



The following instructions are for customers (or their representatives) to follow, if required to gain Operator Qualifications for new construction installation of below grade jurisdictional piping (aka- service pipe)¹.

When working on below grade gas service pipe on customer property, the person performing the work is required to meet all local jurisdictional licensing requirements and in addition, be Operator Qualified per Subpart N in 49 CFR Part 192. In order to gain Operator Qualifications, the contractor must comply with the Con Edison Operator Qualification (OQ) Plan which incorporates principle elements contained in the Northeast Gas Association (NGA) OQ Program.

In order to gain Operator Qualifications (OQ) to work on Con Edison's gas system, you must:

1. Identify the required covered tasks needed for your project (see Appendix A and/or B).
2. Ensure technicians seeking qualification have had the necessary technical training, including instructor led training and/or equivalent on-the-job experience, to perform the work.
3. For inside service piping work (i.e.: covered tasks 86 and/or 87): If you plan to do inspection and repair work on inside service pipe, as well as new construction of inside service piping upstream of the meter: contact the Plumbing Foundation of New York or the Master Plumbers Council for guidance, if working in NYC². These organizations will facilitate to ensure the required training and qualification requirements are met. Email: GOQmembership@plumbingfoundation.nyc
4. For below grade new gas service installation only: If not already part of an OQ program, you may contact the Northeast Gas Association (NGA), to sign-up for an online account/profile, for those who need to gain operator qualifications.
 - a. Email: oq@northeastgas.org to start the process of setting up a database.
 - b. The NGA OQ Team will email you step by step instructions to complete the process of setting up your database and getting trained to navigate the ITS Onboard system.
 - c. If additional training is needed regarding the use of the ITS Onboard system, you may contact the NGA Help Desk at ngaqualificationservicedesk@northeastgas.org for further support AFTER you complete your onboarding webinar training.

¹ Per The Yellow Book, service pipe is defined as: all piping, tubing and fittings that transport the gas from the main to:

- For inside meter(s) – the outlet of the meter
- For outside meter(s) – outside the building wall

² The Plumbing Foundation of New York and Master Plumbers Council (MPC) have developed a program for those working in NYC that helps coordinate participation and meeting DOT Operator Qualification requirements. Outside of NYC (Westchester County), contact the MPC or the NGA directly for additional information.

5. Take online refresher training courses associated with the required covered tasks³
 - a. If additional technical training is needed, you may contact the NGA at OQ@northeastgas.org for further additional technical training options.
6. Scheduling OQ testing: Depending on the required tasks, this may include written and/or practical (i.e.- hands on) evaluations
 - a. The NGA can assist in scheduling practical evaluations (if required). To schedule a hands on session email oq@northeastgas.org with hands on tasks needed.
 - b. For instructions on booking written evaluations with a testing block at a Prometric center, please email oq@northeastgas.org
 - i. If you are already familiar with this process you can book a Prometric session directly at NGA's custom link here:
<https://www.prometric.com/en-us/clients/NGA/Pages/landing.aspx>
 - c. If preferred, Con Edison can provide written evaluations at our Learning Center facility, located in Long Island City (Queens). To request written evaluations be taken at Con Edison, please email: GasOpsTraining@coned.com
7. Once all required covered tasks have been gained, a copy of the individual's operator qualification transcript (or OQ card) can be provided to Con Edison's project representatives, prior to the start of the installation work.
8. Please note- project specific requirement, including but not limited to Con Edison's A Customer Guide to Natural Gas Service Installation (aka- the Yellow Book), must be reviewed, understood and followed for all aspects of service pipe installation.

For any questions related to Con Edison Operator Qualification requirements, please email OPQUAL@coned.com

³ Please note: On-line refresher courses ARE NOT intended as initial instructor lead training. Technicians seeking qualification must have completed an instructor lead training program (in NYC, such as the Licensed Master Plumber Local 1 Training Center) or have equivalent on-the-job training working under the license of a LMP in NYC or equivalent outside of NYC such as the Master Plumbers Council (MPC) programs.

Appendix A: Plastic Pipe Installation Covered Task List

The following list of covered tasks encompasses all possible tasks needed for a new, below-grade plastic pipe installation.

Please note: not all tasks may be required for every single job. If you do not plan to perform one of the following tasks, then you do not need to be operator qualified in that task.

Task #:	Task Name:	Notes:
31A	Installation of Pipe: Storage, Handling and Inspection of Pipe: General Knowledge	
31B	Installation of Pipe: Install Pipe in a Ditch	
31E	Installation of Pipe: Installing Pipe by Dead Insertion	<i>Required if inserting through any type of sleeve</i>
34	Performing pressure test on a pipeline	
40	Install/Replace tracer wire	<i>Required to install tracer wire on buried plastic gas pipe and electronic markers (i.e. marker balls) on buried plastic, steel, and copper gas pipe</i>
50/51/52 Electrofusion Saddle	Joining and Inspecting Plastic Pipe Saddle Electrofusion	<i>Only required if this is the type of pipe joining being performed</i>
50/52 Electrofusion Coupling	Joining and Inspecting Plastic Pipe Coupling Electrofusion	<i>Only required if this is the type of pipe joining being performed</i>
50/52 Hydraulic Butt Fusion	Joining and Inspecting Plastic Pipe Hydraulic Butt Fusion	<i>Only required if this is the type of pipe joining being performed</i>
50/51 Mechanical Bolt On	Joining and Inspecting Plastic Pipe Mechanical Bolt On	<i>Only required if this is the type of pipe joining being performed</i>
50/51 Mechanical Compression	Joining and Inspecting Plastic Pipe Mechanical Compression	<i>Only required if this is the type of pipe joining being performed</i>
50/51 Mechanical Nut Follower	Joining and Inspecting Plastic Pipe Mechanical Nut Follower	<i>Only required if this is the type of pipe joining being performed</i>
50/52 Manual Butt Fusion	Joining and Inspecting Plastic Pipe Manual Butt Fusion	<i>Only required if this is the type of pipe joining being performed</i>
70	Properties of Natural Gas and Abnormal Operating Conditions	
71	Excavation & Backfill	<i>1. Not required during excavating, if digging an open trench (with no gas facilities in the area) 2. Is required during backfill</i>

Appendix B: Steel Pipe Installation Covered Task List

The following list of covered tasks encompasses all possible tasks needed for a new, below-grade non-welded steel pipe installation.

Please note: not all tasks may be required for every single job. If you do not plan to perform one of the following tasks, then you do not need to be operator qualified in that task.

Task #:	Task Name:	Notes:
11E/12E/17E	Pipe Coatings (Mastic)	<i>Only required if this is the type of coating being utilized</i>
11F/12F/17F	Pipe Coatings (Cold Applied Tape)	<i>Only required if this is the type of coating being utilized</i>
11H/12H/17H	Pipe Coatings (Paint)	<i>Only required if this is the type of coating being utilized</i>
14A	Installing/Replacing an Anode on a Pipeline including Exothermic Welding	
15A	Installing, Replacing and Testing Electrical Isolation Couplings	
16A	Installing or Replacing a Corrosion Test Station on a Pipeline including Exothermic Welding	
31A	Installation of Pipe: Storage, Handling and Inspection of Pipe: General Knowledge	
31B	Installation of Pipe: Install Pipe in a Ditch	
31E	Installation of Pipe: Installing Pipe by Dead Insertion	<i>Required if inserting through any type of sleeve</i>
34	Performing pressure test on a pipeline	
40	Install/Replace tracer wire	<i>Required to install electronic markers (i.e. marker balls) on buried plastic, steel, and copper gas pipe</i>
49.1/49.2 Threaded and Flange	Mechanical Joining of Pipe other than plastic: Threaded and Flange	<i>Only required if this is the type of pipe joining being performed</i>
49.3 Compression	Mechanical Joining of Pipe other than plastic: Compression	<i>Only required if this is the type of pipe joining being performed</i>
70	Properties of Natural Gas and Abnormal Operating Conditions	
71	Excavation & Backfill	<i>1. Not required during excavating, if digging an open trench (with no gas facilities in the area) 2. Is required during backfill</i>

NOTE: If the new steel pipe being installed is to be joined together via welding, additional requirements apply. API1104 welder certifications are required (including CE300, CE301 and CE302), plus covered task 44/54, Welding on a Pipeline. For all welding requirements, please refer to Con Edison's representatives.