

General Land Office Policy for Inactive Pipelines within Texas Bays

- “Abandonment in place” will **not** be authorized.
- All inactive lines must be removed. Upon expiration, an additional, single 5-year term can be requested. This will allow companies to secure funds for removal of the line. Removal will be required by the end of the 5-year term, unless proof that line has been reactivated is received. At or before the end of the 5-year term the grantee must provide documentation of the removal of the pipeline from state owned submerged land.
- The company may apply for an exception to keep the line or sections of the line in place.
- Possible exceptions include:
 - Pipeline was installed via HDD in a tidally influenced area of state land and Easement holder has verified the line is not exposed at bank or any other area. Documentation required.
 - Pipeline crosses critical habitat **and** USACE has authorized the line to remain. Habitat and depth of cover survey required.
 - Pipeline is located under a Federally maintained channel.
 - Further utility of the line is planned. Documentation required.
- Staff will determine if an exception will be granted.
- Only the section of the line that has been granted an exception will be authorized to stay in place.
- All portions of pipelines that are allowed to remain in place must be properly pigged and purged, and grantee will provide documentation.
- An easement will be required for any section of pipe that is authorized to remain in place for as long as the pipeline is in existence. Easement holder will be responsible for any needed compliance / reburial, etc. Removal may be required at a future date.

Questions: permitting.assistance@glo.texas.gov

Upper Coast

Coastal Field Operations

11811 North D St.

La Porte, Texas 77571-9135

Phone: 281-470-1191

Permit Service Center

Texas A&M University Galveston Campus

1001 Texas Clipper Road, Building 3026, Room 912

Galveston, Texas 77554

Phone: 409-741-4057

Lower Coast

Coastal Field Operations /Permit Service Center

602 N. Staples Street, Suite 240

Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

Coastal Field Operations Phone: 361-886-1600

Permit Service Center Phone: 361-886-1630