

Element 6: operations and maintenance

Operation of facilities within established parameters and according to regulations is essential. Doing so requires effective procedures, structured inspection and maintenance programs, reliable Operations Integrity critical equipment, and qualified personnel who consistently execute these procedures and practices.

- 6.1 Operating, maintenance, and inspection procedures are developed, implemented, and consistently used. These procedures include, where appropriate:
 - special procedures for activities with potentially higher risk
 - operating envelope considerations
 - regulatory and Environmental Aspects considerations
 - Human Factors considerationsProcedures are updated at specified intervals and when changes are made.
- 6.2 A work permit process incorporates checks and authorizations that are consistent with mechanical and operational risks.
- 6.3 Critical equipment is identified and tested, and it undergoes preventive maintenance.
- 6.4 The temporary disarming, deactivation, or unavailability of critical equipment is managed.
- 6.5 Mechanical integrity programs are in place and stewarded to assure the testing, inspection, and maintenance of equipment.
- 6.6 Interfaces between operations are assessed, and procedures are in place to manage identified risks.
- 6.7 Environmental Aspects are addressed and controlled, consistent with policy, regulatory requirements and business plans. Environmental Business Planning is conducted and integrated into business plans.
- 6.8 Environmental performance, including emissions, discharges, and wastes, is tracked and stewarded to meet performance goals.
- 6.9 Applicable laws, regulations, permits and other governmental requirements are anticipated and met, and the resulting operating requirements are documented and communicated to those affected. Compliance is periodically verified.
- 6.10 Proper long-term shutdown or abandonment of facilities is planned and managed.
- 6.11 Quality-assurance processes are in place, ensuring that facilities and materials received meet designated specifications.