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## **Cross-border Natural Gas Pipeline Completed By Valero Energy Corporation**

*by Steven Ranieri*

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The Valero Energy Corporation recently completed construction of a 3.5 mile-pipeline linking the company's natural gas distribution system in McAllen, Texas, with Pemex facilities in Reynosa, Tamaulipas state. Since Aug. 4, the pipeline has been carrying an average 125 million cubic feet per day (cfd) across the border, and volume is expected to increase to 200 million cfd by year-end. Pipeline capacity is set at 400 million cfd. Valero is the fourth US company to extend pipelines into Mexican territory. The others are Texas Eastern Transmission, Western Gas Interstate and El Paso Natural Gas. The four currently cover practically all of northern Mexico. The new pipeline indirectly links Valero to the rich southeast Mexican fields via a pipeline running between Cactus, Chiapas state, to Reynosa. Ten percent of Mexican natural gas is produced at Reynosa. Valero is currently working on a new pipeline linking Piedras Negras, Tamaulipas, and Eagle Pass, Texas. The move will bring together all natural gas pipelines in the Mexican northern industrial area. (Source: El Financiero International, 08/17/92)

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