RCW 81.88.060
Comprehensive safety program -- Commission's duties -- Rules -- Standards -- Safety plan approval.

(1) A comprehensive program of hazardous liquid pipeline safety is authorized by RCW 81.88.010, 81.88.040, 81.88.050, 81.88.090, 81.88.100, 48.48.160, and this section to be developed and implemented consistent with federal law. The commission shall administer and enforce all laws related to hazardous liquid pipeline safety.

(2) The commission shall adopt rules for pipeline safety standards for hazardous liquid pipeline transportation that:

   (a) Require pipeline companies to design, construct, operate, and maintain their pipeline facilities so they are safe and efficient;

   (b) Require pipeline companies to rapidly locate and isolate all reportable releases from pipelines, that may include:

      (i) Installation of remote control shut-off valves; and

      (ii) Installation of remotely monitored pressure gauges and meters;

   (c) Require the training and certification of personnel who operate pipelines and the associated systems;

   (d) Require reporting of emergency situations, including emergency shutdowns and material defects or physical damage that impair the serviceability of a pipeline; and

   (e) Require pipeline companies to submit operations safety plans to the commission once every five years, as well as any amendments to the plan made necessary by changes to the pipeline system or its operation. The safety plan shall include emergency response procedures.

(3) The commission shall approve operations safety plans if they have been deemed fit for service. A plan shall be deemed fit for service when it provides for pipelines that are designed, developed, constructed, operated, and periodically modified to provide for protection of public safety and the environment. Pipeline operations safety plans shall, at a minimum, include:

   (a) A schedule of inspection and testing within the pipeline distribution system of:

      (i) All mechanical components;

      (ii) All electronic components; and

      (iii) The structural integrity of all pipelines as determined through pressure testing, internal inspection tool surveys, or another appropriate technique;

   (b) Failsafe systems;

   (c) Safety management systems; and

   (d) Emergency management training for pipeline operators.

(4) The commission shall coordinate information related to pipeline safety by providing technical assistance to local planning and siting authorities.
(5) The commission shall evaluate, and consider adopting, proposals developed by the federal office of pipeline safety, the national transportation safety board, and other agencies and organizations related to methods and technologies for testing the integrity of pipeline structure, leak detection, and other elements of pipeline operation.

[2001 c 238 § 9; 2000 c 191 § 5.]

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