

BULLETIN

Date	Subject	Notice
January 20, 2020	New Pipeline Regulations and Directive in effect	BT2020-001

On January 20, 2020, The *Pipelines Administration and Licensing Regulations* (PALR) and *Directive PNG034: Saskatchewan Pipelines Code* (Directive PNG034) came into effect. The in-force version of the new Regulations may be found at [The Pipelines Administration and Licensing Regulations](#), and the new Directive may be viewed at [Directive PNG034: Saskatchewan Pipelines Code](#).

Please note that the new Regulations and Directive, together, replace *The Pipelines Regulations, 2000*, which has been repealed. Please ensure your organization is aware of the requirements as outlined in the new Regulations and Directive.

FEATURED CHANGES

PALR govern the issuance and administration of pipeline licences. Key changes introduced are:

- Pipeline Licence Registry.** PALR establish the Integrated Resources Information System (IRIS) as a licence registry. This means that the information in IRIS will be the up-to-date legal record of the rights and obligations of the licence holder which can be viewed at any point in time by logging into the system.
- Licensing of Designated Pipelines.** PALR establish an implementation date and requirements for retroactive licensing of designated pipelines, which include flowlines and previously exempt pipelines.
- Administrative Penalties.** PALR provide a listing of regulatory contraventions subject to financial penalties and the corresponding maximum penalty amounts.
- Pipeline Licence Exemptions.** Pipelines listed in section 1-5 of PALR do not require pipeline licensing. These pipelines must follow the technical requirements outlined in the Appendix 3 of Directive PNG034.
- Licensing Pipelines Transporting Freshwater Used for Oil and Gas Operations.** Pipelines that transport freshwater used for oil and gas operations are required to have a licence.

Directive PNG034 sets out technical standards for pipelines in Saskatchewan related to their design, construction, operation, repair, decommissioning, and abandonment. The changes utilized a risk based approach to all applications. Highlights include:

- **Watercourse Crossing.** Directive PNG034 establishes watercourse crossing definitions and requirements for permanent watercourses.
- **Extended Licence Expiration Period.** A licence issued for construction of a pipeline will expire two years from the date of issuance if the construction notice has not been received within that period.
- **Updating Notification Timelines.** The notification timelines are changed to a minimum of 24 hours prior to the scheduled commencement date of pipeline construction activity and a minimum of 48 hours prior to the scheduled date of any pressure test that is conducted for the purpose of obtaining a Leave to Open or exceeds the maximum operating pressure.
- **Spatial Data.** Directive PNG034 establishes spatial data requirements to support the development of geographic information system pipeline data repository.
- **Updated Application and Reporting Requirement.** Directive PNG034 does not require approval be granted prior to commencing pipeline activities related to abandonment, discontinuation, and repairs as they are generally considered as low-risk activities. However, the licence holder must report in IRIS within 90 days of completing the work related to abandonment, discontinuation, or repairs (if applicable).
- **Membership of a Spill Response Cooperative.** Directive PNG034 requires all operators of licensed pipelines to be a member in good standing of the spill response cooperative operating in the geographic area in which the pipeline is situated.

Questions?

If you have any questions or concerns contact the ER Service Desk at 1-855-219-9373 or ER.servicedesk@gov.sk.ca.