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Earthquake- and subsidence-resistant design of ductile iron pipelines

Conception de canalisations en fonte ductile résistant aux tremblements de terre et aux affaissements

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Foreword

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Introduction

Buried pipelines are often subjected to damage by earthquakes. It is therefore necessary to take earthquake resistance into consideration, where applicable, in the design of the pipelines. In reclaimed ground and other areas where ground subsidence is expected, the pipeline design must also take the subsidence into consideration.

Even though ductile iron pipelines are generally considered to be earthquake-resistant, since their joints are flexible and expand/contract according to the seismic motion to minimize the stress on the pipe body, nevertheless there have been reports of the joints becoming disconnected by either a large quake motion or major ground deformation such as liquefaction.