

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

Pipeline Code 516

Landowner/Operator	Farm/Tract No.
Job Location	Area
Field Office	County
Prepared By	Date

Inspections and maintenance are required to achieve the intended function, benefits, and life of the practice. The landowner/operator is responsible to establish and implement an inspection and maintenance program. Items to inspect and maintain during the 20-year design life of the practice include, but are not limited to, the following:

General Recommendations:

- Provide periodic inspections, especially immediately following storms with a 10-year or greater return frequency to identify repair and maintenance needs.
- Check areas where unusual settlement has occurred. Determine cause of settlement and fill or otherwise repair, as needed, to maintain design depth of cover on all pipelines and structures. This is particularly important for the first two or three years after installation. If this problem persists, evaluate the pipe for leakage and erosion of the fill material into or along the pipe.
- Check and test all above ground connections, pipeline, valves, pressure regulators, pumps, switches, backflow protection devices, screens, filters, air vents, and other appurtenances to ensure that they are functioning properly. Perform routine maintenance of all mechanical components in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Open/close valves in a manner that prevents excessive water hammer. Fill at the specified rate requirements to remove entrapped air and prevent water hammer surges. Appurtenances, such as a flow meter or other means (e.g., number of turns of a gate valve) should be used to determine the rate of flow into the pipeline. If filling at a slow flow rate is not possible, the system shall be open to the atmosphere (outlets open) prior to pressurizing.
- Check for debris, minerals, algae and other materials which may restrict system flow.
- Protect the components from damage by farm equipment and livestock. Promptly repair or replace damaged or inoperable components.
- If the pipeline is connected to a continuous flowing source, such as a spring, maintain flow through the pipe to avoid freezing. Check to ensure the outlet pipe is freely operating and not causing erosion problems.

- Drain and/or provide for cold weather operation of the system. If parts of the system cannot be drained, an anti-freeze solution shall be added.

Special Considerations:

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Optional items to consider:

- Check frequently for burrowing animals. When found, remove the burrowing animals, replace materials, reseed and mulch.
- Prior to retrofitting any electrically powered irrigation equipment, electrical service must be disconnected and the absence of stray electrical current verified.
- Limit traffic over pipeline to designated sections that were designed for traffic loads.
- Avoid any subsoiling operation that may disturb the pipeline.

Signatures:

Reviewed By _____ Date _____
Landowner/Producer

Reviewed By _____ Date _____
Landowner/Producer