



Kern River Gas Transmission Company

BMP Transmission Partner Since 2016

OMB Control No. 2060 0722
Approval expires 08/31/2021



Background

Kern River Gas Transmission Company, based in Salt Lake City, Utah, is a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway Energy and has been in business since 1992. Extending approximately 1,700 miles from the gas-producing fields in Wyoming to Bakersfield, California, Kern River delivers 2.17 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day to customers along the pipeline system. Kern River utilizes 12 automated compressor stations spread across four states.

Kern River, along with all of the Berkshire Hathaway Energy companies, believes responsible environmental management is good business; it benefits our customers and improves the quality of the environment in which we live. This belief is the basis for the [Environmental RESPECT Policy](#) that guides our efforts and commitment in the areas of Responsibility, Efficiency, Stewardship, Performance, Evaluation, Communication, and Training.

Historical Highlights

Natural Gas-Driven Pneumatic Devices

Pneumatic devices powered by pressurized natural gas are widely used throughout pipeline systems. As part of normal operation, these devices release or bleed natural gas to the atmosphere. Kern River utilizes only low-bleed or no-bleed devices on its system.



Reduction of Pipeline Venting During Maintenance

When maintenance is required on a natural gas pipeline, natural gas must be vented to ensure safe working conditions. Kern River has used many techniques to minimize the amount of natural gas that is vented, including using in-line compressors, portable compressors, Stopples® and hot taps.



Kern River Gas Transmission Company Historical Fact Sheet

Pipeline Leak Detection

Kern River has conducted an aerial leak detection survey and conducts ground leak detection surveys. This program has successfully identified small aboveground leaks on the system that otherwise may have gone undetected for longer periods of time. Identified leaks are responded to quickly and mitigation plans implemented as soon as possible.



Reciprocating Compressor Rod Packing Leak Detection

Kern River has two reciprocating compressors at one compressor station. This compressor station has not operated since 2011, as it supports a production field that is in decline.



Utilization of Dry Seal Centrifugal Compressors

All centrifugal compressors installed at Kern River compressor stations utilize dry seals. Wet seal centrifugal compressors have never been used at Kern River stations.

