

# CONDITIONS FOR WORKS NEAR GAS TRANSMISSION PIPELINES

## CONSEQUENCES OF DAMAGE TO A GAS TRANSMISSION PIPELINE

### Damage to a Transmission Pipeline could result in -

- Gas escaping at pressures up to 10,000 kPa.
- Loss of gas supply to thousands of customers.
- Possible explosion and fire.
- Substantial repair and gas restoration liability damage costs to the authority or principal responsible.
- Penalties under Gas Safety Act and or Pipelines Act.
- Risk of serious injury or death to equipment operators, employees and members of the general public.

## CONTACTS PRIOR TO ANY PROVINGS AND/OR CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IN THE VICINITY OF A TRANSMISSION PIPELINE)

APA (GasNet), Telephone: 9797 5149 (In an Emergency Freecall 1800 686 634)  
 Multinet Gas, (NPS – Assets Security) Telephone: 8831 1131 (In an Emergency Freecall 1800 555 098)  
 Envestra (APA Group), Telephone: 9463 8222 (In an Emergency Freecall 1800 676 300)  
 SP AusNet, Telephone: 1300 362 454 (In an Emergency 13 67 07)

APA Group acts as the Network Operator on behalf of Envestra in relation to all works in the vicinity of Envestra's pipelines. GasNet is a wholly owned subsidiary of the APA Group

An “**Authority to Work**”, issued by APA Group, is required for all provings and construction activities within 3 metres of an Envestra pipeline. APA Group will arrange for an Inspector to be on site during any provings or construction activity (the latter where Origin Energy considers necessary) to advise of any additional requirements.

To determine the exact location of a pipeline prior to commencement of design work and/or construction, HAND EXCAVATED provings shall be carried out and only under the supervision of a Pipeline Inspector. **A minimum 48 hours** notice is necessary to enable arrangements to be made to have a Pipeline Inspector on site during the work. Usually, no charge is made for this service.

NO MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT shall be used within 1 metre of the pipeline even after the pipeline has been proven, except when approved by, and under explicit on site direction from Pipeline Inspector. Under no circumstances is mechanical equipment to be used within 300mm of the pipeline.

Where a bore is to pass under or over a pipeline, the position of the pipeline shall be proven by excavation. All or part of this excavation shall be by hand as directed by the Pipeline Inspector. The excavation shall be extended to 1 metre from the pipeline on the side from which the bore will approach, and the position and direction of the bore head checked when it reaches this excavation to ensure the required minimum clearance between the bore and the pipeline will be maintained. In addition, progressive measurement of the length of the bore shall be made to ensure bore head has not missed the check excavation and travelled beyond it.

No alteration to the surface level over the pipeline shall be carried out without the prior written approval of the Pipeline Owner.

No blasting shall be permitted within 30m of the pipeline without approval. Blasting shall be in accordance with SAA Explosives Code 2187, and “Conditions for use of Explosives near Transmission Pipelines” and restrictions can only be modified after explicit agreement with the Pipeline Owner. Any blasting shall be carried with extreme caution and only in the presence of a Pipeline Inspector. Proposed works more than 3m from the pipeline but which may cause earth movements or vibrations, e.g. earthworks, pile driving, etc. must also be referred for advice.

In addition to the requirements stated above, under section 41 of the Pipelines Act 2005 you are advised that there are restrictions on the erection of structures within three metres of a pipeline. This includes poles, footings and pits deeper than 450mm.

District & route plans, where provided, show the recorded location of transmission pipelines and other existing gas mains. These plans are a guide to the location of the assets and accuracy is not guaranteed. In all instances it is essential to prove the location of all pipework by hand.

### MINIMUM CLEARANCES for DESIGN PURPOSES and/or CONSTRUCTION

- 300mm from the top of the pipeline to the underside of road pavement boxing.
- 300mm between the pipeline and any installation up to 1.5 metres wide which is crossing the pipeline.
- 500mm between the pipeline and any installation over 1.5 metres wide which is crossing the pipeline.
- 500mm between the pipeline and an installation laid parallel to the pipeline.
- 3 metres between the pipeline and an installation that could add excessive loads to the pipeline.
- 3 metres between the pipeline and an installation that could require underpinning should GasNet Australia need to expose the pipeline
- Separation distances from electrical installations apply and are assessed on an individual basis
- The pipeline owner may require the contractor, authority or principal to install concrete slabbing over or between the pipeline and a new installation

**It is essential that**, prior to any work being carried out, detailed design plans of proposed construction work in the vicinity of gas transmission pipelines are forwarded to:

(In the case of APA (GasNet) pipelines):

Field Operations Manager  
 GasNet Australia  
 180 Greens Road  
 Dandenong 3175

(In the case of Multinet Gas):

Technical Services Manager  
 Multinet Gas  
 422 Warrigal Road  
 Moorabbin 3189

(In the case of Envestra):

Asset Manager  
 APA Group  
 1 Wood St  
 Thomastown 3074

(In the case of SP AusNet):

Engineering Manager  
 Tenix Maintenance Services  
 Locked Bag 4500  
 Sunshine 3020