



Water Pipelines

Many pipelines are regulated by Saskatchewan Environment (SE) under *The Water Regulations, 2002*. SE regulated pipeline systems include those directly connected to a municipal waterworks and other pipelines not directly connected to a municipal waterworks with 15 or more service connections. Saskatchewan Health and SE are discussing the need for standards or guidelines that would apply to other smaller pipelines that may presently be operating. In general, all SE regulated pipelines should follow the criteria outlined below.

For Construction

All pipelines should be constructed following standard Engineering practice. Qualified professionals should be involved in the design and installation of the pipelines. Guidance can be obtained from SE's [Water Pipeline Design Guidelines EPB 276](#), SE's [A Guide to Waterworks Design EPB 201](#) and Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration's [Rural Water Pipeline Handbook for Saskatchewan](#). The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Water Pipelines (SARWP) (may also provide advice; they can be contacted by telephone at 1-866-327-2797, their website (<http://www.sarwp.ca/>) or by email (sarwp@sasktel.net).

For Operation

The operating requirements of each pipeline will vary based on site-specific considerations. All SE regulated systems should be operated in a fashion appropriate as described in SE's operational permit for the system. Some standard operating practices will be altered by new SE guidelines on pipeline construction and operation.

SE has specific requirements for all water pipeline systems laid out in regulation. These requirements will entail regular monitoring of parameters (such as chlorine residuals), proper record keeping, proper reporting of upset conditions and meeting other specific requirements of the regulations. In general, all SE regulated pipeline systems intended or used to provide water for human consumptive use are required to:

- have a certified operator in charge by July 15, 2005;
- meet water quality standards and timeframes as laid out in [Saskatchewan Drinking Water Quality Standards and Objectives EPB 207](#);
- regularly monitor parameters such as bacteria and chlorine. Further information is available in the [Municipal Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Guidelines EPB 202](#);
- maintain an appropriate disinfection level;
- have the pipeline systems assessed by a qualified professional in order to determine areas that require attention. Additional guidance is available in the [Waterworks System Assessment Standards EPB 233](#);
- review operational records periodically;
- notify the consumers of water quality; and
- have a Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QC/AC) plan/policy in place. A template is available in the [Quality Assurance and Quality Control Policy for Waterworks: An Overview for Smaller Waterworks EPB 243](#).

The QA/QC should include information regarding the pipeline system's standard operating procedures (such as the method of flushing lines) as well as an emergency plan. The emergency plan should address non-routine incidents that may occur, like water breaks or water contamination through backflow and the actions that the pipeline association will take in the event that the incident occurs. Further help and templates are available in SE's Emergency Planning documents (EPB 240, EPB 240B, EPB 241A and EPB 241B).

For further information on SE regulated pipeline systems, please contact your Environmental Project Officer

A number of documents are listed in this fact sheet.

To view online, go to http://www.saskh2o.ca/for_operators.asp and view the section Drinking Water Information Binder.

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