



## Master Meter Reduction

# Master Meter Operations

## Overview

- a. The Corporation Commission at the time of the first acceptance of the 5(a) agreement in 1970, declined to accept responsibilities for Master Meter Operators.
- b. This left the responsibility for Master Meter Operators with the Western Regional Office of the Department of Transportation (DOT), Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) This task was beyond the resources of the regional office.

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- d. As a result of the above, no one has inspected or exercised any jurisdiction over Master Meter Operators.
- e. A limited survey of Mobile Home Park Master Meters , public school systems and the experience with Northern Arizona University has resulted in serious concern by staff for the segment of the public served by these Master Meter systems.
- f. The implementation of the planned safety program designed to bring Master Meter Operators into compliance would have to depend on coaxing and enticement to gain participation rather than being able to force participation with the Commission assuming Jurisdiction over Master Meter Operators.

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g. Staff recommends the following:

THAT:

- 1) The Commission approve changing the 1982 5(a) certification to DOT to remove the caveat declining responsibility for Master Meters.
- 2) The Commission modify tariffs requiring all Master Meter Operators served by a Public Service Corporation to provide ACC with a copy of a valid annual leak survey and a copy of their annual DOT report as a prerequisite for continuance of service.

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Currently in Arizona there are approximately 982 Master Meter facilities (known)

For the majority of facilities

1. No MAOP Pressure Test Records exist in accordance with 49 CFR 192.619(a)
2. Cathodic Protection in accordance with 49 CFR 192.455
  1. Test stations 49 CFR 192.469
  2. Galvanic (Anodes) 49 CFR 192.465 (a)
  3. Impressed Current (Rectifiers) 49 CFR 192.465(b)
  4. Atmospheric Corrosion Control 49 CFR 192.479(a) also stated in Appendix A of ACC Master Meter Book (Section 10)

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3. Inadequate operator & maintenance manuals as per 49 CFR 192.601, 603 (a)(b), 605 (entire) and Arizona Administrative Code (AAC) R14-5-207 and as stated in the Master Meter manuals provided, *that*:
4. The AAC R14-5-207 that :
  - a) Applicability: This Section applies to the construction, reconstruction, repair, operation, and maintenance of each intrastate gas, LNG, or hazardous liquid pipeline system, pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-441.

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4. The AAC R14-5-207 that :

b) Subject to the definitional changes in R14-5-201 and the modifications noted in this Section, the Commission adopts, incorporates, and approves as its own 49 CFR 40; 191; 192, except (I)(A)(2) and (3) of Appendix D to Part 192; 193; 195, except 195.1(b)(2), (3), and (4); and 199 (October 1, 2015), including no future editions or amendments, which are incorporated by reference; on file with the Office of Pipeline Safety; and published by and available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, 710 North Capital Street N.W., Washington DC 20401, and at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>.

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5. Inadequate operator & maintenance manuals as per 49 CFR 192.601, 603 (a)(b), 605 (entire) and Arizona Administrative Code (AAC) R14-5-207 and as stated in the Master Meter manuals provided, *that*:



**ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION  
PIPELINE SAFETY SECTION  
1300 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 220  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007**

This manual was developed by the Arizona Corporation Commission, Pipeline Safety Section, for use by Small Gas Operators (Master Meters) in the operation of their gas system.

The contents provide the operator with the required written plans and records necessary to be in compliance with the **minimum** requirements prescribed by the code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, Part 192 and Arizona State Corporation Commission.

This manual is intended as a guideline only. The Master Meter Operator is responsible to determine if their needs are met or **not**. Additional information may be required because of circumstances to a particular gas system.

At anytime, if operators have questions or need additional information, please call the Arizona Corporation Commission, Pipeline Safety Section, at the numbers listed below:

Phoenix Office.....(602) 262-5601

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## § 192.605 Procedural manual for operations, maintenance, and emergencies.

- (a) *General.* Each operator shall prepare and follow for each pipeline, a manual of written procedures for conducting operations and maintenance activities and for emergency response. For transmission lines, the manual must also include procedures for handling abnormal operations. This manual must be reviewed and updated by the operator at intervals not exceeding 15 months, but at least once each calendar year. This manual must be prepared before operations of a pipeline system commence. Appropriate parts of the manual must be kept at locations where operations and maintenance activities are conducted.

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Where are we now, a time line:

1. September 22<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Dunn opened a generic docket G-00000C-17-0284 the title “Inquiry into Health and Safety Risks Posed by Gas Meters in Arizona”
2. Master Meter Workshop was conducted;
  1. Attended by:
    1. Commissioner Dunn
    2. Commissioner Tobin
    3. Commissioner Burns
    4. City of Mesa Representatives
    5. Unisource Representatives
    6. Southwest Gas Representative
    7. Master Meter Operators

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2. Master Meter Workshop was conducted;
3. The conclusion of this meeting was a consensus that more information needed to be addressed.
  1. Potentially another workshop

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**Stay Tuned**

**More to Come**