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§ 256.1 Supervision

All inspections and maintenance shall be under the personal direction of competent engineers or supervisors designated by the responsible operating official.

§ 256.2 Forms and reports

All pertinent data obtained as a result of an inspection shall be entered on forms appropriate for the purpose. These reports shall receive the prompt attention of the responsible operating official, who shall issue the necessary instructions when the data in the reports is indicative of conditions requiring immediate attention. Instructions so issued shall form part of the permanent records of the company.

§ 256.3 Fences and enclosures

Holders shall be protected by suitable fencing or other adequate means shall be provided for preventing access to holder structures by unauthorized persons.

§ 256.4 Fire protection

A suitable number of fire hydrants shall be located at a distance of not more than 500 feet from the holder shell to insure an adequate supply of water in case of fire, excepting in the outlying territory where no water supply is available and/or where there are no buildings within 300 feet of the holder. No permanent buildings shall be erected on company property within 100 feet of a holder shell, except buildings of fire resisting construction and no gas, oil or other highly inflammable material (except lubricating oil) shall be stored therein. All gasoline tanks for use of company vehicles shall be placed underground; no temporary structures shall be erected at a radial distance of less than 50 feet from the holder shell; no combustible material of any kind shall be stored in a temporary structure of wood or other inflammable material.

§ 256.5 Access to waterless holders

The doors on stairways and external elevators leading to top of holder shall be locked at all times. The doors shall not be unlocked except by authorized employees. A separate set of keys shall be kept in a definite location available to authorized employees for use in cases of emergency.

§ 256.6 Exterior and interior elevators--waterless holders

A test and inspection of the exterior and interior elevator safety devices, cables, hoists, rope baskets, drums, sheaves, etc., shall be made at least once a year by trained elevator inspectors not connected with the company or any of its affiliates. An inspection of the exterior elevator shall be made at least once a week by the company. Inspection of interior elevator shall be made as outlined herein under "Interior Inspectors--Waterless Holders."

§ 256.7 First aid and protective equipment

All waterless holders shall have as a minimum the following items of equipment readily accessible at the specified locations:

- (a) Two pieces of self-contained oxygen breathing apparatus of a manufacture approved by the United States Bureau of Mines located as follows: one on upper platform or balcony; one on piston.
- (b) Four fire-proofed woolen blankets located as follows: two on upper platform or balcony; two on piston.
- (c) A sufficient number of extra oxygen cylinders shall be readily available on the holder or adjacent thereto.

§ 256.8 Interior inspection and maintenance crew--waterless holders

An interior inspection and maintenance crew shall be available at all times and shall consist of at least three men, one of whom is a foreman or his immediate assistant. One man during the period of inspection shall remain on the upper landing or gallery in such a position where he can be in constant communication with the men on the piston. Where practicable telephonic communication with the engineers or supervisor's office shall be available to the man on the upper landing or gallery. All members of the crew shall be instructed and periodically drilled in the Schaefer method of resuscitation.

§ 256.9 Preliminary precautions before entering piston chamber

Employees before entering or descending to piston chamber shall satisfy themselves that the motor driven elevator, hand operated safety hoist and folding ladders, are in a proper operating condition and that all items described herein under "First Aid and Protective Equipment" are at their specified locations.

If any item of the mechanical apparatus is not operating properly, no descent to the piston shall be made until the item is placed in proper working order. The safety basket on the hand operated safety hoist shall be ready for immediate use before descending to piston.

§ 256.10 Tar pumping equipment--waterless holders

Tar and skimmer pumps, including electrical equipment, tar conditioners and tar pipe lines shall be inspected at least once a week for necessary repairs and adjustments. Riser pump run indicators, switches, float rods, and gears of timing device shall be examined and inspected daily. Emergency drives for pumps shall be tested at least once a month to insure immediate availability for service. Records of pump runs shall be taken at least once a day.

§ 256.11 Interior inspections--waterless holders

- (a) Interior inspections shall be made at least once a week and shall in general comprise the following:

- Inspection of skylight glass on holder top.

- Inspection of lenses in flood lights.

- Examination of tar in seal to detect presence of oil and water. Inspection of piston guide rollers, rubbing bars, and levers for proper lubrication and freedom of movement.

- Inspection of sealing or packing rings.

- Measuring position of piston to determine piston level. Inspection of motors, drums, cables, sheaves, safety baskets, and lubrication of motor elevator and hand operated elevator.

(b) The depth of cup tar in each alternate bay shall be measured daily. If the atmospheric temperature is below 26 degrees Fahrenheit, the condition of tar in seal shall be examined at least every day. The tar in the cup and dam shall be sampled and analyzed at least once a week. When the piston of a waterless holder is of the flexible seal ring type an adequate supply of suitable anti-freeze liquid shall be stored on the piston to insure the prompt removal of any frost and ice that may form on the inner surface of the shell during cold weather.

§ 256.12 Atmosphere above piston--waterless holders

At least once each week a test shall be made of the quality of the atmosphere above the piston. Smoking and use of devices of any kind that might ignite an explosive mixture shall not be permitted in the piston chamber. All electric lights in space above piston shall be of the vapor-proof type. Electric motors, electric wiring and devices for all uses shall be in accordance with the Fire Underwriters requirements.

§ 256.13 Holder connections and piping

Valves for connections to holders including relief valves for pressure tanks shall be inspected and tested for opening, closing and leakage at least twice a year. All necessary adjustments and repairs shall be made to restore each item to a high operating efficiency. Gate valves on inlet and outlet connections shall be tested for free movement, and inspection for lubrication of stems and condition of packing at least once a week. Where practicable, control valves shall be provided on inlet and outlet connections at a point distant from the holder, and inlet, outlet and by-pass valves shall be motorized. All piping in proximity to holders shall where practicable be placed underground.

§ 256.14 Pressure tanks--foundations and supports

An annual examination shall be made of foundations and supports for all pressure tanks to ascertain if all saddles and piers are fully supporting the tank. Any settlement which will produce additional structural strains shall be corrected at once.

§ 256.15 Interior inspection--water-seal holders

After a long period of continuous use, not to exceed 20 years, physical tests shall be made upon specimens cut from the thin material of the crown plating, or after a period of continuous service, not to exceed 25 years, the tank shall be de-watered and a thorough interior inspection made of the condition of the shell, steel work, the internal rollers, and the permanent frame. The holder shall not be restored to service until the necessary preliminary precautions and the repairs as indicated by the inspection have been made.

§ 256.16 Holder-cups--water-seal holders

The temperature and depth of water in cups shall be recorded at least twice a day during freezing weather. Holder-cup heating apparatus shall be inspected at least twice a day when in operation. During non-freezing weather the depth of water in cups shall be recorded at least once a day.

§ 256.17 Exterior inspections--all holders

An inspection of the exterior of all holders shall be made at least once a month to ascertain the condition of paint, shell, framing and holder top. Guide rollers on water seal holders shall be inspected for lubricating, alignment, and clearance at least once a month. During winter months a crew shall be available to insure prompt removal of any unsafe accumulation of snow and ice on the top and other parts of the holder.

§ 256.18 Cutting, welding and caulking

The use of cutting and welding apparatus shall not be permitted on equipment used for the storage of gas or apparatus accessory thereto until permission has been obtained from the operating engineer directly in charge of the work who shall verify fully if all the necessary precautions against fire and explosion have been taken. A pressure tank shall not be caulked with air tools until the pressure within is less than five pounds.

§ 256.19 Purging

The purging of water-seal gas holders, waterless gas holders and pressure holders preparatory to extensive maintenance or construction work on holders, valves and pipe connections, shall be done in accordance with the latest procedure recommended by the American Gas Association Committee and accepted by the American Gas Association. As of this date the accepted procedure is dated March 15, 1933.

This same procedure shall be followed before the holder under repair is restored to service.

§ 256.20 Supplementary inspection--all holders

At least once a year an inspection shall be made of all holders by competent independent inspectors or engineers not in the employ of the company. The inspectors or engineers shall submit complete reports to the responsible operating official.

§ 256.21 General safety provisions

(a) Smoking, open flames or devices that might ignite an explosive mixture shall not be permitted in the immediate vicinity of the holder.

(b) During the progress of minor construction or maintenance work on holders, all customary safety rules prevailing in the plant, as well as those hereinbefore described, shall be rigidly adhered to. On work of the foregoing nature, experienced men shall be employed under direct and competent supervision, and all crews shall consist of at least two men.

(c) All procedures recommended by the American Gas Association for the purging, operation and maintenance of gasworks equipment and apparatus, including mains, are to be followed.