailto:TxAssocHQ@aol.com)

- ★ Purpose & How the System Works
- ★ Board & Organization
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## What's New @ the RRC?

- ▶ Oil and Gas Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) Seminar - November 9, 2004 - Amarillo, Texas
- ▶ Fifth Annual Regulatory Expo & Commissioners' Offices Open House - October 27th & 28th 2004
- ▶ Proposed Texas LNG Supply Terminal Projects-Updated September 2, 2004

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### COMMISSIONERS

Victor G. Carrillo, Charles R. Matthews, Michael L. Williams

### ABOUT THE RRC

Mission Statement, History, Agency Organization, Sunset Review, Service Evaluation Survey

### TEXAS ENERGY PLANNING COUNCIL

Executive Order, Press Releases, Council Members, Meetings

### ELECTRONIC FILING

ECAP, e-File

### INTERACTIVE DATA

Production Data Query (PDQ), Oil & Gas Field Information, Well Records, ECAP Permit Query, EDMS, Gas Tariff Query System

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## AGENCY SERVICES

### Crude Oil & Natural Gas

- Drilling & Production Statistics
- Forms & Filing Procedures
- Environmental Protection
- Assistance & Contacts
- Notice to Industry

### Financial Information

- Oil Field Cleanup Dedicated Account
- AFRED Dedicated Account

### Natural Gas Transportation

- Gas Utilities
- Pipeline Safety
- Integrity Management

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# Railroad Commission of Texas

