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Guidance on Practice for Responsibilities of a Pipeline Operator

GP 43-06

**BP GROUP
ENGINEERING TECHNICAL PRACTICES**

Foreword

This is the first issue of Engineering Technical Practice (ETP) BP GP 43-06. This Guidance on Practice (GP) is not derived from any heritage documents.

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Introduction

BP's business interests in Pipeline operations can encompass a wide range of different scenarios. This can include full ownership, full operational control, partial ownership, involvement solely as a user of the Pipeline, or numerous other business interest scenarios. For all these cases, and any other where the activities of the Pipeline Operator can influence BP's reputation or risk exposure, BP expects the organisation responsible for operating the Pipeline to accept the range of responsibilities detailed in this document.



1. Scope

This GP defines the fundamental responsibilities that BP expects an organisation operating a Pipeline on behalf of, or in the interests of BP, to accept. The document is intended principally for the Single Point of Accountability, SPA, with overall responsibility for assigning the Operator role as well as the organisation discharging the responsibilities of the Operator. The responsibilities defined shall apply to the Operator unless indicated otherwise.

The responsibilities covered include operating performance, management systems, financial controls, business ethics, regulatory and legal compliance, Pipeline integrity management, emergency response, and public relations.

The GP is applicable if the Pipeline is transporting fluid to which BP is the sole or partial title holder.

The GP provides a framework by which a Pipeline operations organisation can be audited to assess whether it is meeting its responsibilities in accordance with BP expectations.

More specific guidance on suitable organisational structures and management systems for a Pipeline operator can be found in GP 43-48.

2. Normative references

The following normative documents contain requirements that, through reference in this text, constitute requirements of this technical practice.

BP

Integrity Management Functional Standard.

GP 43-04	Guidance on Practice for QA/QC for Pipelines.
GP 43-17	Guidance on Practice for Risk Management.
GP 43-24	Guidance on Practice for GIS, Mapping, and Data Acquisition for Pipelines.
GP 43-47	Guidance on Practice for Handover to Pipeline Operations.
GP 43-48	Guidance on Practice for Pipeline Operations Organisation Setup.
GP 43-49	Guidance on Practice for Pipeline Integrity Management System.
GP 43-50	Guidance on Practice for Pigging.
GP 43-51	Guidance on Practice for Maintenance and Reliability for Pipelines.
GP 43-52	Guidance on Practice for Inspection and Assessment of Pipelines.
GP 43-55	Guidance on Practice for Pipeline Right-of-Way Management.

3. Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this GP, the following terms and definitions apply:



The Owner

The organisation that holds legal title to the Pipeline.

The Single Point Accountability (SPA)

The person/s or body/s acting under the appointment of the Owner/s to authorise and commission the activities of the Operator during his tenure. The Authority may or may not be part of the BP group and may not be the Owner.

BP

The BP group or a person or persons appointed directly to act on behalf of the BP group in matters relating to the operation of the Pipeline.

Operator

The organisation that has undertaken to fulfil the role of Pipeline Operator reporting directly to the SPA. Where applicable, this organisation will be formally declared to be Pipeline Operator and subject to the statutory obligations under law.

The Pipeline

The system of assets as defined in GP 43-00 that convey Fluid from a defined ingress boundary to a defined egress boundary. Within the Pipeline boundaries there may be plant, equipment, storage vessels, facilities, buildings, and estate.

Fluid

The substances which are conveyed through the pipeline which may be liquid or gas including any additives, by-products, or suspended solids.

Engineering Authority

A nominated individual responsible for providing assurance to the pipeline SPA that the requirements of gHSEr, PSIM and Engineering Technical practices are applied in relation to the Pipeline and its operation and that competent.

4. Symbols and abbreviations

For the purpose of this GP, the following symbols and abbreviations apply:

AGI	Above ground installation
GIS	Geographical information system
gHSEr	Getting HSE right
PSIM	Process safety and integrity management
ESIA	Environmental and social impact assessment

