

October 2022

AOC Identification & Remediation

NGA 2022 Fall Operations Conference



As field personnel (walking leak survey) perform their daily functions we receive reports of various kinds of "potential" AOCs which may include

- Atmospheric corrosion on meter sets
- Meter protection

 \mathbf{O}

• House regulator vent issues

192.803 (OQ) Definition:

Abnormal Operating Condition (AOC) – A condition identified by the Operator that may indicate a malfunction of a component or deviation from normal operations that may:

- (a) Indicate a condition exceeding design limits; or
- (b) Result in a hazard(s) to persons, property, or the environment.



AOCs

3

I. Documentation

- a. When an Abnormal Operating Condition is found on a meter/regulator facility in the field, this AOC will be identified and documented on either a company approved paper form (see appendix) or through an electronic work order utilizing the company system of record. This shall start the remediation process.
- b. Any deficiencies reported will notate the level of priority of the AOC in the appropriate notes section and/or stated on the electronic work order, as well as the resources required from additional departments.
- c. Incoming AOC reports will be sorted by the appropriate supervisors and then be distributed to the responsible department.
- d. Once the responsible department receives these AOCs, standardized electronic work orders will be created utilizing the company system of record to track, prioritize and document the remediation properly.





METER SET ABNORMAL OPERATING CONDITION INSPECTION FORM

Action Required	Abnormal Operating Condition	Observation Details
	Abnormal meter operation or sounds	
	Atmospheric Corrosion (check appropriate box for level of severity)	
	Low severity: Minimal discoloration due to surface rust	
	Medium severity: Rust, flaking, and minimal pitting	
	High severity: Heavy pitting and loss of pipe material	
	Buried facilities, i.e. service valve, meter, etc.	
	Exposed plastic pipe	
	Improper meter and/or regulator venting clearance	
	Meter in unventilated space	
	Meter protection missing or inadequate	
	Missing plugs at test ports	
	Physical damage to gas facility	
	Piping stressed or inadequately supported	
	Regulator vent restricted, screen missing, or positioned improperly	
	Riser valve position less than 50% open	
	Service line marker buried below maximum depth	
	Structure over a gas facility, i.e. deck	
	Vegetation overgrowth	
Address:	Vegetation overgrowth	Meter #

Company/Contractor:

Technician Name: ____

Date:





Expected Timeframe for AOC Remediation (From Date of Discovery)

AOC Type	Timeframe
Atmospheric Corrosion/Remediation/Paint/Repair	Not to exceed three (3) years
Meter Protection	Not to exceed one (1) year
Buried facilities, i.e. service valve, meter, etc.	Not to exceed three (3) years
Regulator Venting/Vent Screen/Building Openings/Ignition Sources	Not to exceed one (1) year

Abnormal Operating Condition



Clear loss of pipe wall = **AOC**

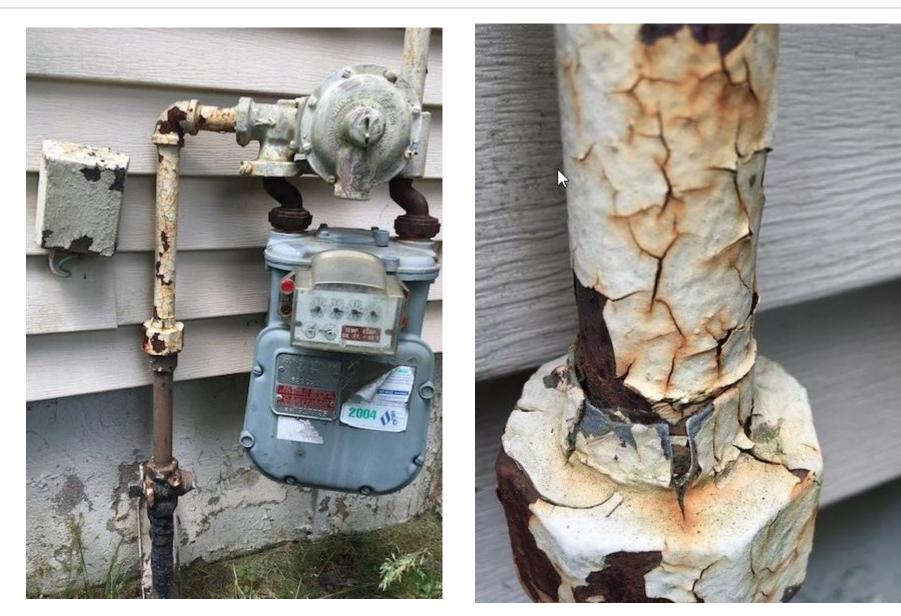




Abnormal Operating Condition



Clear loss of pipe wall = **AOC**





House Regulator Vent Issues

Obstruction of regulator vent = **AOC**





House Regulator Vent Issues



Proximity of regulator vent to source of air supply, building opening, or ignition source = **AOC**





AOC

Atmospheric Corrosion Examples Picture 1: Low corrosion severity







Picture 2: Medium corrosion severity





AOC

Picture 7: High corrosion severity





AOC or Deficient Condition?

Abnormal Operating Condition (AOC) – A condition identified by the Operator that may indicate a malfunction of a component or deviation from normal operations that may:
(a) Indicate a condition exceeding design limits; or
(b) Result in a hazard(s) to persons, property, or the environment.

Deficient: (Merriam Webster) Not up to a normal standard or complement

Deficient Condition: A degraded state of a pipeline component that requires maintenance or improvement prior to the next scheduled inspection of that component to prevent it from becoming an AOC.

AOC or Deficient Condition?



Allows emergency access to meter valve but not to perform scheduled maintenance= Deficient Condition









QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!