

# UTILITY AND COMMON CARRIER PIPELINE POLICY

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

### Who Must Apply

Any person, company corporation, or public agency desiring to place utility or common carrier pipelines in or above the rights-of-way of public roads in Jefferson County shall obtain a Commissioners' Court Order from Jefferson County Commissioners' Court for the construction, operation and maintenance of said line. The applicant shall comply with all rules, regulations, principles, and specifications herein contained and any other subsequently adopted by Jefferson County Commissioners' Court prior to issuance of the order.

### Application

The applicant must complete, in quintuplicate (5), the form herein contained, outlining in detail the proposed installation and its location in public right-of-way. The completed application form must be returned to Jefferson County Engineering Department, at 1149 Pearl Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Beaumont, Texas 77701, for approval by Commissioners' Court prior to the start of construction.

### Determination

Commissioners' Court shall determine, within a reasonable time after filing of a complete application in the opinion of the County Engineer, the following:

- a. If applicant is a utility, whether applicant is a public utility serving a public purpose; and
- b. If applicant is a pipeline carrier, whether:
  1. It is a common carrier; and,
  2. It serves a public purpose; and,
  3. The proposed pipeline is a parallel line to be placed within fifteen (15) feet of the improved portion of said right-of way.

If Commissioners' Court determines that applicant is not a public utility, or that it is not a common carrier, or that its utility or pipeline shall not serve a public purpose, or that its propose pipeline will be a parallel line placed within fifteen (15) feet of the improved portion of any right-of-way, then, in the event of any such finding, applicant's application shall be denied and its bond returned.

Such applicant may then apply for a permit under the County's "Pipeline Permit Policy" and any bond, in lieu of returning it to applicant, may be applied to the permit application.

### Maintenance, Alteration or Removal

Advance notification in writing will be required for all maintenance, alteration or removal operations except in emergency situation where the safety of the public would be endangered by a delay in repairs. In any such emergency, contact the County Engineer by phone at (940) 835-8584, and inform him of the proposed emergency repairs. As soon as practical, but no later than 48 hours after the start of emergency repairs, notify the County Engineer in writing of the emergency repairs effected, detailing the repairs and the reasons immediate action was required.

### Time Limits

A time period of three months is allowed from the issuance of the order to start construction. Once started, the applicant is allowed three months to complete all work. All construction must be completed within six (6) months from the date of issuance. Upon application, extensions may be granted by the Jefferson County Commissioners' Court. Such applications for extensions must be received by the Court at least thirty days before the expiration of the six-month period.

### Existing Permits

Any permit, franchise, or instruments of a similar character previously executed by Commissioners' Court shall be subject to the time limit and requirements herein unless specifically stated to the contrary in said permit, franchise or instrument.

## **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

No utility or common carrier pipeline shall ever be installed or maintained in such manner as to interfere with construction, maintenance or repair of any public road whether currently existing or hereafter constructed on future public right-of-way. Should a utility or common carrier pipeline installed by the applicant ever be found to interfere with the construction, maintenance or repair of an existing public road or future public road, the applicant shall, upon the request of the Commissioners' Court, or the County Engineer, promptly change or alter such installation, at its own expense, in such manner that the same no longer interferes with such construction, maintenance or repair.

No utility or common carrier pipeline shall ever be installed so as to interfere with the use of a public road for vehicular or pedestrian traffic, nor so as to interfere with any drainage now or hereafter effected on or along any such road.

Whenever the relocation of public utilities is necessitated by the improvement of a county road, such relocation shall be promptly made by the utility company or common carrier company at the rate, cost and expense of said company.

## Responsibility for Repairs

The applicant, in accordance with the specifications herein contained and/or the directions of the County Engineer or his designated representatives, shall immediately, at its own expense, repair, or replace all public property and all private property, including, but not limited to, driveways, fences, and mail boxes, located in, along or adjacent to public right-of-way, which may be damaged or destroyed by any action or inaction of the applicant.

In any case in which the public welfare demands immediate action to remedy conditions arising out of the actions or inactions of the applicant and in which it is judged that the applicant cannot provide such immediate action, and in any case in which the applicant has failed to comply with the directions of Commissioners' Court, or the County Engineer or his representatives, or to comply with the rules of Jefferson County to perform or cause to be performed, at the remedy such conditions or provide compliance with such directions.

## **SPECIFICATIONS**

### General

The applicant shall comply with the rules, regulations, principles, and specifications contained here and/or the directions of the County Engineer, or his representatives. Should the County Engineer or his representative find that the applicant is not in compliance with said rules, regulations, principles, specifications and directions, he will require that the applicant cease all work until such compliance can be obtained. Failure to comply with said rules, regulations, specifications and directions will be cause for issuance of a "Stop Work Notice" until such time as said defects are corrected.

### Line Crossing, Method of Placement (See Standard Detail)

Any utility or common carrier pipeline crossing a public road, regardless of roadway surfacing or lack thereof, shall be bored, jacked or driven under the roadway and shall be placed in an iron, steel or other approved casing of approximately the same diameter as the utility or common carrier pipeline. Such casing shall extend one hundred and twenty (120) feet or the width of the right-of-way, plus one foot on each side of the right-of-way, whichever is greater with the casing location to be determined by the Jefferson County Engineering Department.

Water jetting will not be allowed. Excavation will not be allowed within the road right-of-way.

A minimum of three (3) feet must be provided under road ditches.

Uncased, protected pipelines must have a minimum cover of five (5) feet.

Where evidence is presented indicating the impracticality of boring, jacking, or driving the line under the roadway, Commissioners' Court may at its option, grant permission for placement by open cut or required relocations of the crossing to another location where the line can be successfully installed by the specified method.

Where placement by open cut is allowed by Commissioners' Court, it shall be in compliance with these specifications:

- a. Casing The line will be fully cased for one hundred and twenty (120) feet or the width of the right-of-way, plus one foot on each side of the right-of-way, whichever is greater; with the casing location to be determined by the Jefferson County Engineering Department.
- b. Backfill The line must be properly bedded to prevent settlement or damage to the line. The excavation shall be backfilled with cement stabilized sand (1 ½ sack per cubic yard) to within 2" of the sub-base and compacted.
- c. Base The base shall be replaced with crushed limestone base material from 2' below the existing base to 1" below the existing top of base and compacted to a minimum 95% Proctor density. In no case shall the compacted thickness of the replacement base be less than 6".
- d. Surface
  1. Dirt, Shell or Gravel Surface The original surface shall be replaced with an equal thickness of shell or gravel, but in no case less than 6" of well-compacted material will be accepted.
  2. Bituminous Surface The original surface shall be replaced with a 1" greater thickness of hot mix, hot laid, asphaltic concrete, but in no case less than 2" thick.
  3. Concrete Surface The original surface shall be replaced with a 1" greater thickness of minimum 3000 psi Portland Cement concrete, in no case less than 6" thick. Concrete must be replaced in full panel sections only. Replacement concrete is to be reinforced with ½" diameter deformed reinforcing steel bars, 12" on center or equal. Replacement sections must be accurately positioned with reference to existing sections by means of steel dowel bars. Bituminous overlays or concrete shall be replaced with an equal thickness of hot mix, hot laid asphaltic concrete.

Where a line is installed outside of the roadway area, the excavation may be backfilled with excavated material compacted in 6" lifts, and the right-of-way shall be reshaped to its original contours. Excess excavation shall be hauled away.

#### Lines paralleling Method of Placement

Where the right-of-way is available, no lines shall be placed closer than ten (10) feet to the edge of pavement nor closer than twenty feet from the center line of a road where the road is not paved. No line shall be placed less than three feet below the flow-line of a road ditch without the permission of Jefferson County Commissioners' Court. (See Standard Detail)

Lines may be placed by an open cut of the road shoulder. When excavated material from the cut is piled along the cut, the applicant shall provide minimum 12" wide weep holes at maximum 200-foot intervals and at all low places to allow drainage of the road and adjacent property into the road ditch.

The line shall be properly bedded and may be backfilled with the excavated material compacted in 6" layers. Excess excavation must be hauled away.

#### Pole, Lines, Location

Utility lines for the transmission of electrical power, or for telephone or telegraph communications, or for similar purposes, may be installed above ground on timber or other sturdy poles. Poles shall be placed as close as practical to the right-of-way lines but in no case closer than fifteen (15) feet from the edge of pavement without the permission of Commissioners' Court.

No guy wires may be anchored within the right-of-way except in the outer one-foot on each side.

Care shall be taken in the placement of poles to minimize the danger that they present to vehicular traffic. The applicant may in some cases be required to construct guardrails for the protection of the public.

Care shall be taken in the placement of poles to avoid damage to existing underground lines. No poles will be placed where they will block drainage.

Pole lines crossing public roads must provide a minimum twenty-two (22) foot vertical clearance.

#### Inspection Notice

The applicant will notify County Engineer, at (409) 835-8584, at least 48 hours in advance of the start of construction, or of the resumption of construction if discontinued for more than 5 working days.

#### Line Markers

All lines crossing public roads shall be identified with appropriate markers installed three (3) feet above ground on metal posts located at the point where such line crosses the right-of-way line.

Lines paralleling shall be marked with similar markers every 400 feet, in no event less than one city block. Lines paralleling shall be marked with similar markers at all angle points. Such markers shall be placed on the right-of-way line and the offset to the line indicated.

#### Traffic Control

The applicant shall maintain at least one lane of traffic in each direction open at all times unless permission to the contrary is granted by the County Engineer.

The applicant shall provide all necessary flagmen, barricades, flashers and any other traffic control devices necessary for the protection of the public and of his own personnel.

#### Bonds

The common carrier applicant will provide a performance bond as Jefferson County Commissioners' Court may require to provide for the protection of public property. The minimum bond required shall be \$5,000.00 per crossing and \$50,000.00 per mile of parallel construction or fraction thereof.

Significantly larger bonds may be required if judged necessary by Jefferson County Commissioners' Court. No work will begin until the County Engineer has been furnished such bond.

#### Application Fee

The common carrier application fee shall be \$100.00 per road crossing and \$150.00 per mile of parallel construction or fraction thereof.

### **ROUTE MAP**

Applicant shall submit with application five (5) prints of the County Road Map accurately showing the location and alignment of the line, including all angle points and all tie-ins for crossings of roads and major streams. Applicant shall use the official Jefferson County Road Map at a scale of 1" = 3 miles. This map can be obtained through the office of the County Engineer.

Rev. 2003

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Rev. 2003

Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_

Precinct No. \_\_\_\_\_

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PLACEMENT OF  
PUBLIC UTILITY LINE/Common Carrier Pipeline Within  
JEFFERSON COUNTY RIGHT-OF-WAY  
(2003 REVISION)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS' COURT  
JEFFERSON COUNTY  
BEAUMONT, TEXAS 77701

Gentlemen:

\_\_\_\_\_ (Company) does hereby made application to use  
lands belonging to Jefferson County, for the purpose of constructing, maintaining or  
repairing a utility or common carrier pipeline for the distribution of  
\_\_\_\_\_, location of which is fully described as  
follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ pages of drawings attached.

Construction will begin on or after \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

It is understood that all work will comply with the requirements of the Utility and  
Common Carrier Pipeline Policy adopted by Jefferson County Commissioners' Court on  
\_\_\_\_\_, and all subsequent revisions thereof to date.

Company \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

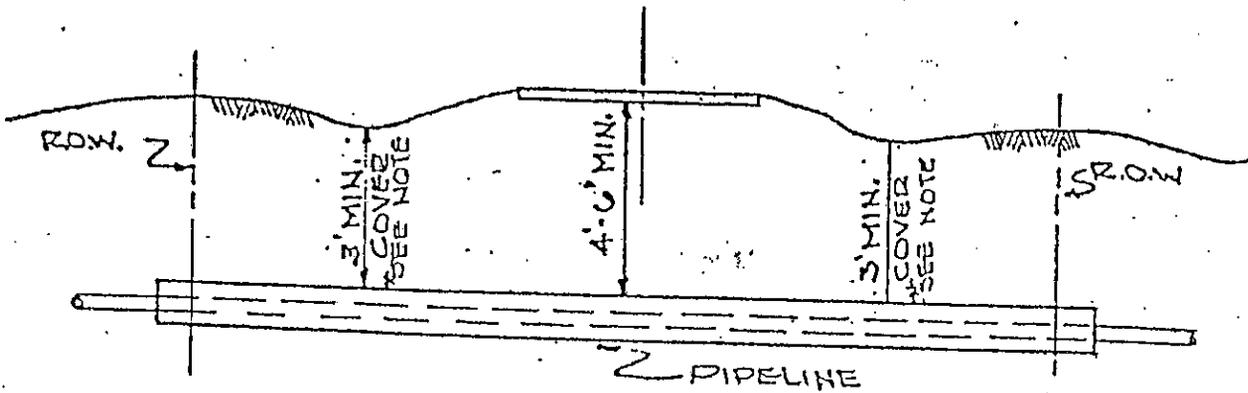
FOR COMMON CARRIER PIPELINE COMPANY ONLY

1. Common Carrier Determination form must be attached to application.
2. Corporation/Person product is to be purchased from/delivered to:

Enclosed, please find the required application fee:

_____ road crossing @ \$100.00 _____	\$ _____
_____ miles parallel @ \$150.00/mile or fraction _____	\$ _____
TOTAL _____	\$ _____

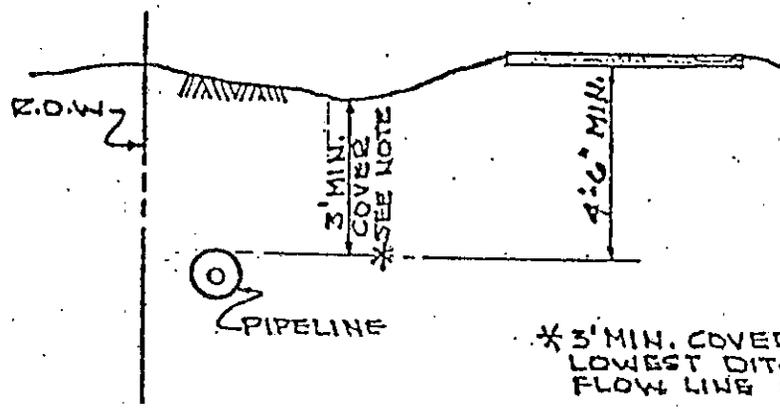
We understand that a Performance Bond will be required to protect against damage to Jefferson County's property. This will be \$5,000.00 per crossing and \$50,000.00 per mile or fraction thereof for parallel construction unless a special hazard to Jefferson County's property is judged to exist. No work will begin until the County Engineer has been furnished such bonds as Jefferson County Commissioners' Court may choose to require.



\* 3' MIN. COVER AT LOWEST DITCH FLOW LINE ELEV.

NOTE: CASING TO EXTEND 1'-0" OUTSIDE R.O.W EACH SIDE OF ROAD.

# 1. STANDARD PIPELINE CROSSING



\* 3' MIN. COVER AT LOWEST DITCH FLOW LINE ELEV.

# 2. STANDARD PARALLEL LINE

JEFFERSON COUNTY
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
PIPELINE DETAILS (STD.)
12-7-79   NO SCALE   [signature]

## ENGINEERING ACTION FORM

The minimum standard bond required is \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Engineering

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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## COMMISSIONERS COURT ORDER

On this date the attached application of a utility or common carrier pipeline came on for the Courts consideration, and the Court having considered the application is of the opinion that the applicant is a utility or common carrier pipeline company meeting all the requirements of County Policy for installation of a line in County roads and that the plans or details presented with said application did not appear to violate the County Regulations. It is ORDERED that said applicant shall comply with all provisions of the Pipe Line Policy adopted by this Court, and all subsequent revisions. The bond required shall be \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Special conditions of construction (are/are not) attached hereto.

COMMISSIONERS COURT

By \_\_\_\_\_  
County Judge