

Consulting Services

With seasoned industry experts on staff who have decades of real-world compliance experience and a deep understanding of key industry regulations and standards, Veriforce® offers extensive consulting services to guide energy & utilities companies through the complexities of establishing and managing defensible compliance programs.

Our Top Services



Assessments

OQ Program Assessment

A Veriforce consultant assesses your company's OQ program utilizing PHMSA OQ rules/protocol to determine adherence to 49 CFR 192 and/or 195 and to appraise the effectiveness of your OQ program. It typically requires 1-3 days and includes interviews with personnel who have OQ responsibilities, a review of qualification records for personnel who perform covered tasks, and a recordkeeping review (O&M activities, project files, etc.).

O&M Program Assessment

Through on-site and/or off-site review, our compliance specialist evaluates your O&M program against the requirements of 49 CFR 192 and 49 CFR 195 (following established inspection criteria based on PHMSA O&M inspection forms) and/or state regulations. Deliverables include, but are not limited to, an executive summary report, recommendations, and a detailed review of all areas assessed.

HQ D&A Program Assessment

A Veriforce consultant assesses your company's D&A program, utilizing DOT/PHMSA D&A protocol to determine adherence to 49 CFR 40 and 199 and to appraise the effectiveness of your program. Our assessment includes interviews with personnel who have D&A responsibilities, as well as a review of your written D&A plan, employee assistance program (EAP), D&A recordkeeping, and program to manage your contractors' DOT/PHMSA D&A compliance. Conduct comprehensive assessment of clients PHMSA based Anti Drug and Alcohol Misuse Prevention program, to identify program improvements and assure compliance with regulations set forth by PHMSA and State.



Plan Development & Maintenance

OQ Plan Development & Maintenance

A Veriforce compliance specialist works with you to develop a new OQ Plan or revise your current plan based on your specific pipeline facilities and unique needs. On an annual basis, not to exceed 15 months, we'll then review your OQ Plan and advise you regarding any needed updates based on policy/procedure or regulatory changes.



Additional Professional Services



Assessments

CRM Program Assessment

Following PHMSA CRM inspection form guidelines, a Veriforce compliance specialist performs a review to evaluate your CRM program's compliance with the requirements of 49 CFR 192.631 and/or 195.446. Our consultant's review of your program may include: evaluation of the need for a CRM program, controller roles and responsibilities, adequate information development, measures to mitigate fatigue, alarm management strategies, management of change processes, controller training, and required documentation. Our team conducts interviews of off-duty controllers, SCADA technicians, and control room supervisory personnel as appropriate to aid in the assessment.

HQ D&A Plan Assessment

Our compliance specialist assesses your written D&A plan, utilizing DOT/PHMSA D&A protocol to determine adherence to 49 CFR 40 and 199.



Consulting

Conduct Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Training

Provide knowledge on the history and structure of the regulations, the difference in federal and state jurisdiction. Understand the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's (PHMSA) roles and responsibilities. What each section means and how the regulations apply to an operating company's processes.

PHMSA/State Agency Inspection Support

A Veriforce regulatory compliance specialist provides on-site support during state or federal audits, giving you regulatory guidance and interpretation during the audit. Our team also assists by providing document support and knowledge of your Veriforce OQ services to help you demonstrate compliance during the assessment.

Covered Task Procedures Review

Our consultant reviews your company's applicable procedures associated with covered tasks and works with you to develop familiarization training (with knowledge checks) for contractors. This is designed to ensure that your contractors are familiar with your specific procedures when qualified based on third-party covered task criteria.



Gap Analysis

OQ Program-to-B31Q or Operator-to-B31Q Task List Gap Analysis

A Veriforce compliance specialist reviews your company's OQ program or operator's task list to identify any deficiencies relative to B31Q recommendations. Our review may include the methods used for determining covered tasks, requalification intervals, abnormal operating conditions, and span of control limits, as well as criteria for selecting evaluators, evaluation methods, and overall program effectiveness measures. Services may include review of evaluation criteria, evaluation methods, and span of control limits, as well as development of covered tasks to address any identified gaps.

Merger & Acquisition OQ and/or O&M Gap Analysis

Conduct a gap analysis for clients in accordance with their OQ plan procedures or O&M program to be merged to identify potential regulatory gaps utilizing the relevant PHMSA and/or state protocols. Our analysis also compares these programs against industry best practices and checks that appropriate site-specific procedures are in place for each location.

Visit [veriforce.com/demo](https://www.veriforce.com/demo) to learn more, or to schedule a demo.

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