



Welcome to the Iowa Utilities Board

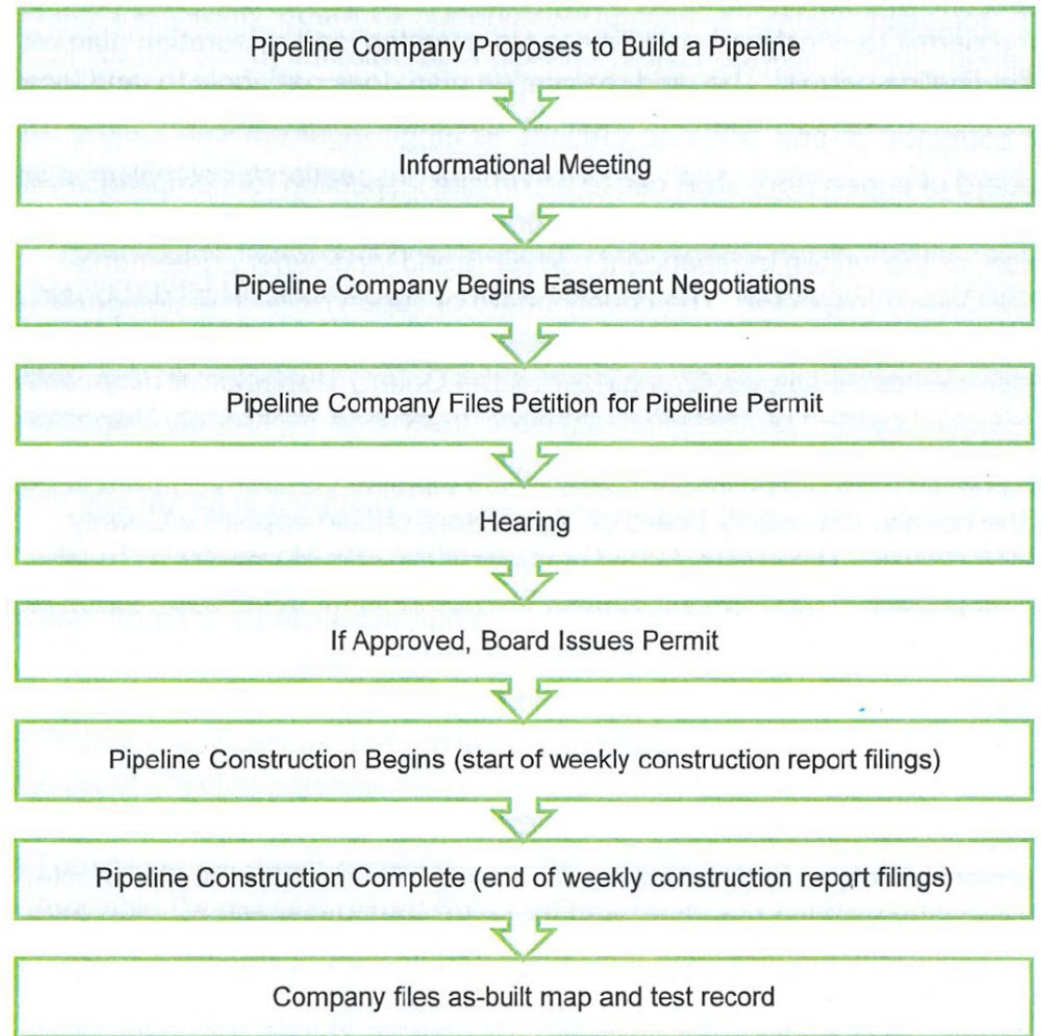
County's Role in the IUB's Pipeline Permit Process



Iowa Utilities Board

Pipeline Permitting Process

This flowchart presents the general sequence of the IUB's Pipeline Permitting Process.



Designating County Inspector

- Pipeline company will send notice of request for informational meeting to county board of supervisors of each affected county along with a request for the board of supervisors to appoint a county inspector. The county inspector may be present at the informational meeting.
- The board of supervisors shall designate a county inspector for each project after they receive notice of the intent to build the pipeline from the pipeline company. The county inspector can be the county engineer or an independent licensed professional engineer.
- If the proposed pipeline project affects several counties, the board of supervisors of each county can work together and hire one county inspector for the entire project.
- If the county inspector changes, the board of supervisors shall notify the pipeline company, who will file the updated information with the IUB.
- All reasonable costs of inspection are borne by the pipeline company.

Reporting Templates

- Successful inspection programs will include detailed reporting standards and consistent document organization practices, all of which can be contained within reporting templates and inspection procedures developed prior to construction.

Reporting templates should include, but are not limited to, the following information:

- IUB Docket Number
- Report ID Number
- Project Number
- County Inspector Name
- Date of Inspection
- County
- Specific Tract Number
- Weather and Soil Conditions
- Documented Communication of any interaction with landowners
- County Inspector's Signature
- Detailed Records of all work performed throughout the day; recommended that a separate report be completed for each permanent tile repair
- Non-Conformance Work
- Deviations in work due to landowner agreement
- Photos reflecting what is included in the report with a description and location of where the photo was taken

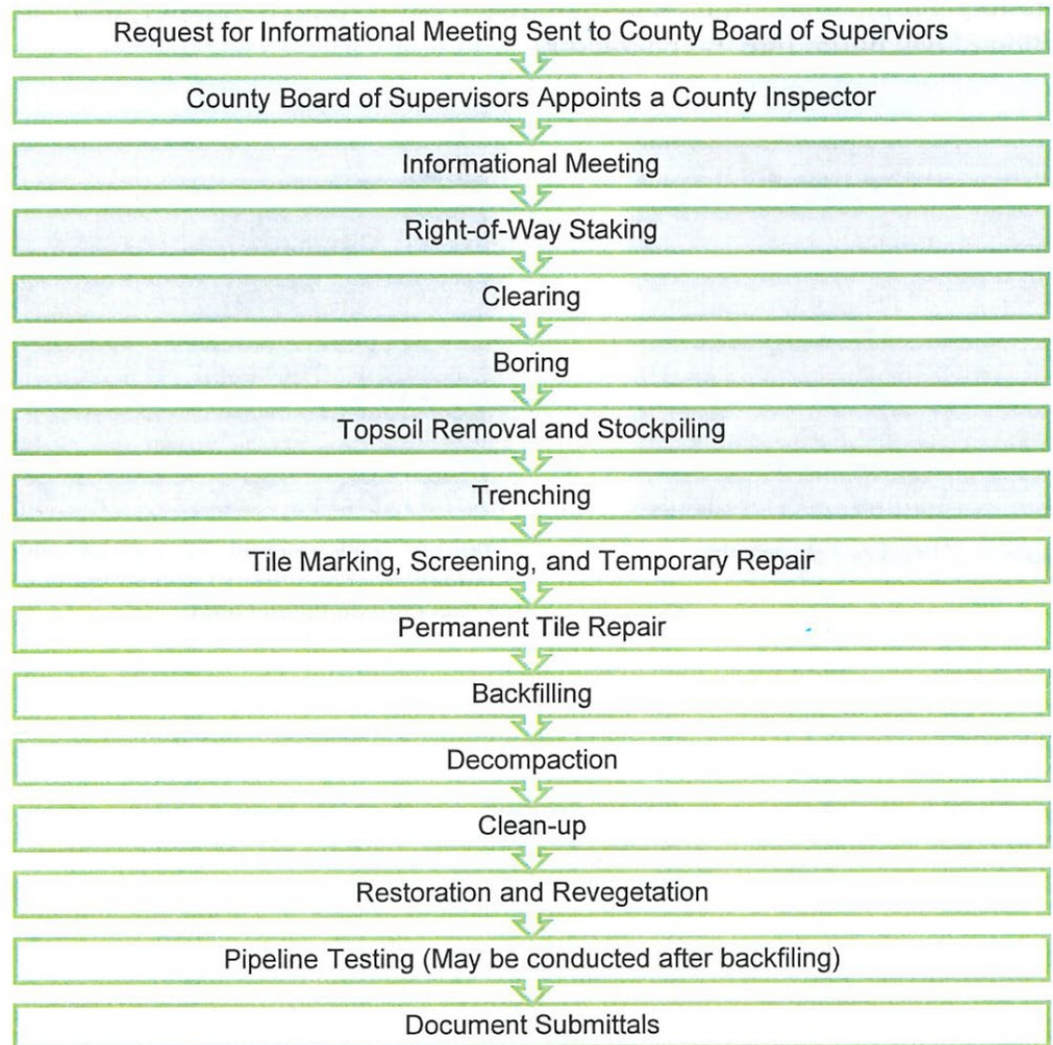
Document Organization

The following is a suggested method for organizing county inspector reports during the project (assuming reports are in electronic format):

- Create an electronic folder for each tract along the project to store all pertinent reports
- Within each tract folder, create sub-folders for specific inspection/report types
- Documents should be saved using a consistent naming convention consisting of some combination of the following:
 - Date Created
 - Tract
 - Report ID Number
 - Type of Report

Pipeline Project Sequence

This flowchart includes only those project activities that will require inspection by the county inspector.



County Inspectors (before construction)

- Before construction begins, the county inspector should obtain the following information from the pipeline company:
 - Alignment Sheets showing tract information, project route, and right-of-way limits
 - Project Specifications and Procedural Manuals
 - List of affected persons
 - Independent Landowner Agreements already obtained
 - Topsoil survey depths results
 - Available tile maps received from landowners
 - Pipeline company, or pipeline company's contractor, contact information
- County inspector should provide a list of county inspector personnel and their contact information to the pipeline company, the pipeline company's contractors, and the county board of supervisors.

County Inspectors (during construction)

- County inspectors will generate a significant number of reports. Having a detailed plan for organization and storage of these reports is critical to ensuring the success of the inspection program and accurate communication of the reports to the board of supervisors.
- Open communication between the county inspector and the board of supervisors, in the form of ongoing status reports and updates, can help keep the board of supervisors informed of the work being done and any potential issues as they arise.
- If there are violations of the standards adopted by the state, land restoration plan, or independent agreements, the county inspector will follow the Notice of Violation process, by first contacting the pipeline company and contractor. If the violation is corrected, construction may continue. If the violation is not corrected, the county inspector shall issue a Stop Work Order, applicable only to the activity and location of the violation. If the pipeline company does not remedy the violation in accordance with the Stop Work Order, the county inspector will provide written notice of the violation to the board or supervisors.
- The written notice of the violation shall include:
 - Location of the violation
 - Explanation of the violation
 - Timeframe of the violation
 - Original written Notice of Violation provided to the pipeline company

Board of Supervisors Notice of Violation Process

- After receiving written Notice of Violation from the county inspector, the board of supervisors will decide whether or not to proceed with the Notice of Violation.
- If the board of supervisors decides not to move forward with the Notice of Violation, the county inspector should:
 - Provide the applicable landowner with original written Notice of Violation
 - Notify pipeline company that landowner has been informed
 - Include violation on inspector's restoration punch list
- If the board of supervisors decides to move forward with the Notice of Violation, they will file a petition with the IUB for an order requiring corrective action to be taken on the violation in accordance with Iowa Code sections 479.29(5) or 479B.20(5).
- It is recommended that the board of supervisors not consider the construction complete until each violation has been fully remediated or a signed agreement between the landowner and the pipeline company has been provided to the county inspector.

Completion of Projects

- County inspector shall give recommendation when final restoration has been completed and vegetation across the project has reached 70% of its growth.
- The board of supervisors shall determine when construction of a pipeline has been completed in that county.
- After the board of supervisors officially closes the project, the county inspector shall finalize all project documentation in preparation for turnover. Document turnover to include all:
 - Inspection Reports
 - Tile Reports and Maps
 - Punch Lists
 - Stop Work Orders
 - Notice of Violation documents
 - Special Landowner Agreements

REQUEST FOR DAMAGES

- The statutes provide that 90 days after the board of supervisors determine construction is complete, a landowner may request a compensation commission be appointed to determine damages from construction when the landowner and the pipeline company have not been able to reach agreement.
- If the board of supervisors approves the petition, the landowner or pipeline company may commence the proceeding by filing an application with the chief judge to appoint a compensation commission.
- The remainder of the process is set out in Iowa code 479.46 and 479B.30.

Questions

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