Symposium on Electrical and Mechanical Safety & Energy Efficiency Engineering a Safe and Low-carbon Environment

Safety Knows No Borders: Submarine Gas Pipeline from PRC to BPPS

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Introduction

- More natural gas as fuel to meet emission standards
- Current gas supplies forecast to start depletion in 2012/13 – require gas replacement
- Memorandum of Understanding on Energy Cooperation signed in 2008
- CAPCO, a joint venture between ExxonMobil and CLP Power, is working with PetroChina to jointly develop a submarine gas pipeline linking Dachan Island to BPPS
- Safety management is key

PetroChina's Second West-East Pipeline Project

- China's first major energy project to transfer natural gas from outside
- From Khorgos Port (Xinjiang) to Guangzhou/ Shenzhen and Shanghai



 Total length: ~8,600 km

- Capacity: ~30 Bcm/yr
- Maximum design pressure: 120 bar
- Fully operational in 2012

Pipeline Project Background

Battery Limits of JV Project



Submarine Pipeline Route Selection

- Physical constraints considered:
 - Anchorage areas
 - Marine dredging / disposal areas
 - Submarine utilities
 - Marine vessel fairways
 - Reclamation areas
- Risk constraints considered:
 - Populated areas
 - Areas with risk related activities
- Optimum pipeline route concluded with:
 - Collaborative effort between PetroChina & CAPCO
 - Reviews with PRC and HKSAR authorities

Dachan – BPPS Submarine Pipeline Route



Submarine Pipeline Design

Pipeline Design Parameters		
Description	Details	
Pipe Diameter	32 inch	
Pipe Wall Thickness	22.2 mm	
Design Operating Pressure	63 barg	
External Corrosion Coating	3-Layer Polyethylene	
Internal Coating	Ероху	
Concrete Weight Coating Thickness	60 – 80 mm	

 Adopted European standard, DNV code for Submarine Pipeline Systems

Submarine Pipeline Design

- Factors considered in the design:
 - Input from regulatory authorities
 - Bathymetry and soils information from route survey
 - Interfaces with other sea users
 - Mechanical protection of pipeline
 - Gas supply from PRC sources
 - Gas demand conditions for BPPS

Mechanical Protection against Anchor

- Pipeline route traverses shipping channels
- Protection configuration determined through:
 - Risk-based probability study
 - DNV-RP-F107 Risk Assessment of Pipeline Protection
- Protection design performances established from:
 - Mechanical study
 - Finite element (FE) analysis
 - Anchor drag centrifuge tests



Mechanical Protection against Anchor

- 3-D non-linear FE analysis with ABAQUS
 - Incorporates complex interactions between anchor, chain, soil, rock and pipeline
- Rock protection of 2 m and 3 m cover for protection from 5-tonne and 19-tonne anchors



Protection Design for 19-tonne Anchor

Quantitative Risk Assessment (QRA)

- To assess potential risks associated with pipeline operation
- Resulting risk levels compared against HK Risk Guidelines
- QRA considered loss of containment due to all possible events
- Major risk contributors:
 - Corrosion
 - Material defects
 - Third party damage from ship anchor drops/drags

Quantitative Risk Assessment (QRA)



QRA conclusion: Risks for all pipeline sections in HK water acceptable per HK EIAO



Safe Operation Design

- Safety overpressure systems at Dachan and BPPS
- Overpressure protection at BPPS with High Integrity Pressure Protection Systems
- In case of emergency:
 - New GRS isolation by ESD valves
 - Provisions provided in GRS facilities for automatic blowdown
 - Provision made for depressurisation of submarine pipeline by manual blowdown through vent stack at Dachan

Construction Safety

- Joint constructability workshops between CAPCO and PetroChina
- Risks at critical locations reviewed and appropriate mitigation methods incorporated into construction plan
- Marine Traffic Management Plan developed with local authorities requirements

Navigat ion Space West (m)	Proposed Navigation Space During Dredging Operation	Navigation Space East (m)	Navigation Management
0		700	2-way traffic navigation east of Dredger
100		600	2-way traffic navigation east of Dredger
200		500	1- way navigation East of Dredger at either from north or south bound
300		400	1- way navigation and traffic separation recommended
400		300	1- way navigation and traffic separation recommended
500		200	1- way navigation West of Dredger at either from north or south bound
600		100	2-way traffic navigation east of Dredger
700		0	2-way traffic navigation east of Dredger

Proposed Dredging Plan for Urmston Road and Safety Mitigations

Construction Safety - Pipeline Installation

- Marine Traffic Impact Assessment
 - Assessed potential impacts to marine traffic and facilities
 - Developed mitigation measures
- Geophysical survey to further confirm Y13-1 pipeline location before construction
- Environmental constraints addressed during construction planning stage



Conventional S-Lay Pipelaying Method

Construction Safety – Shore Approach

- Ensure no over-stressing of pipeline during installation
- Stress checks to determine pipeline burial transitions and vertical radius
- Typical shore pull operation



Illustration of Shore Pull Operation

Operation Safety

- Operational Safety Management System critical
- Regular external and internal inspection to assure pipeline protection and integrity
- Develop Pipeline Emergency Procedure
- Consult key stakeholders to integrate with in emergency response procedures

Conclusion

- Close management and interfaces are essential
- Contracting strategy developed to secure effective management and rapid communication
- Ensure effective safety management process integrated and implemented through pipeline's lifecycle
- Safety truly does not have a border!

