

Gas Qualifications

Requirements and Testing Program

May 24, 2018





Agenda

Regulation

Qualification History

Commonly Needed Qualifications

New Qualifications and Applicability

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Q&A



Regulation

Federal and State regulations require that certain tasks performed on the gas pipeline system, or in construction of new gas pipeline facilities that will be connected to the gas pipeline system, require qualification(s) be held by the person(s) performing the work.

Links:

Operator Qualifications

<https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=43ee48d6f4e25ef6e085a5e84940f055&mc=true&node=sp49.3.192.n&rgn=div6>

Plastic

<https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=43ee48d6f4e25ef6e085a5e84940f055&mc=true&node=sp49.3.192.n&rgn=div6>

Welding

<https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=43ee48d6f4e25ef6e085a5e84940f055&mc=true&node=sp49.3.192.e&rgn=div6>

CPUC GO 112F, Section 105

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/SearchRes.aspx?docformat=ALL&DocID=163327660>



Qualification History

Pre-1999

Plastic pipe joining qualifications required under federal code

No guidelines or rulings around Operator Qualifications

1999

OQ rule imposed on operators

2016

In anticipation of GO-112F, knowledge questions added to plastic pipe joining qualification testing

2017

GO-112F – added “new construction” to one of the “parts” of the 4-part rule under 49 CFR 192 that determines whether work is a “Covered Task”



Legacy: Common Tasks Performed as Part of Gas Design Projects and Requiring Qualifications

Qualification	PG&E Task Code	Span of Control	Effective	Task Guidance
Pipe Joining				
Heat Iron Socket Fusion	OQ-2103	1:0	Now	This task include the recognizing and reacting to AOC's, the preparation, cleaning, and connection of heat iron socket fusion.
Heat Iron Saddle Fusion (Manual)	OQ-2104	1:0	Now	This task includes the recognizing and reacting to AOC's, the preparation, cleaning, and connection of heat iron saddle fusion.
Heat Iron Saddle Fusion (Mechanical Assist)	OQ-2105	1:0	Now	This task includes the recognizing and reacting to AOC's, the preparation, cleaning, and connection of heat iron saddle fusion using the mechanical assist tool
Heat Iron Butt Fusion (Mechanical)	OQ-2106	1:0	Now	This task includes the recognizing and reaction to AOC's, the preparation, the cleaning, and connection of heat iron butt fusion using the mechanical tool.
Heat Iron Butt Fusion (Hydraulic)	OQ-2107	1:0	Now	This task includes the recognition and reaction to AOC's, the preparation, cleaning, and connection of heat iron butt fusion using the hydraulic machine.
Electrofusion (Coupling)	OQ-2108	1:0	Now	This task includes the recognition and reaction to AOC's, the preparation, cleaning, and connection of electrofusion coupling.
Electrofusion (Saddle)	OQ-2109	1:0	Now	This task includes the recognition and reaction to AOC's, the preparation, cleaning, and connection of electrofusion saddle.
Mechanical Fitting (Stab)	OQ-2111	1:0	Now	This task includes the recognition and reaction to AOC's, the preparation and connection using stab fitting.
Mechanical Fitting (Threaded)	OQ-2112	1:0	Now	This task includes the recognition and reaction to AOC's, the preparation and connection of threaded mechanical fitting.
Mechanical Fitting (Bolt-on Saddle)	OQ-2113	1:0	Now	This task includes the recognition and reaction to AOC's, the preparation and connection of mechanical saddle fitting.



What Is New?

January 1, 2017: Covered Tasks include new construction activities

- Per 49 CFR §192.801 and G.O. 112-F Section 105 a covered task is an activity, identified by the operator, that meets ALL of the following requirements:
 - Is performed on a pipeline facility.
 - Is an operations or maintenance, *or new construction task.*
 - Is performed as a requirement of 49 CFR 192.
 - Affects the operation or integrity of the pipeline.



Work commonly performed as part of Applicant Design projects that now requires a Qualification(s) includes:

Type of work	Qualification	PG&E Task Code	SOC	Effective	Task Guidance
Pipe Installation	Install and Protection of Pipe in Ditch – Plastic	OQ-0211	1:1	1-Jul-18	After ditch/trench excavation is completed, visually inspect the ditch to ensure it is of proper depth and width, free of rocks and debris. Ensure the trench is padded with suitable material, able to supply firm support to installed pipe, and constructed to fit pipe. Includes the handling, lowering in, and fitting of plastic pipe in a ditch and the shading immediately around the installed pipe to ensure firm support. <i>Does not include filling in to top of trench with native soil.</i>
Pipe Installation	Install and Protection of Pipe in Ditch – Plastic, Steel	OQ-0213	1:1	1-Jul-18	After ditch/trench excavation is completed, visually inspect the ditch to ensure it is of proper depth and width, free of rocks and debris. Ensure the trench is padded with suitable material, able to supply firm support to installed pipe, and constructed to fit pipe. Includes the handling, lowering in, and fitting of plastic and/or steel pipe in a ditch and the shading immediately around the installed pipe to ensure firm support. <i>Does not include filling in to top of trench with native soil.</i>
Pipe Installation	Installation of pipe in a bore and tracer wire	OQ-0212	1:1	1-Jul-18	After boring is completed, this task includes the handling, pulling in, and inspection of exposed pipe as well as the installation of tracer wire.
Pipe Installation	Installation of tracer wire (includes checking the connection of the tracer wire)	OQ-0214	1:1	1-Jul-18	The installation of a tracer wire is addressed in ASME B31Q Task 0941 Install Tracer Wire. Install Tracer Wire: this task includes the installation of a tracer wire on plastic pipe, including verification of a tracer wire mechanical integrity and electrical continuity. Electrical connections are address in ASME B31Q 0041 Installation and Maintenance of Mechanical Electrical Connections and 0051 Installation of Exothermic Electrical Connections.
Excavation	Damage Prevention During Excavation: Excavation around existing gas facilities	OQ-0507	1:0	1-Jul-18	Directly observe (i.e. "spotter" role) the excavation taking place and take action to ensure prevention of damage to facilities during the excavation. It is required when digging using power equipment within 2' of all gas facilities. Includes such activities as verifying underground pipelines are marked, use of spotter to guide equipment operator, and more. <i>Note: OQ 0507 CANNOT be used in place of OQ-0502 "Standby Pipeline"</i>
Excavation	Standby pipeline	OQ-0502	1:1	Now	Observing and documenting the excavation of Company facilities designated as critical or high priority facilities. Work that CANNOT be performed with this OQ: Marking facilities. <i>Note: OQ-0502 CAN be used in place of OQ-0507</i>



When are the qualifications required?

Applicant installer contractors have been required for years to be qualified to join plastic or steel gas pipe. Tasks newly added to PG&E's qualification task list in 2017 will also be required as of July 1, 2018. These newly added qualifications are similar, but in addition to those previously required by regulation.

New OQ tasks are effective July 1, 2018.

Testing to obtain these new OQ Tasks begins immediately. All individuals performing work described in the Task List must be qualified by July 1, 2018.

To avoid work stopped in the field on July 1st, the expectation is that contractors and applicant installers start qualifying on these new tasks immediately.



Testing Options: 3rd Party / Applicant Installers

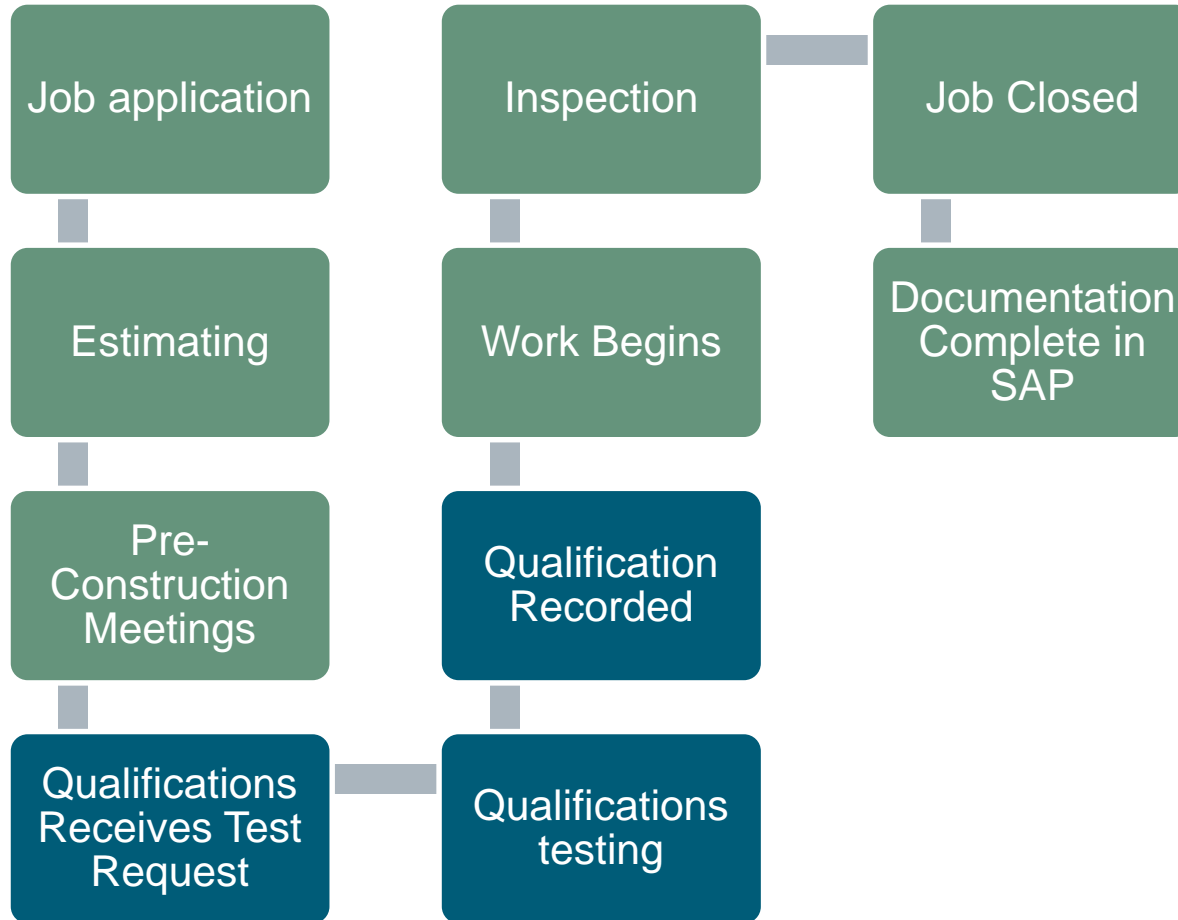
Applicant Installer contractors obtaining a PG&E qualification requires testing by an authorized PG&E evaluator:

- **Option 1: PG&E Qualification Evaluators: Schedule a testing session with PG&E by calling 1-855-854-6227, option 4 or emailing QualificationCommun@pge.com.**
- **Option 2: PG&E Authorized 2nd Party Evaluators: Contact Veriforce for a list of PG&E Authorized evaluators at 800-426-1604 or customerservice@veriforce.com.**

**Note: 2nd Party Evaluators may only administer non-pipe joining qualification testing*



Process



Note: Process is illustrative and not requirement of order of steps in all cases.



Alert for Gas Qualifications Requirements in Customer Connections Online (CCO)

PG&E's Customer Connections allows you to submit, track and manage your applications for:

- New Service Installations
- Temporary Construction Power
- Service Relocations/Rearrangements
- New Streetlight Services
- Electric Generation Interconnection Requests
- **New Alert for Gas Qualifications Requirements**



Gas Qualifications Requirements Alert

Everything about completing the application is the same until you get to the gas information part of the form.

“Who will trench and backfill gas facilities” - If applicant is selected, an alert will appear notifying the customer of the new requirements and the potential need to obtain PG&E approved Qualifications to perform this work.

Trench Details Service Distribution

Who will trench & backfill gas facilities? ? Applicant

Trench Occupants: ?

Gas Electric
 Phone CATV
 Other

Are you sure you want to continue?

There are new requirements mandated by Federal and State law for any individual who will be conducting work including excavation and installation of gas facilities. Under the new law, you may be required to obtain PG&E-approved Qualifications to perform this work. Please note additional testing fees may apply.

To learn more about the Qualification Requirements, please call 1-855-854-6227 or email QualificationCommun@pge.com

No Yes



THANK YOU

PG&E Gas Qualifications

Josa Buennagel

jmtw@pge.com; 415-215-8772

1-855-854-6227, option 4

OQMSupport@PGE.com



APPENDIX



ACTIONS TO OBTAIN QUALIFICATIONS



Action: Identify Work Requiring Operator Qualifications

Prior to beginning a job, the contractor or applicant installer company performs the following:

Work with PG&E to define scope of work, as applicable.

Identifies applicable required OQs based on identified scope of work and PG&E Gas Qualification Covered Task List

The Task List is available via the following:

1-855-854-6227, option 4 or OQMSupport@PGE.com



Action: Request Operator Qualification Evaluations

When OQ evaluations are required, the applicant installer company contacts PG&E's OQ Department to find out whether testing for applicable OQs is obtained through PG&E or a PG&E-approved third party:

1-855-854-6227, option 4 or OQMSupport@PGE.com

The contractor company or applicant installer company is responsible for scheduling OQ testing for their employees through the method(s) approved for contractors by PG&E.



Action: Register with Veriforce

Sign a Professional Services Agreement (PSA):

<https://www.veriforce.net/verisource/documents/PSA/PSA.pdf>

You may simply download, sign and fax the agreement to Veriforce. If you are utilizing Veriforce for any service other than drug/alcohol reporting, then you will also be required to pay a one-time setup fee of \$250 (only if you have not previously executed a PSA with Veriforce).

Once Veriforce has received your PSA and processed payment, you will be sent login information so that you may access the online database, *VeriSource*.

If you have any questions at all or need assistance, please contact them by phone at 800.426.1604 or email customerservice@veriforce.com.



Action: Register with Veriforce (part 2)

Operator Qualification INVOICED SEPARATELY

This service provides contractor the ability to manage and report qualifications of their employees. Fees for management of qualified personnel are assessed on a semi-annual basis according to the number of qualified individuals in the VeriSource software application during the billing period. Please note Veriforce bills six months in arrears – after the fact. Contractor is responsible for removing individuals from VeriSource prior to the invoice date in order to avoid those individuals being included in the next billing cycle. **See more details regarding the per qualified individual (QI) fee below, as this fee will be changing over the next 2 billing periods.**

- For the **Sept. '16 through Feb. '17 billing period**, which will be invoiced on Mar. 1, 2017, contractor will be billed per person based on their active QI status as described in the table below:

	Billing Period		Price per Person
	Sept '16 – Dec '16	Jan '17 – Feb '17	
QI 1 Active?	Yes	No	\$34
QI 2 Active?	Yes	Yes	\$55
QI 3 Active?	No	Yes	\$55

- Beginning with the **Mar. '17 through Aug. '17 billing period**, which will be invoiced on Sept. 1, 2017, contractor will be billed \$75/active QI



Action: Reserve Your Testing Date

To schedule an initial or a requalification testing session with PG&E, call 1-855-854-6227, option 4 or email to OQMSupport@PGE.com.

OR

Schedule testing with an approved PG&E 2nd Party Evaluator



Action: Prepare Individuals for Testing

Conduct necessary training to ensure individuals coming to test are competent

Individuals complete all required onboarding safety training in Veriforce

Review PG&E procedures relevant to the task.

Review study guides for overview of scope of test and where to find study materials.

Note: Written and performance test are administered in English.



Verification of Qualifications

- Veriforce is the OQ Records Management Company for PG&E for contractor and applicant installer OQ's
- OQ records are available 24/7 on secure web based platform



Field Verification Report for ARB Inc
Employee:
Candidate I
TWIC Card: No Card
Date: 11/4/2015 7:10:05 PM CST

Notice: Personnel qualifications identified on this report are valid only for Pacific Gas & Electric Company. To verify the candidate's identity, please compare his/her government issued ID for the following items:

1. Photo
2. Name
3. Date of Birth

The candidate's first and last initials and date of birth are the candidate id listed below.

If you have any questions, please call Veriforce at 800.426.1604

Task Identity	Task Desc	Expiration Date (CST)	ID Verified	Verified By	Verified Date
PGE04-01.00	Soap Test / Stand-up Test	10/15/2016 11:00:01 AM			
PGE07-01.00	Air Purging	10/15/2016 11:18:41 AM			
PGE07-02.00	Gas Purging	10/15/2016 11:31:20 AM			
PGE07-04.00	Air Mover Operations	10/15/2016 11:49:58 AM			



REGULATION TEXT



Operator Qualification: Overview

§ 192.805 Qualification program.

Each operator shall have and follow a written qualification program. The program shall include provisions to:

- (a) Identify covered tasks;
- (b) Ensure through evaluation that individuals performing covered tasks are qualified;
- (c) Allow individuals that are not qualified pursuant to this subpart to perform a covered task if directed and observed by an individual that is qualified;
- (d) Evaluate an individual if the operator has reason to believe that the individual's performance of a covered task contributed to an incident as defined in Part 191;
- (e) Evaluate an individual if the operator has reason to believe that the individual is no longer qualified to perform a covered task;
- (f) Communicate changes that affect covered tasks to individuals performing those covered tasks;
- (g) Identify those covered tasks and the intervals at which evaluation of the individual's qualifications is needed;
- (h) After December 16, 2004, provide training, as appropriate, to ensure that individuals performing covered tasks have the necessary knowledge and skills to perform the tasks in a manner that ensures the safe operation of pipeline facilities; and...



Operator Qualification: Overview Cont'd

§ 192.801 Scope.

(a) This subpart prescribes the minimum requirements for operator qualification of individuals performing covered tasks on a pipeline facility.

(b) For the purpose of this subpart, a covered task is an activity, identified by the operator, that:

- (1) Is performed on a pipeline facility;
- (2) Is an operations or maintenance task (or new construction*);
- (3) Is performed as a requirement of this part; and
- (4) Affects the operation or integrity of the pipeline.



Welding Qualification: Overview

49 CFR 192.227*:

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, each welder must be qualified in accordance with section 6, section 12, or Appendix A of API Std 1104, or section IX of ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code.



Plastic Joining Qualification: Overview

49 CFR 192.285*:

- (a) **No person may make a plastic pipe joint unless that person has been qualified under the applicable joining procedure by:**
 - (1) Appropriate training or experience in the use of the procedure; and**
 - (2) Making a specimen joint from pipe sections joined according to the procedure that passes the inspection and test set forth in paragraph (b) of this section...**



192.285 Full Text

§ 192.285 Plastic pipe: Qualifying persons to make joints.

(a) No person may make a plastic pipe joint unless that person has been qualified under the applicable joining procedure by:

(1) Appropriate training or experience in the use of the procedure; and

(2) Making a specimen joint from pipe sections joined according to the procedure that passes the inspection and test set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) The specimen joint must be:

(1) Visually examined during and after assembly or joining and found to have the same appearance as a joint or photographs of a joint that is acceptable under the procedure; and

(2) In the case of a heat fusion, solvent cement, or adhesive joint:

(i) Tested under any one of the test methods listed under § 192.283(a) applicable to the type of joint and material being tested;

(ii) Examined by ultrasonic inspection and found not to contain flaws that would cause failure; or

(iii) Cut into at least 3 longitudinal straps, each of which is:

(A) Visually examined and found not to contain voids or discontinuities on the cut surfaces of the joint area; and

(B) Deformed by bending, torque, or impact, and if failure occurs, it must not initiate in the joint area.

(c) A person must be re-qualified under an applicable procedure once each calendar year at intervals not exceeding 15 months, or after any production joint is found unacceptable by testing under § 192.513.

(d) Each operator shall establish a method to determine that each person making joints in plastic pipelines in the operator's system is qualified in accordance with this section.



192.227 Full Text

§ 192.227 Qualification of welders and welding operators.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, each welder or welding operator must be qualified in accordance with section 6, section 12, Appendix A or Appendix B of API Std 1104 (incorporated by reference, see § 192.7), or section IX of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (ASME BPVC) (incorporated by reference, see § 192.7). However, a welder or welding operator qualified under an earlier edition than the listed in § 192.7 of this part may weld but may not requalify under that earlier edition.

(b) A welder may qualify to perform welding on pipe to be operated at a pressure that produces a hoop stress of less than 20 percent of SMYS by performing an acceptable test weld, for the process to be used, under the test set forth in section I of Appendix C of this part. Each welder who is to make a welded service line connection to a main must first perform an acceptable test weld under section II of Appendix C of this part as a requirement of the qualifying test.