TR 2021-28 – GM – Class Location Studies – 40%SMYS

Primary	192.609, 192.611
Purpose	To provide guide material regarding class location changes studies, and why not every class location requires a study or a change in MAOP.
Origin/Rationale	From comment on LB1-2021, for TR 17-30, John Kottwitz commented: "Consider adding wording to proposed GM under 192.609 and 192.611 to explain why sections only apply to greater than 40% SMYS in addition to just stating it."
Responsible Group	O&M/OQ Task Group

Section 192.609

{Updated for Addendum 1 that added TR 17-30}

This section applies to transmission lines and Type A gathering lines operating above 40 percent SMYS.

- (a) When an analysis of population density indicates an increase a change in class location, studies are required for transmission lines and Type A gathering lines operating at a hoop stress above 40 percent of SMYS (§192.609). When a class location change occurs, the pipeline MAOP might be affected.
- (b) Pipeline maximum allowable operating pressures (MAOPs) are limited by class location design factors as defined in §192.111(a), by class location test pressure safety factors as defined in §192.619(a)(2), or by alternative MAOP class location design and test factors as outlined in §192.620(a)(1) and (2). Class 4 locations have the highest safety factors. The design factor allowed for Class 4 locations yields a design pressure with a hoop stress no greater than 40 percent of SMYS. Therefore, pipelines operating at or under 40 percent do not require a confirmation of MAOP under §192.611, and no study is required. and use a design factor of 40 percent of hoop stress to establish the MAOP.
- (c) Changes in class location might require a modification of the MAOP as required by §192.611. Pipelines with an established MAOP at or below 40 percent of SMYS do not require confirmation or changes in MAOP because the operating hoop stress of these pipelines is already commensurate with any of the class location hoop stress levels.
- (d) <u>Transmission lines and Type A gathering lines with an established MAOP at or below 40 percent of SMYS, or Type B gathering lines, do not require studies.</u>
- (e) In cases where the reduction in class location (e.g., Class 2 to Class 1, Class 3 to Class 2) could allow-permit operation of the pipeline at-te a higher operating hoop stress, the MAOP cannot be increased from the established MAOP prior to the class change unless the pipeline is uprated in accordance with Subpart K.
- (f) Changes in class location might change inspection frequencies, such as those found in §§ 192.705 and 192.706.