2025 – July – Editorial Section
Approved revisions to GM under §192.710 with 1 edit from IMP/Corr. **Ready for Public Review.**

TR Number	**19-54**
Primary Reference	192.710
Purpose	Review and develop GM as appropriate in light of Amendment 192-125, and Amendment 192-132
Origin/Rationale	Amendments 192-125 & 192-132
Assigned to	IMCorr

Note: *Revisions are shown in yellow highlight and red font.*

***Editorial note: No previous GM – all language in this section will be new and is not underlined. ***

Section 192.710

~~*This guide material is under review following Amendment 192-125*~~

1 APPLICABILITY

This section applies to conducting assessments of segments of onshore steel transmission pipeline with an MAOP that produces a hoop stress greater than or equal to 30% SMYS located outside of HCAs with any of the following attributes (§192.710(a)).

Applicability	**Pipeline Location**
Subject to §192.710	Class 3 Location, non-HCA
	Class 4 Location, non-HCA
	Moderate Consequence Area (MCA) and is also ILI-capable

(a) Pipeline segments might become subject to this section for a variety of reasons including the following.
  (1) Change in class location.
  (2) Segment becomes an MCA.
  (3) Segment becomes ILI-capable.
  (4) Operational parameters change (e.g., increase to a hoop stress of 30% SMYS or greater).

(b) Operators might consider the following when establishing criteria for segments deemed "ILI-capable." Refer to Guide Material Appendix G-192-14 for more information on ILI.
  (1) Ability of the device to traverse the pipeline unimpeded.
  (2) Ability to propel the device through the pipeline.
  (3) Ability to insert the device into the pipeline and retrieve it.

(c) Operators may elect to include these non-HCA segments in their applicable integrity assessment plans for scheduling and performance of the assessment.

Processes for assessment outside HCAs are substantially similar to those within HCAs; refer to guide material under §192.937. Refer to §192.903 for HCA definition.

2 PROCEDURES

Operators must have written procedures for conducting assessments (§192.605(a)). The operator should consider including the following.

(a) Identifying applicable pipeline segments.
(b) Analyzing and accounting for available relevant information.

(1) Identifying the applicable integrity threats to the pipeline segment.
(2) Identifying the integrity assessment methods to meet the identified integrity threats.

(c) Developing a risk-based prioritization assessment schedule and frequency.
(d) Conducting assessments.
(e) Analyzing results of the assessment and remediating conditions found if necessary.

3 IDENTIFYING THREATS

Threats must be analyzed to determine which threats might contribute to the failure of a pipe segment and which assessment techniques are appropriate (§192.710(d) and (g)). Risk analysis allows for prioritization of segment assessments. Threat and risk analysis require integration of relevant data.

See 1 through 11 of the guide material under §192.917 regarding threat assessment, and 15 of the guide material under §192.917 for information on risk assessment.

4 ASSESSMENT METHODS

The assessment methods selected must be appropriate to address all the identified threats applicable to the pipeline segment (§192.710(c)). It might be necessary to consider a combination of tools or techniques of integrity assessment to directly address the primary threats. Guide material under §192.919 in Table 192.919i may be used to identify appropriate assessment methods for the various primary threats.

(a) *Assessment methods*. See the guide material under §§ 192.919, 192.921, and 192.937 for information about assessment methods.
(1) *Internal Inspection.* See the guide material under §192.493 and Guide Material Appendix G-192-14. Prior ILI assessments may be used as the initial assessment if the inspection was performed to the criteria for ILI in Subpart O (§192.710(b)(3)). If an operator uses a prior assessment as its initial assessment, the next reassessment interval is counted from the date of that prior assessment.
(2) *Pressure Test*. See the guide material under §192.505.
(3) *Spike Hydrostatic Pressure Test*. See the guide material under §192.506.
(4) *Direct Examination.*
(5) *Guided Wave Ultrasonic Testing*. See Appendix F to Part 192.
(6) *Direct Assessment*. See the guide material under §§ 192.923, 192.925, 192.927, and 192.929.
(7) *Other Technology*. An operator must notify PHMSA in advance of using the other technology (§192.710(c)(7)). See the guide material under §192.18.

(b) An operator may use assessments performed for MAOP verification purposes (§192.710(b)(4)).

5 ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

5.1 Initial Assessment

For newly identified segments, the initial assessment occurs within 10 years after the pipeline segment first meets the conditions described in 1 above (§192.710(b)(1)). Note that segments which met applicability requirements on May 24, 2023 were granted until July 3, 2034, to have initial assessments performed. The initial assessment must be based on a risk-based prioritization schedule (§192.710(b)(1)).

(a) Operators must have and follow written procedures per §192.605(a) and retain records per §192.603(b). These procedures and records should document the rationale for their assessment schedule and any deviations to that schedule that might be necessary in the future.

(b) Other factors might influence the schedule such as tool availability, permitting, or planned Subpart O assessments/reassessments on adjacent segments. For example, combining non-HCA with adjacent HCA segment(s) into a single assessment can improve operational efficiency, particularly when using ILI inspection method.

(c) Operators may elect to perform assessments as a joint project but still maintain separate remediation

criteria and remediation schedules for HCA versus non-HCA segments.

5.2 Reassessment Interval

The maximum interval between periodic reassessments cannot exceed 10 calendar years. A shorter reassessment interval might be necessary per §192.710(b)(2).

(a) If an ILI reassessment is used for a pipeline that contains both MCAs and HCAs, then the schedule for evaluation of an MCA might coincide with the HCA assessment interval.

(b) If operators elect to reduce the reassessment interval for the MCAs to coincide with the shorter reassessment interval required by HCAs in that same pipeline, procedures, and records should reflect that decision (§§ 192.605(a) and 192.603(b)).

6 DISCOVERY OF CONDITION

Discovery of a condition occurs when an operator has adequate information about a condition to determine that the condition presents a potential threat to the integrity of the pipeline; it is dependent upon the assessment method used. The date each condition was discovered is used to set the schedule for any remediation activities required by §192.714(c) and (d) (§192.710(f)).

See the guide material under §192.933(b) for more information about “discovery of condition” for various assessment types.

7 RECORDS

Records demonstrating compliance with operator procedures and the regulations should be kept for the life of the pipeline. These include the following.

(a) Identification of segments.
(b) Assessment method selection (type).
(c) Assessment schedule including rationale and completion.
(d) Assessment completions including dates performed, analysis of results, and discovery of condition.

The date, location, and description of pipe repairs made must be retained for the life of the pipeline (§192.709(a)). Repairs to non-pipe components must be retained in accordance with §192.709(b) and (c).