



# Five Minute Meeting:



**Effective Date: 01/03/2022**

**Topic:** Combining OQ-0602 “Operate Line Stopper (M2) - Tapping/Plugging Equip. (3/4” to 4”)” and OQ-0603 “Operate Line Stopper Split - Tapping / Plugging Equip. (3/4” to 2”)” into One (1) Task, **OQ-0602, “Operate Line Stopper (M2) (3/4” to 4”) – Line Stopper (Split) (3/4” to 2”)”**

**Audience:** Gas employees and contractors who perform Tapping and Plugging

## The key thing you need to know

Currently there are two (2) separate OQ tasks for Tapping and Plugging M2 and Split fittings. OQ-0602, Operate Line Stopper (M2) - Tapping/Plugging Equip. (3/4” to 4”)” and OQ-0603 “Operate Line Stopper Split - Tapping / Plugging Equip. (3/4” to 2”)”. To streamline the OQ process, the two (2) tasks are being combined into one and is now **OQ-0602, “Operate Line Stopper (M2) (3/4” to 4”) – Line Stopper (Split) (3/4” to 2”)”**.

## Why it matters to you

It is every gas employees responsibility to know which OQ tasks they are qualified to perform and to be informed of any changes affecting their qualifications. Moving forward, there will only be one OQ task to cover, OQ-0602 “Operate Line Stopper (M2) (3/4” to 4”) – Line Stopper (Split) (3/4” to 2”)”. This will streamline the OQ process, as you will no longer have separate OQ’s.

## Key discussion points

- OQ-0602 will now include the “Split Fitting”. It will not be necessary to possess two (2) separate OQ tasks after successfully completing the new OQ-0602 written and performance exams.
- OQ-0603 is being deactivated and will no longer be available for testing however, it will remain active for those who possess it. Starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, OQ-0602 will be given.
- Individuals currently in possession of OQ-0602 and/or OQ-0603 will continue to hold the OQ’s for the task(s) they hold through the qualification interval **not to exceed the current quarter of the expiration date**. At the time of retesting, OQ-0602 will be provided.
- There is no anticipated effect on workgroups or the work they perform, as the majority of individuals responsible for Tapping and Plugging already possess both OQ-0602 and OQ-0603.
- OQ-0601 “Operate Service Tee/Save-a-valve – Tapping/ Plugging Equip. (¾” to 2”)” will **continue to be the prerequisite required for OQ testing on OQ-0602.**

## Questions to ask for understanding

**Q- What does it mean if I am unqualified for a covered task or OQ?**

**A. Per TD-4008S**

- a. **Unqualified: An individual who has never been qualified to perform a covered task or tasks, OR an individual who has been previously qualified and able to perform a covered task or tasks but for whom the qualification has lapsed or been removed.**

**Q-If an individual possesses OQ-0602 and/or OQ-0603, what test will they take and when they come to OQ starting January 2022?**

**A-The new OQ-0602 test will be provided when the current OQ-0602 and/or OQ-0603 are scheduled to expire (whichever comes first).**

**Q- Will an individual currently in possession of either, OQ-0602 and/or OQ-0603 be qualified to continue Tapping and Plugging M2 and Split fittings they are OQed for?**

**A- Yes. The OQ(s) will remain valid through the qualification interval not to exceed the current quarter of the expiration date.**

**Q-If an individual only possesses either OQ-0602 or OQ-0603 and are scheduled to test for either OQ-0602 or OQ-0603, what will occur?**

**A-The individual will be given the new OQ-0602 written and performance test (regardless of the expiration date of the task), which when successfully completed, will qualify them for Tapping and Plugging M2 and Split fittings.**

**Q-What happens if I fail the new OQ-0602 three (3) times either written or performance?**

**A-Like all OQ's, after a third (3) attempt failure, the OQ will be removed and you will no longer be qualified. In addition, the employee must wait 30 days to retest and must successfully pass to regain the OQ.**

**Q- If an individual has taken the new OQ-0602 test and failed it, will it still be acceptable to Tap and Plug M2 and or Split fittings?**

**A- No. Like all OQ's, when an individual fails an OQ either Written or Physical performance, that individual will lose that OQ. The Employee will have to pass the OQ to be qualified. In addition, if an OQ lapses/expires, the Employee loses the OQ and is NOT qualified until they successfully pass the OQ.**

**Q- How do I know if I am OQ qualified?**

**A- Employees can scan their OQ cards to see what they are qualified for. If the OQ does not show up on your card, you are not qualified. You will not be qualified on that OQ until you retake and successfully pass the required OQ exams.**

**Q- My OQ Card and/or ITS portal says I am Qualified thru next year on the Mueller 0600 series OQ's. Why do I still have to take the annual written?**

**A- As of 2021, the Mueller 0600 series of OQ's went to an annual interval qualification on the written portion not to exceed the current quarter of the expiration date. The performance part of the qualification remains three (3) year interval not to exceed the current quarter of the expiration date.**

\*Span-of-Control (SOC), 1:1

**Who do I contact with questions?**

Manager, Gas Qualifications - Ronda Shupert ([RFSL@pge.com](mailto:RFSL@pge.com))

Supervisor, Gas Qualifications – Todd Peralta ([TRpg@pge.com](mailto:TRpg@pge.com))

INTERNAL "PG&E" refers to Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation. ©2020 Pacific Gas and Electric Company. All rights reserved.