

§ 195.248

49 CFR Ch. I (10–1–14 Edition)

§ 195.248 Cover over buried pipeline.

(a) Unless specifically exempted in this subpart, all pipe must be buried so that it is below the level of cultivation. Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the pipe must be installed

so that the cover between the top of the pipe and the ground level, road bed, river bottom, or underwater natural bottom (as determined by recognized and generally accepted practices), as applicable, complies with the following table:

Location	Cover inches (millimeters)	
	For normal excavation	For rock excavation ¹
Industrial, commercial, and residential areas	36 (914)	30 (762)
Crossing of inland bodies of water with a width of at least 100 feet (30 millimeters) from high water mark to high water mark	48 (1219)	18 (457)
Drainage ditches at public roads and railroads	36 (914)	36 (914)
Deepwater port safety zones	48 (1219)	24 (610)
Gulf of Mexico and its inlets in waters less than 15 feet (4.6 meters) deep as measured from mean low water	36 (914)	18 (457)
Other offshore areas under water less than 12 ft (3.7 meters) deep as measured from mean low water	36 (914)	18 (457)
Any other area	30 (762)	18 (457)

¹ Rock excavation is any excavation that requires blasting or removal by equivalent means.

(b) Except for the Gulf of Mexico and its inlets in waters less than 15 feet (4.6 meters) deep, less cover than the minimum required by paragraph (a) of this section and § 195.210 may be used if—

- (1) It is impracticable to comply with the minimum cover requirements; and
- (2) Additional protection is provided that is equivalent to the minimum required cover.

[Amdt. 195–22, 46 FR 38360, July 27, 1981; 47 FR 32721, July 29, 1982 as amended by Amdt. 195–52, 59 FR 33397, June 28, 1994; 59 FR 36256, July 15, 1994; Amdt. 195–63, 63 FR 37506, July 13, 1998; Amdt. 195–95, 69 FR 48407, Aug. 10, 2004]

§ 195.250 Clearance between pipe and underground structures.

Any pipe installed underground must have at least 12 inches (305 millimeters) of clearance between the outside of the pipe and the extremity of any other underground structure, except that for drainage tile the minimum clearance may be less than 12 inches (305 millimeters) but not less than 2 inches (51 millimeters). However, where 12 inches (305 millimeters) of clearance is impracticable, the clearance may be reduced if adequate provisions are made for corrosion control.

[Amdt. 195–22, 46 FR 38360, July 27, 1981, as amended by Amdt. 195–63, 63 FR 37506, July 13, 1998]

§ 195.252 Backfilling.

When a ditch for a pipeline is backfilled, it must be backfilled in a manner that:

- (a) Provides firm support under the pipe; and
- (b) Prevents damage to the pipe and pipe coating from equipment or from the backfill material.

[Amdt. 195–78, 68 FR 53528, Sept. 11, 2003]

§ 195.254 Above ground components.

(a) Any component may be installed above ground in the following situations, if the other applicable requirements of this part are complied with:

- (1) Overhead crossings of highways, railroads, or a body of water.
- (2) Spans over ditches and gullies.
- (3) Scraper traps or block valves.
- (4) Areas under the direct control of the operator.
- (5) In any area inaccessible to the public.

(b) Each component covered by this section must be protected from the forces exerted by the anticipated loads.

§ 195.256 Crossing of railroads and highways.

The pipe at each railroad or highway crossing must be installed so as to adequately withstand the dynamic forces exerted by anticipated traffic loads.