



**REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND ENERGY INDUSTRIES**

GUIDELINES FOR SETBACK DISTANCES TO NATURAL GAS PIPELINES

The following is an extract from a document issued on November 29, 1996 by the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Industries on the matter at caption.

“The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries wishes to advise that, with immediate effect, the following are our revised guide-lines in respect of set-back distances of buildings to natural gas pipelines:-

- (i) Set-back distances are now replaced by a way-leave requirement.
- (ii) A minimum way-leave of 6.4 metres (21 feet) must be maintained on either side of the pipeline. The primary purpose of this way-leave is to allow easy access to the pipeline for inspection and testing purposes, and applies up to the property boundary of the end purchaser.
- (iii) The way-leave determined for a particular pipeline must take into consideration the probability that the integrity of the pipeline could be compromised in the future by soil movement. Possibly causes of such soil movement include the following:
 - (a) landslides;
 - (b) soil removal on either side of the way-leave by land owners;
 - (c) industrial activity in close proximity to the pipeline.

- (iv) Pipeline design and operations must adhere to accepted local and international standards.
- (v) The pipeline route must be selected to ensure that facilities on the pipeline system are at a distance from existing or planned developments that is sufficient to prevent noise pollution or other hazardous conditions.
- (vi) These guidelines apply to all petroleum pipelines, pre-existing and proposed.
- (vii) The Ministry reserves the right to vary the requirements on a case-by-case basis.”

**MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND ENERGY INDUSTRIES
NOVEMBER 29, 1996**