

Calendar No. 331

119TH CONGRESS }
2d Session

SENATE

{ REPORT
119-102

PIPELINE INTEGRITY, PROTECTION, AND
ENHANCEMENT FOR LEVERAGING INVEST-
MENTS IN THE NATION'S ENERGY TO AS-
SURE SAFETY ACT OF 2025

R E P O R T

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

ON

S. 2975



FEBRUARY 11, 2026.—Ordered to be printed

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

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PIPELINE INTEGRITY, PROTECTION, AND ENHANCEMENT FOR LEVERAGING INVESTMENTS IN THE NATION'S EN- ERGY TO ASSURE SAFETY ACT OF 2025

FEBRUARY 11, 2026.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 2975]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, to which was referred the bill (S. 2975) to amend title 49, United States Code, to enhance the safety of pipeline transportation, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of S. 2975 is to reauthorize the pipeline safety programs of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

BACKGROUND AND NEEDS

Congress established PHMSA in 2004 as the Federal agency within the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) responsible for ensuring the safe operation of the Nation's pipelines, as well as other hazardous materials, that are essential to our daily lives.¹ PHMSA divides its safety programs between two offices: the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety and the Office of Pipeline Safety

¹“PHMSA’s Mission,” PHMSA, accessed November 13, 2025, <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/about-phmsa/phmsas-mission>.

(OPS).² Since PHMSA’s creation, the agency’s pipeline safety activities have been reauthorized by Congress in 2006, 2011, 2016, and 2020.

OPS is responsible for setting and enforcing Federal pipeline safety regulations to ensure the safety of inter- and intrastate gas and hazardous liquids pipelines to people and the environment, including pipeline design, construction, operations and maintenance, and emergency response planning. PHMSA may delegate safety authority over intrastate gas pipelines, hazardous liquid pipelines, and underground natural gas storage to States.³ With the exception of Alaska and Hawaii, all States participate in PHMSA’s safety oversight program.⁴ PHMSA provides formula funding to States to support State enforcement of Federal pipeline safety regulations on intrastate pipelines. States inspect and enforce the requirements of the Federal pipeline safety regulations for over 85 percent of the pipeline facility infrastructure under PHMSA’s safety authority.⁵

In addition to overseeing the 3.3 million miles of pipeline, PHMSA exercises safety jurisdiction over 176 liquefied natural gas plants, 398 underground natural gas storage fields, and 8,525 hazardous liquid breakout tanks in the United States.⁶ According to publicly available information from PHMSA, the agency has about 232 Federal inspection and enforcement staff to carry out its pipeline safety responsibilities, as augmented by approximately 450 State inspectors.⁷

OPS’s pipeline safety activities are funded primarily through user fees assessed on regulated pipeline operators.⁸ Congress most recently reauthorized PHMSA’s pipeline safety programs in the Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines and Enhancing Safety Act of 2020 (PIPES Act of 2020), which expired at the end of fiscal year 2023.⁹ The PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025 would reauthorize PHMSA’s pipeline safety programs for 5 years, from fiscal year 2026 to fiscal year 2030; provide direction on the rules, reports, and operations Congress wants PHMSA to undertake; and amend the relevant statute to advance pipeline safety.

Pipelines are one of the safest and least costly modes to transport vast quantities of gas and hazardous liquids.¹⁰ However, there is room for improvement. This bill would address notable pipeline safety incidents that have occurred since the Committee last considered pipeline safety legislation. Each incident is identified and discussed in the section-by-section analysis for the portion of the bill that addresses it.

²“PHMSA Regulations,” PHMSA, May 5, 2021, <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/regulations>.

³“Federal Effort,” OPS, PHMSA, February 13, 2025, <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline/effort-allocation/federal-effort>; 49 U.S.C. 60101, et seq.

⁴“State Programs Overview,” PHMSA, August 5, 2024, <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/working-phmsa/state-programs/state-programs-overview>.

⁵Ibid.

⁶“Federal Effort,” PHMSA, February 13, 2025, <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline/effort-allocation/federal-effort>.

⁷Ibid.

⁸Paul W. Parfomak, *DOT’s Federal Pipeline Safety Program: Background and Issues for Congress*, CRS Report, May 7, 2025, <https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R44201>.

⁹The Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines and Enhancing Safety Act of 2020 (Pub. L. 116–260, 134 Stat. 1182 (2020)), <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ260/PLAW-116publ260.pdf>.

¹⁰“General Pipeline FAQs,” PHMSA, November 6, 2018, <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/faqs/general-pipeline-faqs>.

The PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025 is a broad reauthorization of PHMSA's pipeline safety programs. It includes several new requirements for PHMSA to complete. These are in addition to requirements PHMSA must still complete from pipeline safety reauthorizations in 2020, 2016, and 2011. The Committee agreed to a 5-year reauthorization with the expectation that PHMSA will work diligently to complete the outstanding congressional requirements. However, the Committee is concerned about the number of outstanding congressional requirements. The Committee will continue to demand that PHMSA fulfill the requirements of this legislation and previous reauthorizations.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS

S. 2975 would do the following:

- Authorize PHMSA's pipeline safety programs for 5 years, authorizing the agency to collect \$222 million in pipeline user fees in fiscal year 2026 and increasing incrementally to \$246.8 million in fiscal year 2030.
- Authorize appropriations for PHMSA's existing Emergency Response Grants, Pipeline Safety Information Grants to Communities, Damage Prevention Programs, and Pipeline Integrity Program (research).
- Authorize for the first time the Natural Gas Distribution Pipeline Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant program, first created in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act¹¹ of 2021, at \$75 million annually for fiscal years 2027 to 2030 to repair or replace natural gas distribution pipelines based on risk.
- Require PHMSA to allow for risk-based inspection intervals for hazardous liquid breakout tanks if such change would maintain or enhance safety.
- Reauthorize and improve the technology testing pilot program.
- Require PHMSA to review the safety of composite pipeline materials.
- Require PHMSA to regularly review industry standards incorporated by reference into the agency's regulations and update those references as necessary.
- Provide pipeline operators with the ability to utilize alternative methods of maintaining pipeline rights-of-way while ensuring they can identify risks to pipeline facilities.
- Align the regulatory oversight of natural gas in-plant pipelines with hazardous liquid in-plant pipelines.
- Require PHMSA to promulgate regulations ensuring the safe transportation of carbon dioxide in all forms.
- Require studies from a National Laboratory and GAO on the safety of blending hydrogen gas into existing natural gas systems, with PHMSA determining whether regulatory updates for blending hydrogen at levels exceeding 5 percent are necessary following the studies.
- Increase transparency of pipeline safety regulation, including by improving the accuracy of the National Pipeline Mapping System for transmission pipelines; publishing annual statistics on pipeline incidents online; and designating the Office of Pub-

¹¹ Public Law 117–58.

lic Engagement to assist the public with pipeline safety inquiries.

- Increase civil penalties for pipeline violations by about 50 percent.
- Require PHMSA to review the methodology for determining the potential impact radius of gas transmission safety incidents and submit to Congress a report detailing PHMSA’s findings.
- Require pipeline operators to identify the amount of Aldyl-A in their system, and take steps to mitigate the risks associated with historic plastics with known safety issues in their distribution integrity management plans.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

S. 2975 was introduced on October 6, 2025, by Senator Cruz (for himself and Senators Cantwell, Young, and Peters) and was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate. On October 21, 2025, the Committee met in open Executive Session and, by voice vote, ordered S. 2975 reported favorably with an amendment (in the nature of a substitute with amendments).

H.R. 5301, the PIPES Act of 2025, was introduced on September 11, 2025, by Representative Graves (for himself and Representatives Larsen, Webster, and Titus) and was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives. On September 17, 2025, that Committee met in open Executive Session and, by voice vote, ordered H.R. 5301 reported favorably as amended. Representative Van Drew was added as a cosponsor.

On May 15, 2025, the Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, Freight, Pipelines, and Safety of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate held a hearing titled “Pipeline Safety Reauthorization: Ensuring the Safe and Efficient Movement of American Energy.” Witnesses at the hearing included representatives from the American Petroleum Institute, the Liquid Energy Pipeline Association, an executive from CenterPoint Energy on behalf of the American Gas Association, and the Pipeline Safety Trust. The hearing informed members about issues relevant to a pipeline safety reauthorization.

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H.R. 6494, the PIPES Act of 2023, was introduced on November 29, 2023, by Representative Graves (for himself and Representatives Larsen, Nehls, and Payne) and was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives. On December 6, 2024, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure met in open Executive Session and, by voice vote, ordered H.R. 6494 reported favorably as amended.

H.R. 7655, the Pipeline Safety, Modernization, and Expansion Act of 2024, was introduced on March 13, 2024, by Representative Duncan and was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives. On March 20, 2024, the Committee on

Energy and Commerce met in open Executive Session and, by a vote of 27–18, ordered H.R. 7655 reported favorably as amended.

ESTIMATED COSTS

In accordance with paragraph 11(a) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee provides the following cost estimate, prepared by the Congressional Budget Office:

At a Glance

S. 2975, PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on October 21, 2025

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2026	2026-2030	2026-2035
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	*	7	17
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	*	-7	-17
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	-79	228	not estimated

Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2036?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	Yes
		Mandate Effects	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2036?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	Yes, Cannot Determine Costs
		Contains private-sector mandate?	Yes, Over Threshold

* = between -\$500,000 and \$500,000.

The bill would:

- Reauthorize programs managed by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) through 2030
- Require PHMSA to conduct regulatory and inspection activities and make grants
- Increase the maximum civil penalty for violating certain requirements related to pipeline safety
- Impose intergovernmental and private-sector mandates by requiring compliance with new and updated regulations and administrative requirements and imposing fees

Estimated budgetary effects would mainly stem from:

- Authorizing appropriations for PHMSA programs through 2030
- Authorizing PHMSA to collect pipeline safety and natural gas storage facility fees
- Increasing collections of civil penalties

Areas of significant uncertainty include:

- Projecting the frequency and severity of pipeline safety violations
- Predicting the deterrent effect of larger civil penalties

Bill summary: S. 2975 would reauthorize the pipeline safety programs of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) through 2030. The bill also would require PHMSA to conduct various regulatory, grantmaking, and inspection activi-

ties and would require the Government Accountability Office and the Office of Inspector General within the Department of Transportation (DOT) to evaluate and report on various pipeline safety programs. Finally, S. 2975 would increase civil penalties for certain violations of pipeline safety requirements.

Estimated Federal cost: The estimated budgetary effect of S. 2975 is shown in Table 1. The costs of the legislation largely fall within budget functions 400 (transportation) and 800 (general government).

TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF S. 2975

	By fiscal year, millions of dollars—										
	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2026–2030
INCREASES OR DECREASES (–) IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION											
Estimated											
Authorization	82	166	168	170	172	n.e.	n.e.	n.e.	n.e.	n.e.	758
Estimated Outlays	–79	26	65	97	119	n.e.	n.e.	n.e.	n.e.	n.e.	228
INCREASES IN REVENUES											
Estimated											
Revenues	*	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	7

n.e. = not estimated; * = between zero and \$500,000.

Basis of estimate: For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted early in calendar year 2026, that the specified and necessary amounts will be provided each year, and that outlays will follow historical spending patterns for the affected programs.

Spending subject to appropriation: S. 2975 would authorize gross appropriations of \$1.8 billion over the 2026–2030 period, which would be partially offset by \$1.0 billion in collections of user fees also authorized by the bill, resulting in a net authorization of about \$800 million over that period. CBO estimates that implementing S. 2975 would cost \$228 million over the 2026–2030 period, assuming appropriation actions consistent with that estimate (see Table 2).

TABLE 2.—ESTIMATED CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION UNDER S. 2975

	By fiscal year, millions of dollars—					
	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2026–2030
Safety Programs Financed by User Fees:						
Authorization	192	197	203	209	214	1,015
Estimated Outlays	67	146	179	203	209	804
Offsetting Collections of User Fees:						
Estimated Authorization	–192	–197	–203	–209	–214	–1,015
Estimated Outlays	–192	–197	–203	–209	–214	–1,015
Subtotal, User Fee Programs:						
Estimated Authorization	0	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	–125	–51	–24	–6	–5	–211
Infrastructure Safety and Modernization:						
Authorization	0	75	75	75	75	300
Estimated Outlays	0	*	1	8	27	36
Safety Programs Financed by a Trust						
Fund:						
Authorization	30	31	32	33	34	160
Estimated Outlays	18	28	31	33	34	144
Operational Expenses:						
Authorization	33	34	35	36	37	175
Estimated Outlays	23	30	34	36	37	160

TABLE 2.—ESTIMATED CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION UNDER S. 2975—
Continued

	By fiscal year, millions of dollars—					
	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2026– 2030
Other Activities:						
Estimated Authorization	19	26	26	26	26	123
Estimated Outlays	5	19	23	26	26	99
Subtotal, All Other:						
Estimated Authorization	82	166	168	170	172	758
Estimated Outlays	46	77	89	103	124	439
Total Changes:						
Estimated Authorization	82	166	168	170	172	758
Estimated Outlays	– 79	26	65	97	119	228

* = between zero and \$500,000.

Safety Programs Financed by User Fees. The cost of most safety programs operated by PHMSA are financed by fees collected from the owners and operators of pipelines and natural gas storage facilities. CBO estimates that implementing the provisions related to safety programs would, on net, reduce spending subject to appropriation by \$200 million over the 2026–2030 period and would increase such spending by \$200 million after 2030 so that there would be no net effect on spending over time, assuming appropriation actions consistent with that estimate.

Authorized Spending for Safety Programs. S. 2975 would authorize the appropriation of specific amounts each year totaling \$1.0 billion over the 2026–2030 period for certain safety programs. Assuming appropriation of the specified amounts, CBO estimates that implementing those provisions would cost \$800 million over the same period. In 2025, the Congress provided \$188 million for those activities.

Offsetting Collections of User Fees. The fees that PHMSA is generally authorized to collect from the natural gas and pipeline industries to cover the costs of certain safety programs are treated as offsets to discretionary spending. For this estimate, CBO assumes that PHMSA would collect fees equal to 100 percent of the authorized amount each year, totaling \$1.0 billion in collections over the 2026–2030 period.

Infrastructure Safety and Modernization. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$75 million a year from 2027 through 2030 for PHMSA’s Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization grant program. That program was authorized through 2026 under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to help pay for repairs to or the replacement of natural gas pipelines. CBO estimates that implementing the provision would cost \$36 million over the 2026–2030 period and \$264 million after 2030.

Safety Programs Financed by a Trust Fund. The bill would authorize the appropriation of specific amounts each year totaling \$160 million over the 2026–2030 period from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund for pipeline safety programs. CBO estimates that implementing that provision would cost \$144 million over the same period and \$16 million after 2030. In 2025, the Congress provided \$30 million for those activities.

Operational Expenses. The bill would authorize the appropriation of specific amounts each year totaling \$175 million over the

2026–2030 period for PHMSA’s operational expenses. CBO estimates that implementing that provision would cost \$160 million over the same period and \$15 million after 2030. In 2025, the Congress provided \$32 million for those activities.

Other Activities. CBO estimates that S. 2975 would authorize appropriations totaling \$123 million over the 2026–2030 period for other activities conducted by PHMSA and other agencies. CBO estimates that the bill would authorize the following amounts:

- \$50 million for emergency response grants (as specified in the bill);
- \$20 million to establish the National Center of Excellence for Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Leak Detection;
- \$15 million for damage prevention programs (as specified in the bill);
- \$15 million for PHMSA’s pipeline integrity programs (as specified in the bill); and
- \$3 million for various reports and administrative activities conducted by agencies including the Government Accountability Office and DOT’s Office of Inspector General.

In addition, the bill would require PHMSA to establish a voluntary information system related to pipeline safety and would authorize PHMSA to collect \$5 million per year in user fees to support that system. CBO estimates that it would cost \$10 million annually to administer that information system starting in 2027. On that basis, CBO estimates that PHMSA would need \$5 million in additional appropriations each year to implement the program, totaling \$20 million in net authorizations over the 2026–2030 period.

CBO estimates that the net cost of implementing those provisions would be \$99 million over the 2026–2030 period.

Revenues: Several sections of the bill would affect collections of civil penalties, which are recorded in the budget as revenues. Section 208 would increase the maximum civil penalty for violations of specific requirements and regulations related to pipeline safety and maintenance. The daily maximum penalty would increase from \$273,000 in 2025 to \$400,000 in 2026, and the maximum penalty for the sum of daily violations would increase from \$2.7 million to \$4.0 million.

Under current law, total collections of those civil penalties have averaged \$5 million per year. Using information from PHMSA, including the number of penalties assessed near the maximum amount, CBO estimates that enacting section 208 would reduce the number of violations but would increase collections from civil penalties, on net, by \$17 million over the 2026–2035 period.

CBO estimates that enacting other sections of S. 2975 would affect revenues by less than \$500,000 over the 2026–2035 period.

Uncertainty: The estimated revenue effects of S. 2975 are subject to considerable uncertainty. Projecting the frequency or severity of pipeline safety violations is difficult as is estimating the deterrent effect of larger civil penalties for those violations. Thus, the amount of additional revenue collected under the bill could be larger or smaller than CBO estimates if larger penalties led to more or fewer violations than expected.

Pay-As-You-Go considerations: The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 establishes budget-reporting and enforcement procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or revenues. The net

changes in revenues that are subject to those pay-as-you-go procedures are shown in Table 1.

Increase in long-term net direct spending and deficits: CBO estimates that enacting S. 2975 would not increase on-budget deficits or net direct spending in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2036.

Mandates: S. 2975 would impose private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) on pipeline owners and operators by requiring compliance with new and updated regulations and reporting requirements, reauthorizing user fees, and imposing new fees. CBO estimates that the cost of the private-sector mandates would exceed the private-sector threshold established in UMRA (\$206 million in 2025, adjusted annually for inflation).

The bill also would authorize new regulations. If the departments use that authority, the bill also could impose intergovernmental and additional private-sector mandates. Because the cost of those intergovernmental mandates would depend on regulations not yet issued, CBO cannot determine whether they would exceed the intergovernmental threshold established in UMRA (\$103 million in 2025, adjusted annually for inflation).

User fees: The bill would impose private-sector mandates by levying fees on operators of gas and liquid transmission pipelines and underground storage facilities for natural gas.

- DOT would be reauthorized to collect about \$200 million each year over the 2026–2030 period for safety programs.
- DOT would be authorized to collect up to \$5 million annually for fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to establish and manage a voluntary information-sharing system.

Regulations: The bill would impose private-sector mandates by requiring two agencies to finalize rules.

DOT would be required to finalize a rule that would establish minimum safety regulations for transporting carbon dioxide in gas, liquid, and supercritical states.¹ That rule would add carbon dioxide to the list of highly volatile liquids that require pipeline owners and operators to meet strict technical and safety requirements. Using information from PHMSA, CBO estimates that the annual cost of compliance for all pipeline owners and operators would be about \$20 million.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) would be required to finalize a rule to strengthen pipeline cybersecurity and resiliency.² That rule would require pipeline owners and operators to develop and implement cybersecurity plans and to conduct annual evaluations. Using information from DHS, CBO estimates that the annual cost of compliance for those entities combined would be about \$60 million.

Reporting requirements: The bill would modify or impose new reporting requirements on pipeline owners and operators. CBO expects that the cost of compliance would be small because the necessary information is readily available.

¹In January 2025, DOT submitted a notice of proposed rulemaking. See Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, “Pipeline Safety: Safety of Carbon Dioxide and Hazardous Liquid Pipelines” (January 2025), <https://tinyurl.com/yxh9hau8>.

²Department of Homeland Security, Transportation and Safety Administration, “Enhancing Surface Cyber Risk Management,” notice of proposed rulemaking, 89 *Fed. Reg.* 88488 (November 7, 2024), <https://tinyurl.com/mshvf3an>.

- Pipeline owners and operators would be required to provide Indian tribes with the same operational and safety information they provide to state and local governments.
- Operators would be required to file annual reports on transporting blended gas and to notify DOT if they file for bankruptcy protection.

Safety standards: S. 2975 would authorize DOT to issue new or revised regulations based on studies required under the bill. Those regulations could impose or expand existing mandates on entities that provide or use natural gas utilities and could update safety standards for pipeline operating pressures and hydrogen gas blends. Because such regulations have not yet been issued, CBO cannot determine whether the cost of compliance would exceed UMRA's intergovernmental or private-sector thresholds.

Estimate prepared by: Federal costs: Aaron Krupkin; Revenues: Nathaniel Frentz; Mandates: Brandon Lever.

Estimate reviewed by: Ann E. Futrell, Chief, Natural and Physical Resources Cost Estimates Unit; Joshua Shakin, Chief, Revenue Projections Unit; Kathleen FitzGerald, Chief, Public and Private Mandates Unit; H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis; Chad Chirico, Director of Budget Analysis.

Estimate approved by: Phillip L. Swagel, Director, Congressional Budget Office.

REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

In accordance with paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee provides the following evaluation of the regulatory impact of the legislation, as reported:

NUMBER OF PERSONS COVERED

Federal pipeline safety laws provide PHMSA the authority to regulate the safe operation of over 3.3 million miles of pipeline.¹² PHMSA regulates 1,333 gas distribution pipeline operators; 530 gas gathering line operators; 1,040 gas transmission pipeline operators; 555 hazardous liquid pipeline operators; 98 LNG facilities operators; and 77 underground natural gas storage operators.¹³ State pipeline safety regulators establish and enforce safety standards for intrastate pipelines, and 48 States participate in PHMSA's pipeline safety program, complementary to PHMSA's enforcement work.¹⁴ S. 2975 amends the pipeline safety statutes and directs PHMSA to amend several regulations governing the safe transportation of gas and hazardous liquid by pipeline. The regulatory changes proposed in this bill are limited to entities that are currently regulated under Federal pipeline safety law and therefore are not expected to increase the number of persons covered under existing Federal pipeline safety laws.

¹²"Budget Estimates; Fiscal Year 2026," PHMSA, May 30, 2025, https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2025-05/PHMSA_FY_2026_Budget_Estimates_CJ.pdf.

¹³"Pipeline Miles and Facilities 2010+," PHMSA, accessed November 13, 2025, <https://portalpublic.phmsa.dot.gov/analytics/saw.dll?PortalPages>.

¹⁴"State Programs Overview," PHMSA, August 5, 2024, <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/working-phmsa/state-programs/state-programs-overview>.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

The Committee expects S. 2975 would likely have a beneficial economic impact on the Nation. The bill authorizes PHMSA to collect \$222 million in pipeline user fees in fiscal year 2026 and increasing incrementally to \$246.8 million in fiscal year 2030. The bill also authorizes appropriations for operational expenses starting at \$33 million for fiscal year 2026 and increasing incrementally to \$37 million in fiscal year 2030. The regulatory changes required in this bill would have an economic impact on the owners and operators of gas and hazardous liquid pipelines. Some of the changes would provide more flexibility for operators to maintain or enhance the safety of their infrastructure, which the Committee expects could lower regulatory costs. These changes include allowing for the use of risk-based inspections for in-service breakout tanks, aligning the in-plant gas pipeline regulations with the hazardous liquid regulations, and potentially allowing for alternative technologies to meet Federal pipeline safety regulations.

Other provisions either increase operator regulatory or reporting requirements or require studies that could result in new regulatory or reporting requirements, which would increase regulatory costs. These changes include the requirements for distribution systems to assess and mitigate the risks for Aldyl-A pipe; carbon dioxide safety requirements; cybersecurity requirements; mitigating risks of geological hazards in inspection and maintenance plans; several studies, including on the safety of blending hydrogen into gas distribution systems; reporting requirements, such as reporting on blended products; and reviews, such as the methodology for the National Pipeline Mapping System.

PRIVACY

The reported bill is not expected to have an adverse impact on the personal privacy of individuals.

PAPERWORK

As reported, S. 2975 would require a variety of reports from the Federal Government, including PHMSA, the Comptroller General of the United States, a National Laboratory, and the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation on topics such as fire shutoff valves, the National Pipeline Mapping System, composite materials, hydrogen blending into natural gas distribution systems, and other pipeline safety topics. The bill would also require the pipeline industry to report to PHMSA the intentional blending of non-predominant gas products above certain thresholds, the presence of Aldyl-A pipeline materials, and any bankruptcy filings.

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING

In compliance with paragraph 4(b) of rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee provides that no provisions contained in the bill, as reported, meet the definition of congressionally directed spending items under the rule.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

Section 1. Short title; table of contents.

This section would provide that the bill may be cited as the “Pipeline Integrity, Protection, and Enhancement for Leveraging Investments in the Nation’s Energy (PIPELINE) to assure Safety Act of 2025” or the “PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025”. This section would also establish a table of contents for the bill.

Section 2. Definitions.

This section would define the terms “Administration”, “Administrator”, “appropriate committees of Congress”, “document produced to another person”, and “Secretary”.

TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATIONS

Section 101. Gas and hazardous liquid.

This section would authorize appropriations for the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration’s (PHMSA) pipeline safety programs for 5 years, from fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2030. The authorization would begin in fiscal year 2026 by authorizing \$222 million in user fees the agency may utilize and would increase incrementally to \$248.4 million in user fee funds for fiscal year 2030.

Section 102. Operational expenses of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

This section would authorize appropriations for PHMSA’s operational expenses through fiscal year 2030. Such authorization would begin at \$33 million authorized for operational expenses in fiscal year 2026 and increase incrementally to \$37 million in fiscal year 2030.

Section 103. Other programs.

This section would authorize appropriations for PHMSA grant programs, including Emergency Response Grants, Pipeline Safety Information Grants to Communities, Damage Prevention Programs, and the Pipeline Integrity Program. This section would also add requirements addressing when PHMSA must publish notices of funding opportunities and make awards under the Pipeline Safety Information Grants to Communities.

TITLE II—MODERNIZING PIPELINE SAFETY

Section 201. Inspection of in-service breakout tanks.

This section would require PHMSA to revise its regulations to allow for risk-based inspections of in-service breakout tanks if the Secretary finds that such inspections maintain or enhance safety. This section would direct PHMSA to consider the American Petroleum Institute’s standard entitled “Tank Inspection, Repair, Alteration, and Reconstruction” or successor regulation in its rule-making. For any breakout tank that would be inspected less frequently under a risk-based inspection interval than under the regulations in effect on January 1, 2025, PHMSA must require operators to routinely visually monitor the external conditions of the tank and use a secondary containment system.

Section 202. Risk assessment obligations.

This section would require a DOT employee with experience in conducting risk assessments to attend PHMSA's gas and liquid advisory committee meetings in which the committee is serving as a peer review panel with respect to risk assessment information.

Section 203. Timely incorporation by reference.

This section would require PHMSA to review every 5 years each industry standard that has been adopted or incorporated into the regulations that have since been modified, and to update the regulations if such updates are determined necessary by the Secretary. The Secretary would also have to publish its reasoning for not adopting or incorporating standards it reviews. This section would direct the Secretary to consider adopting or incorporating industry consensus standards when prescribing new standards. This section would also prospectively prevent the agency from adopting new incorporations by reference if those standards are not made available on the agency's public website during the public comment period of rulemaking. Further, this section would require the Secretary to make available on PHMSA's public website links to all industry standards incorporated by reference prior to the enactment of the PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025 that are available to the public on a website at no charge to the public.

Section 204. Report on updates to the National Pipeline Mapping System.

This section would require the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to submit a report to Congress on PHMSA's management of the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS). This report would describe how and when PHMSA updates the high consequence area data contained in the NPMS, what sources of scientific data are used for those updates, and how such data is validated for accuracy. This section would also require PHMSA to initiate a rulemaking to ensure NPMS data that is submitted to the agency by pipeline operators has spatial accuracy within +/- 50 feet of a transmission pipeline.

Section 205. Pipeline safety enhancement programs.

This section would reauthorize the safety-enhancing testing programs authorized in the PIPES Act of 2020 for 5 years. This section would require the testing programs to be designed to achieve a level of safety equal to required safety levels. This section would also clarify that a testing program is not a major Federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) statute and would prevent PHMSA from requiring testing program applicants to obtain a waiver through the non-emergency waiver process. This section would also provide an opportunity for operators to correct any identified deficiencies with their testing programs.

Section 206. Technical safety standards committees.

This section would require PHMSA to publish an explanation of why it rejects recommendations or conclusions of the gas or liquid advisory committees during rulemaking processes and to notify Congress of the agency's rationale for such rejection. This section would also amend the existing statutory language addressing the

number of required committee meetings per year by replacing “up to 4” with “2” meetings per year.

Section 207. Enforcement procedures.

This section would allow the respondent in a PHMSA enforcement proceeding to request a formal hearing conducted by a DOT administrative law judge in civil penalty cases with a proposed penalty of over \$1 million. This section would also require PHMSA to respond in writing to an operator’s submission in response to the agency’s issuance of a warning item. This section would also require PHMSA to post notices of enforcement hearings on its website on the page titled “Upcoming enforcement hearings” and would require that formal hearings be open to the public.

Section 208. Civil penalties.

This section would increase the maximum civil penalties for violations of the Federal pipeline safety statutes and regulations. The maximum penalty amount for a violation would increase from \$272,926 (as most recently adjusted for inflation on December 30, 2024) to \$400,000, and the maximum penalty for a series of related violations would increase from \$2,729,245 (as also presently adjusted for inflation) to \$4 million.

Section 209. Improving whistleblower protections.

This section would amend the existing whistleblower protections by adding reference to additional forms of awards a whistleblower may be entitled to when prevailing in litigation, particularly back pay with interest and compensation for special damages.

Section 210. Assessment of composite materials.

This section would require PHMSA to conduct a review of available data and materials that address the safety of composite pipeline materials and submit a report to Congress describing the agency’s conclusions based on that review. If PHMSA were to conclude that composite materials provide an equivalent level of safety as other pipeline materials, it could promulgate regulations allowing for the use of composite materials for the transportation of new fuels.

Section 211. Elements and evaluation of State damage prevention programs.

This section would add criteria to the minimum requirements for State one-call damage prevention programs, which States must adopt to be eligible for PHMSA’s damage prevention grants. These criteria reflect best practices for one-call programs and are intended to reduce the number of excavation related pipeline accidents and incidents. This section would also add criteria PHMSA must use to determine the effectiveness of State damage prevention programs.

Section 212. Pipeline safety voluntary information-sharing system.

This section would establish a confidential voluntary information-sharing system (VIS) program to encourage the sharing of pipeline safety data and information to improve pipeline safety. The program would bring together members from relevant Federal

and State pipeline safety agencies; pipeline operator representatives; and environmental, safety, and labor groups who will analyze information received and prepare reports addressing lessons learned, process improvements, new technologies and practices, and other relevant safety information.

Section 213. Transporting gas.

This section would exclude from PHMSA's gas regulations "in-plant" pipelines that move gas within a facility that are either entirely within the facility or that extend less than 1 mile outside of the facility.

Section 214. Inspection and management of rights-of-way.

This section would codify the existing PHMSA allowance for pipeline operators to utilize unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) and satellites to conduct required visual inspections of pipeline rights-of-way. This section would not affect pipeline operators' obligation to comply with other Federal UAS laws. This section would also codify that operators may use alternative methods of maintaining vegetation along pipeline rights-of-way by utilizing guidance issued by DOT or a relevant State agency, so long as they maintain an equal level of safety. In the absence of such guidance, operators may consult industry practices and guidance for such maintenance practices but must continue to ensure that the operator can identify risks to the pipeline facility.

Section 215. Geological hazards.

This section would require operators to address geological hazards (such as landslides, volcanic activity, earthquakes, and scouring) in their integrity management plans. PHMSA would also have to prepare a report addressing geological hazards that present risks to pipeline safety. This section would require PHMSA, based on that report, to make recommendations to improve the mitigation of such hazards to Congress. PHMSA would also need to review and update, as appropriate, existing regulations and policy guidance that address the safety of pipeline facilities from threats posed by geological hazards.

Section 216. Alternative technologies.

This section would require PHMSA to issue a request for proposals for potential alternative pipeline safety technologies that, if used by pipeline operators, would meet the intent of existing pipeline safety regulations and provide an equal or greater level of safety. This section would specify that if PHMSA determines that a technology meets the intent of an existing pipeline safety regulation and provides an equal or greater level of safety, the agency may engage in rulemaking to allow operators to adopt the use of such technology.

Section 217. Fire shutoff valves.

This section would require PHMSA to study the effectiveness of fire shutoff valves or equivalent technologies to determine if they improve public safety. After completing the study, PHMSA may prescribe risk-based regulations requiring natural gas distribution

system operators to install fire shutoff valves or equivalent technologies.

Section 218. Exemption from post-accident testing.

This section would require PHMSA, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to revise its regulations to exempt covered employees from post-accident drug and alcohol testing in cases where an employee performed the covered duties that might be related to the cause of a pipeline accident or incident outside of the time frame during which the use of prohibited drugs can be detected.

Section 219. Maximum allowable operating pressure records.

This section would require PHMSA to continue a current working group reviewing what historical pipeline testing documentation may be adequate to prove the maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) of older natural gas transmission pipelines. This section would require the working group to make a recommendation based on that review to PHMSA that may inform PHMSA rulemaking to revise the regulations addressing MAOP records. This section would temporarily prevent PHMSA from requiring an owner or operator of a natural gas transmission pipeline to reconfirm MAOP if the operator has records of prior testing that demonstrate the appropriate MAOP of such pipeline. This pause would be in effect until PHMSA decides whether to revise its regulations addressing the records necessary to confirm MAOP. However, this section would not amend the current deadlines by which operators must comply with MAOP reconfirmation requirements.

Section 220. Pipeline operating status.

This section would require PHMSA to complete an outstanding rulemaking from the PIPES Act of 2020 addressing safety requirements for idled pipelines within 90 days of enactment.

Section 221. Potential impact radius.

This section would require PHMSA to review the methodology used to determine the potential impact radius of natural gas transmission pipelines. As part of that review, PHMSA would need to evaluate in a report required to be submitted to Congress the available human behavior response data; accident data from pipeline incidents going since January 1, 2000; the risk of serious injury, death, or damage to property; and the unique characteristics of the gas being transported. PHMSA's review would include any applicable information and recommendations from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) or the GAO on this topic. This section would also require PHMSA's Accident Investigation Division to identify the location and distance outside of a pipeline's calculated potential impact radius of any damage that it discovers during the agency's future accident investigations. NTSB made a recommendation to PHMSA regarding review of potential impact radius methodology that PHMSA has begun work on and that this section would address. NTSB's recommendation relates to a 2019 natural gas pipeline accident in Kentucky that resulted in a fatality.

Section 222. Effects of weather on natural gas pipelines.

This section would require PHMSA to complete a review of the effects of applicable weather events on natural gas pipeline facilities to determine whether such events pose a risk to safety. Applicable weather events include Winter Storm Uri, Winter Storm Elliott, and “major disasters” as defined in the Stafford Act that have the potential to impact the safety of a natural gas pipeline facility. After the review, PHMSA would be required to conduct a review of gas distribution integrity management plans for pipelines at increased risk from applicable weather events to ensure operators are mitigating the risks associated with the applicable weather events.

Section 223. Aldyl-A pipelines.

This section would require gas distribution operators to assess their systems for the presence of Aldyl-A pipeline components and to report the estimated total pipeline mileage of such to PHMSA within 3 years of enactment. This section would address a 2023 natural gas pipeline accident at a factory in West Reading, Pennsylvania, that resulted in seven fatalities and for which NTSB found an Aldyl-A component was a causal factor. Under this section, State programs certified by PHMSA and pipeline distribution operators’ integrity management programs, must both account for pipelines with “historic plastics with known safety issues” such as Aldyl-A. This section would also clarify that PHMSA may not require pipeline operators to conduct excavation activities for the purpose of the Aldyl-A assessment.

Section 224. Improvements to pipeline safety integrity management programs.

This section would require PHMSA to conduct research into the use of quantitative data and modeling to assess whether the use of such data or modeling in pipeline operators’ integrity management programs would improve the estimation of costs and benefits of risk reduction measures.

Section 225. Nonemergency waivers by the Secretary.

This section would set a timeline by which PHMSA shall complete a review of a special permit request or notify the applicant that PHMSA needs additional time to review. It would also require PHMSA to publicly post the reasons for granting or denying a special permit. It also would make technical changes to the statute.

TITLE III—STREAMLINING OVERSIGHT OF PIPELINES

Section 301. Regulatory updates.

This section would require PHMSA to brief Congress at specified intervals on the status of congressionally required rulemakings that have not been published by the statutory deadlines. This section would also establish that if PHMSA fails to update the status of overdue rulemakings on its public website at required intervals, the agency may not utilize any authorized or appropriated funds to support travel for the Administrator or the Deputy Administrator (except in emergencies).

Section 302. State use of integrated inspections.

This section would allow PHMSA to establish a process for certified State pipeline safety programs to implement risk-based integrated inspection programs. Under such programs, States would use risk information and data to focus inspection resources on pipeline facilities and regulatory requirements that have the highest priorities during an inspection. PHMSA would be required to review and approve or deny a State's application to conduct such a risk-based program and may terminate the authority if the Secretary determines that a State authority is not adequately carrying out the program. Three years after the date on which a State's risk-based inspection program is approved, the DOT Inspector General would need to review such program to evaluate its safety impacts and notify the Secretary and Congress if the Inspector General determines a risk-based integrated inspection program is not adequate.

Section 303. Optimizing pipeline safety inspections.

This section would require the GAO to evaluate the inspection scheduling and coordination practices and procedures between PHMSA, State authorities, and uncertified State authorities. GAO's report would include recommendations for improving inspection practices and procedures without compromising pipeline safety and would be required to be submitted to Congress. This section would also require PHMSA to publish annually a summary of Federal and State inspections conducted each year, including any enforcement actions taken.

Section 304. Sense of Congress on PHMSA engagement prior to rulemaking activities.

This section would state it is the sense of Congress that, where appropriate, PHMSA should engage with a broad range of pipeline stakeholder groups, including State pipeline safety programs, during the pre-drafting stages of rulemaking activities.

TITLE IV—IMPROVING SAFETY OF EMERGING GASES

Section 401. Studies of hydrogen pipeline transportation.

This section would require PHMSA to engage a National Laboratory to conduct a study of the safety, technical, and practical considerations of blending hydrogen into existing natural gas systems and to report its findings to Congress. This section would also require the GAO to study existing natural gas distribution systems that utilize hydrogen-natural gas blending applications to identify processes, materials, and standards that operators have implemented to operate those systems safely. After completion of the studies, PHMSA would be required to determine whether any updates to regulations are necessary to ensure the safety of natural gas distribution systems that intentionally blend hydrogen at levels exceeding 5 percent. If PHMSA were to determine a rulemaking is not necessary, the agency would need to report its rationale to Congress.

Section 402. Safety of carbon dioxide pipelines.

This section would require PHMSA to publish a rule updating pipeline safety requirements to ensure the safe transport of carbon dioxide in all phases, including gaseous, liquid, and supercritical States. The rule required under this section would need to include appropriate requirements addressing updates to emergency response plans to address any risks unique to carbon dioxide pipeline accidents or incidents, minimum safety standards addressing vapor dispersion modeling to identify high consequence areas, and share information with State, local, and Tribal emergency response organizations on any risks unique to carbon dioxide incidents. The final rule would also need to consider safety-related conditions reporting appropriate to any unique safety risks associated with transporting carbon dioxide. This section would also require PHMSA to engage a National Laboratory to conduct a study addressing the use of odorants in carbon dioxide pipelines. PHMSA would also be required to provide information to relevant emergency responders that is tailored specifically to carbon dioxide pipeline releases. In part, this section would address risks presented by carbon dioxide pipeline releases, whereby when released, it turns into an odorless gas that may travel close to the ground. In 2020, a pipeline rupture in Satartia, Mississippi, resulted in 45 people being taken to the hospital. PHMSA was required to address the safety of gaseous carbon dioxide pipelines in the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011, but never published the required rulemaking. The rulemaking required under this section would also satisfy that outstanding 2011 provision.

Section 403. Reporting of blended products.

This section would require natural gas pipeline operators to not less frequently than annually report to PHMSA the intentional blending of over 2 percent by volume of non-predominant products. This section would allow PHMSA to collect additional information about the blending of hydrogen into natural gas distribution systems.

TITLE V—IMPROVING EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND TRANSPARENCY

Section 501. Bitumen oil response plan review.

This section would require the DOT Inspector General to review pipeline operators' oil spill response plans for spills of diluted bitumen. The Inspector General would need to review whether plans include the information necessary to properly respond to a spill, as well as the findings from a 2013 DOT study addressing the transportation of bitumen required by the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011. This section would require the DOT Inspector General to submit a report to Congress that summarizes the findings of its review and contains any recommendations for response to bitumen spills to the appropriate committees of Congress.

Section 502. National Center of Excellence for Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Leak Detection.

This section would allow PHMSA to establish the National Center of Excellence for Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Leak Detection

(Center of Excellence). The primary purpose of the Center of Excellence would be to conduct research aimed at improving leak detection for hazardous liquid pipelines. The Center of Excellence would be established in a State within the Great Lakes Basin that has an international crude oil pipeline crossing through an adjacent Great Lake and which is near a university with pipeline safety expertise. This section would require PHMSA to submit a report to Congress addressing the resources necessary for its establishment and describing how its functions would be carried out before establishing the Center of Excellence.

Section 503. Operator financial disclosure.

This section would require pipeline operators filing for bankruptcy to notify PHMSA of such filing within 7 days.

Section 504. Data and transparency.

This section would require PHMSA to publish on its website 1 year after the date of enactment and then not less frequently than annually summary data of the leaks annually reported by operators.

Section 505. Office of Public Engagement.

This section would authorize PHMSA to establish an Office of Public Engagement that would be staffed with the agency's current community liaison employees. This section would explicitly describe in statute the Office of Public Engagement's role and duties. Such duties would include: conducting outreach about pipeline safety-related matters; making educational materials available addressing PHMSA jurisdiction and responsibilities as related to other agency's pipeline-related equities; holding public meetings; and generally assisting individuals in resolving pipeline safety inquiries.

Section 506. Clarification of confirmed discovery.

This section would require PHMSA to review the definition of "confirmed discovery" that triggers pipeline operators' required reporting of accidents and incidents to the National Response Center (NRC). PHMSA would also review historical records to evaluate the timeframes within which past accident reporting to the NRC has occurred. PHMSA would have to submit a report to Congress that provides the findings of its review. This section would also allow PHMSA to consider reducing civil penalties against operators who report incidents within 10 minutes of a suspected release, or who voluntarily engage in the emergency notification system addressed by section 507 to provide timely public alerts.

Section 507. Public alert notification system for pipeline facilities.

This section would require DOT and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to develop voluntary guidance to assist owners and operators of pipeline facilities in coordinating with State, local, Tribal, and territorial governmental entities to make use of existing public alert notification systems, such as the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System, in the event of a pipeline emergency. This section would also require that any relevant procedures voluntarily established by an operator be incorporated into the operator's response plans.

TITLE VI—OTHER MATTERS

Section 601. Prohibition on PHMSA operation, procurement, or contracting action with respect to covered unmanned aircraft systems.

This section would prohibit PHMSA from operating or procuring UAS from a “covered foreign country.” Any UAS PHMSA uses would have to be manufactured in the United States. This section would require PHMSA to submit a report to Congress generally addressing the status of its UAS use and any changes it has made to its UAS program to comply with the requirements of this section.

Section 602. Natural gas distribution pipeline infrastructure safety and modernization grants.

This section would authorize \$75 million for fiscal years 2027 through 2030 for PHMSA’s Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization (NGDISM) program. The NGDISM program was created by an appropriation in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act¹⁶ but has never been authorized. Under this section, community- or municipality-owned natural gas distribution operators would be eligible to apply for grants to repair or improve natural gas distribution systems for the purpose of improving safety.

Section 603. Issues affecting federally recognized Indian Tribes.

This section would update various existing provisions in the Federal pipeline safety laws to add references to Tribal notice, consultation, and coordination. This section would attempt to place Indian Tribes on equal footing with other State, local, and Federal Government entities where referenced throughout the code as appropriate and would require that notifications made to other relevant governmental entities are also made to affected Tribes.

Section 604. Identification of and justification for redactions.

This section would require that if PHMSA redacts any portion of a document produced to another person, including the relevant congressional committees of jurisdiction, that the agency must cite a specific statute authorizing the withholding of the information redacted.

Section 605. Fees for loan guarantees.

This section would authorize the Secretary of Energy to collect fees from qualified project applicants to cover the administrative expenses incurred by the Department of Energy to administer loan guarantees for liquefied natural gas projects from Alaska.

Section 606. Improving pipeline cybersecurity.

This section would require the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to publish a final rule related to the cybersecurity of pipelines, for which TSA has already issued a proposed rulemaking. A 2023 ransomware attack on Colonial Pipeline shut down a pipeline responsible for transporting a significant portion of the

¹⁶Public Law 117–58.

fuel consumed on the East Coast. In response, TSA created temporary cybersecurity requirements. This section would require TSA to publish a final rule promulgating cybersecurity requirements to protect against future cyber attacks.

Section 607. Technical corrections.

This section would include various technical corrections to ensure proper formatting and cross-references of the definitions section in 49 U.S.C. 60101(a). This section would also delete a reference to a report that was required to be submitted to Congress 25 years ago.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new material is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

UNITED STATES CODE

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TITLE 46—SHIPPING

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**Subtitle VII—Security and Drug
Enforcement**

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**CHAPTER 700—PORTS AND WATERWAYS
SAFETY**

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Subchapter II—Ports and Waterways Safety

§ 70011. * * *

§ 70012. Navigational hazards

(a) * * *

(b) * * *

(c) PIPELINE DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term “pipeline” has the meaning given the term “pipeline facility” in [section 60101(a)(18)] *section 60101(a)* of title 49.

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TITLE 49—TRANSPORTATION

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Subtitle I—Department of Transportation

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CHAPTER 1—ORGANIZATION

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§ 108. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (*referred to in this section as the “Administration”*) shall be an administration in the Department of Transportation.

(b) * * *

(c) ADMINISTRATOR.—The head of the Administration shall be the Administrator (*referred to in this section as the “Administrator”*), who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and shall be an individual with professional experience in pipeline safety, hazardous materials safety, or other transportation safety. The Administrator shall report directly to the Secretary of Transportation.

(d) * * *

(e) * * *

(f) * * *

(g) * * *

(h) OFFICE OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—*In this subsection:*

(A) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—*The term “appropriate committees of Congress” has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025.*

(B) DIRECTOR.—*The term “Director” means the Director of the Office.*

(C) OFFICE.—*The term “Office” means the Office of Public Engagement of the Administration established under paragraph (2).*

(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—*Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall establish within the Administration an office, to be known as the “Office of Public Engagement”.*

(3) DIRECTOR.—*The Office shall be headed by a Director, who shall—*

(A) *report to the Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety; and*

(B) *be responsible for the discharge of the functions and duties of the Office.*

(4) EMPLOYEES.—*The Director shall—*

(A) *appoint and assign the duties of employees of the Office; and*

(B) *prioritize the hiring of individuals who have experience in community engagement, including working with the public, State, local and Tribal governments, and pipeline safety public interest groups.*

(5) *COMMUNITY LIAISONS.*—*The Director shall appoint agency community liaison personnel employed as of the date on which the Office is established as employees of the Office.*

(6) *DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE.*—

(A) *COORDINATION OF ASSISTANCE.*—*The Director shall coordinate the provision of technical assistance and educational assistance to the public with respect to the authorities exercised by the Administration.*

(B) *PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT.*—*The Director shall coordinate active and ongoing engagement with the public with respect to the authority and activities of the Administration, including by—*

(i) *conducting—*

(I) *outreach, which may include public postings, signage at relevant physical locations, newspaper publications, mailings, phone calls, canvassing, and door hangers, to communities using varied media; and*

(II) *when appropriate, meetings;*

(ii) *assisting individuals in resolving pipeline safety inquiries;*

(iii) *making publicly available, and disseminating, information on the manner in which members of the public may file inquiries relating to pipeline safety;*

(iv) *assisting individuals in contacting, as necessary, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, State agencies, and other agencies, in order to appropriately direct public inquiries that are not within the jurisdiction of the Administration to the relevant agency; and*

(v) *preparing, and making publicly available in accessible formats, educational materials about the Administration, the responsibilities of the Administration, and how those responsibilities interact with entities under the jurisdiction of the Administration and other Federal, State, local, or Tribal government agencies.*

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Subtitle VII—Aviation Programs

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PART A—AIR COMMERCE AND SAFETY

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Subpart III—Safety

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CHAPTER 448—UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

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§44815. Prohibition on PHMSA operation, procurement, or contracting action with respect to covered unmanned aircraft systems

(a) *DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

(1) *ADMINISTRATION.—The term “Administration” means the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.*

(2) *ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Administration.*

(3) *COVERED FOREIGN COUNTRY.—The term “covered foreign country” means any of the following:*

(A) *The People’s Republic of China.*

(B) *The Russian Federation.*

(C) *The Islamic Republic of Iran.*

(D) *The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.*

(E) *The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.*

(F) *The Republic of Cuba.*

(4) *COVERED UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM.—The term “covered unmanned aircraft system” means an unmanned aircraft system that is, or is owned by an entity that is—*

(A) *included on the Consolidated Screening List or Entity List as designated by the Secretary of Commerce;*

(B) *domiciled in a covered foreign country; or*

(C) *subject to influence or control by the government of a covered foreign country.*

(b) *RESTRICTIONS.—Subject to subsection (c), the Administrator shall not—*

(1) *operate a covered unmanned aircraft system; or*

(2) *enter into, extend, or renew a contract—*

(A) *for the procurement of a covered unmanned aircraft system; or*

(B) *with an entity that operates (as determined by the Secretary of Transportation) a covered unmanned aircraft system in the performance of any Administration contract.*

(c) *EXEMPTION.—The restrictions under subsection (b) shall not apply if the operation, procurement, or contracting action is for the purpose of intelligence, electronic warfare, and information warfare operations, testing, analysis, and training.*

(d) *WAIVER.—The Administrator may waive the restrictions under subsection (b) on a case by case basis by certifying, in writing, to the Secretary of Homeland Security and the appropriate committees of Congress that the operation, procurement, or contracting action is required in the public interest of the United States.*

(e) *REPLACEMENT OF COVERED UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS.—Subject to available appropriations, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall replace any covered unmanned aircraft system that is owned or operated by the Administration as of that date of enactment with an unmanned aircraft system manufactured in the United States or an allied country (as defined in section 2350f(d) of title 10).*

(f) *REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that includes—*

(1) *a description of the changes the Administration has made to its operation, procurement, and contracting processes to en-*

sure that the Administration does not acquire any covered unmanned aircraft system;

(2) the number of covered unmanned aircraft systems that needed to be replaced in accordance with subsection (e), including—

(A) an explanation of the purposes for which such covered unmanned aircraft systems were used;

(B) a description of the unmanned aircraft systems that the Administrator will purchase to replace such covered unmanned aircraft systems; and

(C) the cost to purchase the unmanned aircraft systems described in subparagraph (B); and

(3) any other information determined appropriate by the Administrator.

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Subtitle VIII—Pipelines

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CHAPTER 601—SAFETY

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§ 60101. Definitions

(a) GENERAL.—In this [chapter—] chapter:

[(1) “existing liquefied natural gas facility”—

[(A) means]

(1) *EXISTING LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS FACILITY.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—The term “existing liquefied natural gas facility” means a liquefied natural gas facility for which an application to approve the site, construction, or operation of the facility was filed before March 1, 1978, with—

(i) the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (or any predecessor); or

(ii) the appropriate State or local authority, if the facility is not subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717 et seq.) [; but].

[(B) does not]

(B) *EXCLUSIONS.*—The term “existing liquefied natural gas facility” does not include a facility on which construction is begun after November 29, 1979, without the approval described in subparagraph (A) [;].

(2) *GAS.*—The term “gas” means natural gas, flammable gas, or toxic or corrosive gas [;].

(3) *GAS PIPELINE FACILITY.*—The term “gas pipeline facility” includes a pipeline, a right of way, a facility, a building, or equipment used in transporting gas or treating gas during its transportation [;].

(4) *HAZARDOUS LIQUID.*—The term “hazardous liquid” means—

(A) petroleum or a petroleum product;

(B) nonpetroleum fuel, including biofuel, that is flammable, toxic, or corrosive or would be harmful to the environment if released in significant quantities; and

(C) a substance the Secretary of Transportation decides may pose an unreasonable risk to life or property when transported by a hazardous liquid pipeline facility in a liquid state (except for liquefied natural gas)【;】.

(5) *HAZARDOUS LIQUID PIPELINE FACILITY*.—*The term “hazardous liquid pipeline facility” includes a pipeline, a right of way, a facility, a building, or equipment used or intended to be used in transporting hazardous liquid【;】.*

(6) *INTERSTATE GAS PIPELINE FACILITY*.—*The term “interstate gas pipeline facility” means a gas pipeline facility—*

(A) used to transport gas; and

(B) subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717 et seq.)【;】.

(7) *INTERSTATE HAZARDOUS LIQUID PIPELINE FACILITY*.—*The term “interstate hazardous liquid pipeline facility” means a hazardous liquid pipeline facility used to transport hazardous liquid in interstate or foreign commerce【;】.*

(8) *INTERSTATE OR FOREIGN COMMERCE*.—*The term “interstate or foreign commerce”—*

(A) related to gas, means commerce—

(i) between a place in a State and a place outside that State; or

(ii) that affects any commerce described in subclause

(A)(i) of this clause; and

(B) related to hazardous liquid, means commerce between—

(i) a place in a State and a place outside that State;

or

(ii) places in the same State through a place outside the State【;】.

(9) *INTRASTATE GAS PIPELINE FACILITY*.—*The term “intrastate gas pipeline facility” means a gas pipeline facility and transportation of gas within a State not subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717 et seq.)【;】.*

(10) *INTRASTATE HAZARDOUS LIQUID PIPELINE FACILITY*.—*The term “intrastate hazardous liquid pipeline facility” means a hazardous liquid pipeline facility that is not an interstate hazardous liquid pipeline facility【;】.*

(11) *LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS*.—*The term “liquefied natural gas” means natural gas in a liquid or semisolid state【;】.*

(12) *LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS ACCIDENT*.—*The term “liquefied natural gas accident” means a release, burning, or explosion of liquefied natural gas from any cause, except a release, burning, or explosion that, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, does not pose a threat to public health or safety, property, or the environment【;】.*

(13) *LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS CONVERSION*.—*The term “liquefied natural gas conversion” means conversion of natural gas into liquefied natural gas or conversion of liquefied natural gas into natural gas【;】.*

【(14) “liquefied natural gas pipeline facility”—

[(A) means]

(14) *LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS PIPELINE FACILITY.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The term “liquefied natural gas pipeline facility” means a gas pipeline facility used for transporting or storing liquefied natural gas, or for liquefied natural gas conversion, in interstate or foreign commerce[; but].*

[(B) does not]

(B) *EXCLUSIONS.*—*The term “liquefied natural gas pipeline facility” does not include any part of a structure or equipment located in navigable waters (as defined in section 3 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 796))[;].*

(15) *MUNICIPALITY.*—*The term “municipality” means a political subdivision of a State[;].*

(16) *NEW LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS PIPELINE FACILITY.*—*The term “new liquefied natural gas pipeline facility” means a liquefied natural gas pipeline facility except an existing liquefied natural gas pipeline facility[;].*

(17) *NONPUBLIC INFORMATION.*—*The term “nonpublic information” means any pipeline safety data or information, regardless of form or format, that—*

(A) *a company does not disclose, disseminate, or make available to the public; or*

(B) *is not otherwise in the public domain.*

[(17)](18) *PERSON.*—*The term “person”, in addition to its meaning under section 1 of title 1 (except as to societies), includes a State, a municipality, and a trustee, receiver, assignee, or personal representative of a person[;].*

[(18)](19) *PIPELINE FACILITY.*—*The term “pipeline facility” means a gas pipeline facility and a hazardous liquid pipeline facility[;].*

[(19)](20) *PIPELINE TRANSPORTATION.*—*The term “pipeline transportation” means transporting gas and transporting hazardous liquid[;].*

(21) *PUBLIC INFORMATION.*—*The term “public information” means any data or information, regardless of form or format, that—*

(A) *a company discloses, disseminates, or makes available to the public; or*

(B) *is otherwise in the public domain.*

[(23)](22) *RISK MANAGEMENT.*—*The term “risk management” means the systematic application, by the owner or operator of a pipeline facility, of management policies, procedures, finite resources, and practices to the tasks of identifying, analyzing, assessing, reducing, and controlling risk in order to protect employees, the general public, the environment, and pipeline facilities[;].*

[(24)](23) *RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN.*—*The term “risk management plan” means a management plan utilized by a gas or hazardous liquid pipeline facility owner or operator that encompasses risk management[;].*

[(25)](24) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Transportation[; and].*

[(20)](25) *STATE.*—*The term “State” means a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico[;].*

[(21)](26) “transporting gas”—

[(A) means]

(26) *TRANSPORTING GAS.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The term “transporting gas” means—*

- (i) the gathering, transmission, or distribution of gas by pipeline, or the storage of gas, in interstate or foreign commerce; and
- (ii) the movement of gas through regulated gathering lines[; but].

[(B) does not include gathering gas (except through regulated gathering lines) in a rural area outside a populated area designated by the Secretary as a nonrural area;]

(B) *EXCLUSIONS.*—*The term “transporting gas” does not include—*

- (i) gathering gas (except through regulated gathering lines) in a rural area outside a populated area designated by the Secretary as a nonrural area; or
- (ii) the movement of gas by the owner or operator of a plant for use as a fuel, a feedstock, or for any other purpose that directly supports plant operations through—
 - (I) in-plant piping systems that are located entirely on the grounds of the plant; or
 - (II) transfer piping systems that extend less than 1 mile in length outside the grounds of the plant.

[(22)](27) “transporting hazardous liquid”—

[(A) means]

(27) *TRANSPORTING HAZARDOUS LIQUID.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The term “transporting hazardous liquid” means—*

- (i) the movement of hazardous liquid by pipeline, or the storage of hazardous liquid incidental to the movement of hazardous liquid by pipeline, in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce; and
- (ii) the movement of hazardous liquid through regulated gathering lines[; but].

[(B) does not]

(B) *EXCLUSIONS.*—*The term “transporting hazardous liquid” does not include moving hazardous liquid through—*

- (i) gathering lines (except regulated gathering lines) in a rural area;
- (ii) onshore production, refining, or manufacturing facilities; or
- (iii) storage or in-plant piping systems associated with onshore production, refining, or manufacturing facilities[;].

[(26)](28) *UNDERGROUND NATURAL GAS STORAGE FACILITY.*—*The term “underground natural gas storage facility” means a gas pipeline facility that stores natural gas in an underground facility, including—*

- (A) a depleted hydrocarbon reservoir;
- (B) an aquifer reservoir; or
- (C) a solution-mined salt cavern reservoir.

(b) * * *

(c) *INDIAN AND TRIBAL DEFINITIONS.*—*In this chapter:*

(1) *INDIAN LAND.*—The term “Indian land” has the meaning given the term “Indian lands” in section 4 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2703).

(2) *INDIAN TRIBE.*—The term “Indian Tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

§ 60102. Purpose and general authority

(a) * * *

(b) **PRACTICABILITY AND SAFETY NEEDS STANDARDS.**—

(1) * * *

(2) * * *

(3) * * *

(4) **REVIEW.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall—

(i) submit any risk assessment information prepared under paragraph (3) of this subsection to the Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee, the Technical Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Standards Committee, or both, as appropriate; **[and]**

(ii) make that risk assessment information available to the general public**[.];** and

(iii) require that an officer or employee of the Department of Transportation with expertise in conducting risk assessments or cost-benefit analyses for pipeline facilities or other modes of transportation attend any meeting in which a committee described in clause (i) is serving as a peer review panel with respect to that risk assessment information.

(B) * * *

(C) * * *

(5) * * *

(6) * * *

[(7) REPORT.—Not later than March 31, 2000, the Secretary shall transmit to the Congress a report that—

[(A) describes the implementation of the risk assessment requirements of this section, including the extent to which those requirements have affected regulatory decision-making and pipeline safety; and

[(B) includes any recommendations that the Secretary determines would make the risk assessment process conducted pursuant to the requirements under this chapter a more effective means of assessing the benefits and costs associated with alternative regulatory and nonregulatory options in prescribing standards under the Federal pipeline safety regulatory program under this chapter.]

(c) **PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**—(1) * * *

(2) * * *

(3) * * *

(4) **PROMOTING PUBLIC AWARENESS.**—

(A) Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Accountable Pipeline Safety and Accountability Act of 1996, and annually thereafter, the owner or operator of each interstate gas pipeline facility shall provide to the governing body of each municipality in which the interstate gas pipeline

facility is ~~located,~~ *located and any affected Indian Tribe* a map identifying the location of such facility.

(B)(i) * * *

(ii) * * *

(d) FACILITY OPERATION INFORMATION STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall prescribe minimum standards requiring an operator of a pipeline facility subject to this chapter to maintain, to the extent practicable, information related to operating the facility as required by the standards prescribed under this chapter and, when requested, to make the information available to the Secretary ~~and an appropriate State official as determined by the Secretary,~~ *an appropriate State official (as determined by the Secretary), and an appropriate Tribal official (as determined by the Secretary) from any affected Indian Tribe.* The information shall include—

(1) the business name, address, and telephone number, including an operations emergency telephone number, of the operator;

(2) accurate maps and a supplementary geographic description, including an identification of areas described in regulations prescribed under section 60109 of this title, that show the location in the State *or, with respect to an affected Indian Tribe, on affected Indian land,* of—

(A) major gas pipeline facilities of the operator, including transmission lines and significant distribution lines; and

(B) major hazardous liquid pipeline facilities of the operator;

(3) a description of—

(A) the characteristics of the operator's pipelines in the State; and

(B) products transported through the operator's pipelines in the State;

(4) the manual that governs operating and maintaining pipeline facilities in the State;

(5) an emergency response plan describing the operator's procedures for responding to and containing releases, including—

(A) identifying specific action the operator will take on discovering a release;

(B) liaison procedures with State and local authorities *and Tribal officials from any affected Indian Tribe* for emergency response; and

(C) communication and alert procedures for immediately notifying State and local officials *and Tribal officials from any affected Indian Tribe* at the time of a release; and

(6) other information the Secretary considers useful to inform a State *or an affected Indian Tribe* of the presence of pipeline facilities and operations in the State *or on affected Indian land.*

(e) * * *

(f) * * *

(g) * * *

(h) SAFETY CONDITION REPORTS.—(1) * * *

(2) SUBMISSION OF REPORT.—As soon as practicable, but not later than 5 business days, after a representative of a person to whom this section applies first establishes that a condition described in

paragraph (1) exists, the operator shall submit the report required under that paragraph to—

(A) the Secretary;

(B) the appropriate State authority or, where no appropriate State authority exists, to the Governor of a State where the subject of the Safety Related Condition report occurred; and

(C) **the appropriate Tribe** *any affected Indian Tribe with respect to the location* where the subject of the Safety Related Condition report occurred.

(3) Submission of report to other entities.—Upon request, a State authority or a Governor that receives a report submitted under this subsection may submit the report to any relevant emergency response or planning entity, including any—

(A) State emergency response commission established pursuant to section 301 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 11001);

(B) Tribal emergency response commission or emergency planning committee (as defined in part 355 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation)) *or Tribal official if no such commission or committee exists*;

(C) local emergency planning committee established pursuant to section 301 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 11001); or

(D) other public agency responsible for emergency response.

(i) * * *

(j) * * *

(k) * * *

[(1) UPDATING STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall, to the extent appropriate and practicable, update incorporated industry standards that have been adopted as part of the Federal pipeline safety regulatory program under this chapter.]

(l) UPDATING STANDARDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—*Not less frequently than once every 5 years, the Secretary shall—*

(A) review each industry consensus standard—

(i) that has been adopted or incorporated, partially or in full, as part of the Federal pipeline safety regulatory program under this chapter;

(ii) that has been modified by a standards development organization (as defined in section 2(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993 (15 U.S.C. 4301(a))) since being adopted or incorporated; and

(iii) the modification of which has been published by a standards development organization (as defined in that section); and

(B) update, as determined necessary by the Secretary, the adoption or incorporation of each industry consensus standard reviewed under subparagraph (A).

(2) LIST OF INDUSTRY STANDARDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—*The Secretary shall maintain a publicly available list of all industry standards considered for adoption or incorporation under this chapter, including—*

(i) the determination of the Secretary with respect to each standard considered; and

(ii) *with respect to each standard not adopted or incorporated in full, the reasoning for not adopting or incorporating that standard in full.*

(B) *AVAILABILITY.—Not later than 30 days after initial completion and each revision of the list under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall publish the list on the public website of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.*

(3) *CONSIDERATION OF INDUSTRY CONSENSUS STANDARDS.—In prescribing new safety standards under this chapter, the Secretary shall consider adopting or incorporating industry consensus standards.*

(4) *PUBLIC ACCESS.—*

(A) *IN GENERAL.—For all industry consensus standards incorporated or partially incorporated under this chapter on or after the date of enactment of the PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025, the Secretary shall publish on the public website of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration the full text of the standard or a direct link to an external source where the full text is available to the public on a website to view at no cost for the duration of time that the Secretary has the incorporation by reference available for public comment.*

(B) *EXCEPTION.—If the full text of an industry consensus standard is not published on the public website of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration or available from that website via a direct link to an external source where the full text is available to the public on a website to view at no cost for the duration of time that the Secretary has the incorporation by reference available for public comment, then the Secretary shall not incorporate or partially incorporate under this chapter that industry consensus standard by reference.*

(C) *PREVIOUSLY INCORPORATED STANDARDS.—For industry consensus standards incorporated or partially incorporated under this chapter before the date of enactment of the PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025 that are publicly available on a public-facing website at no charge to the public, the Secretary shall publish on the public website of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration the full text of the standard or a direct link to an external source where the full text is available to the public on a website.*

(m) * * *

(n) * * *

(o) * * *

(p) * * *

(q) *GAS PIPELINE LEAK DETECTION AND REPAIR.—*

(1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall promulgate final regulations that require operators of regulated gathering lines (as defined pursuant to subsection (b) of section 60101 for purposes of [subsection (a)(21)] subsection (a)(26) of that section) in a Class 2 location, Class 3 location, or Class 4 location, as determined under section 192.5 of title 49, Code of Federal*

Regulations, operators of new and existing gas transmission pipeline facilities, and operators of new and existing gas distribution pipeline facilities to conduct leak detection and repair programs—

(A) to meet the need for gas pipeline safety, as determined by the Secretary; and

(B) to protect the environment.

(2) * * *

(3) * * *

(4) * * *

(r) EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall update regulations to ensure that each emergency response plan developed by an operator of a distribution system under subsection (d)(5), includes written procedures for—

(1) establishing communication with first responders and other relevant public officials, *including Tribal officials*, as soon as practicable, beginning from the time of confirmed discovery, as determined by the Secretary, by the operator of a gas pipeline emergency involving a release of gas from a distribution system of that operator that results in—

(A) a fire related to an unintended release of gas;

(B) an explosion;

(C) 1 or more fatalities; or

(D) the unscheduled release of gas and shutdown of gas service to a significant number of customers, as determined by the Secretary;

(2) establishing general public communication through an appropriate channel—

(A) as soon as practicable, as determined by the Secretary, after a gas pipeline emergency described in paragraph (1); and

(B) that provides information regarding—

(i) the emergency described in subparagraph (A); and

(ii) the status of public safety; and

(3) the development and implementation of a voluntary, opt-in system that would allow operators of distribution systems to rapidly communicate with customers in the event of an emergency.

(s) * * *

(t) * * *

* * * * *

§ 60105. State pipeline safety program certifications

(a) * * *

(b) CONTENTS.—Each certification submitted under subsection (a) of this section shall state that the State authority—

(1) * * *

(2) * * *

(3) * * *

(4) * * *

(5) * * *

(6) * * *

(7) * * *

(8) * * *

(9) has a sufficient number of employees described in paragraph (3) to ensure safe operations of pipeline facilities, updating the State Inspection Calculation Tool to take into account factors including—

(A) the number of miles of natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines in the State, including the number of miles [of cast iron and bare steel pipelines] of—

(i) cast iron and bare steel pipelines; and

(ii) pipelines constructed of historic plastics with known safety issues;

(B) the number of services in the State;

(C) the age of the gas distribution system in the State; and

(D) environmental factors that could impact the integrity of the pipeline, including relevant geological issues.

(c) * * *

(d) * * *

(e) * * *

(f) * * *

(g) STATE USE OF INTEGRATED INSPECTIONS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025.

(B) INSPECTOR GENERAL.—The term “Inspector General” means the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation.

(C) RISK-BASED INTEGRATED INSPECTION PROGRAM.—The term “risk-based integrated inspection program” means an inspection program that uses risk information and data to focus inspection resources on pipeline facilities and regulatory requirements that have the highest priority during an inspection.

(2) AUTHORIZATION.—Subject to all other applicable provisions of this section, with the written agreement of the Secretary and a State authority certified under this section, which may be in the form of a memorandum of understanding, the Secretary may authorize, and the State authority may carry out, a risk-based integrated inspection program.

(3) PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE REQUIREMENTS.—A State authority that is authorized to carry out a risk-based integrated inspection program—

(A) shall be subject to the same procedural and substantive requirements that would apply if the Secretary were carrying out the program; and

(B) shall ensure—

(i) that no pipeline system goes without inspection for more than 5 years; and

(ii) that unsatisfactory conditions found in inspections are addressed in a timely manner.

(4) APPLICATION AND CRITERIA.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall establish procedures and criteria for State authorities to apply to

carry out a risk-based integrated inspection program pursuant to this subsection.

(5) *EVALUATION TIMELINE.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 1 year after receiving an application from a State authority to carry out a risk-based integrated inspection program under this subsection, the Secretary shall—

- (i) review the application; and
- (ii) approve or deny the application.

(B) *EXPLANATION OF DENIAL.*—If the Secretary denies an application submitted by a State authority under this subsection, the Secretary shall provide an explanation to the State authority of—

- (i) why the Secretary denied the application; and
- (ii) changes that the State authority could make to the application that would result in the Secretary approving the application.

(6) *REVIEW OF PROGRAMS.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall establish a process to review the implementation of a risk-based integrated inspection program by a State authority.

(B) *REVIEW BY INSPECTOR GENERAL.*—

(i) *IN GENERAL.*—The Inspector General shall—

(I) review each risk-based integrated inspection program authorized by the Secretary under this subsection not later than 3 years after the date on which the relevant application is approved to determine whether the program meets the needs of pipeline safety; and

(II) submit to the Secretary and the appropriate committees of Congress a report on that review.

(ii) *REQUIREMENT.*—If the Inspector General determines that a risk-based integrated inspection program is not adequate and should be terminated, the Inspector General shall notify the Secretary and the appropriate committees of Congress.

(7) *TERMINATION.*—

(A) *TERMINATION BY THE SECRETARY.*—The Secretary may terminate an authorization for a State authority to carry out a risk-based integrated inspection program if—

(i) the Secretary determines that the State authority is not adequately carrying out the program;

(ii) the Secretary provides to the State authority—

(I) a notification of the intent of the Secretary to terminate the authorization for the State authority to carry out a risk-based integrated inspection program;

(II) a period of not less than 120 days to take such corrective action as the Secretary determines to be necessary to comply with the requirements of this section; and

(III) on request of the State authority, a detailed description of the aspects of the program that are inadequate; and

(iii) the State authority, after the notification described in clause (ii)(I), fails to take satisfactory corrective action in accordance with clause (ii)(II) before the expiration of the period provided under that clause.

(B) *TERMINATION BY A STATE AUTHORITY.*—A State authority may terminate its authority to carry out a risk-based integrated inspection program at any time by providing to the Secretary a notice not later than 90 days before the date of termination.

* * * * *

§ 60108. Inspection and maintenance

(a) PLANS.—[(1) Each]

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Each person owning or operating a gas pipeline facility or hazardous liquid pipeline facility shall carry out a current written plan (including any changes) for inspection and maintenance of each facility used in the transportation and owned or operated by the person. A copy of the plan shall be kept at any office of the person the Secretary of Transportation considers appropriate. The Secretary also may require a person owning or operating a pipeline facility subject to this chapter to file a plan for inspection and maintenance for approval.

[(2) If]

(2) *REVISION.*—If the Secretary or a State authority responsible for enforcing standards prescribed under this chapter decides that a plan required under paragraph (1) of this subsection is inadequate for safe operation, the Secretary or authority shall require the person to revise the plan. Revision may be required only after giving notice and an opportunity for a hearing. A plan required under paragraph (1) must be practicable and designed to meet the need for pipeline safety, must meet the requirements of any regulations promulgated under section 60102(q), and must include terms designed to enhance the ability to discover safety-related conditions described in section 60102(h)(1) of this title. In deciding on the adequacy of a plan, the Secretary or authority shall consider—

(A) relevant available pipeline safety information;

(B) the appropriateness of the plan for the particular kind of pipeline transportation or facility;

(C) the reasonableness of the plan;

(D) the extent to which the plan will contribute to—

(i) public safety;

(ii) eliminating hazardous leaks and minimizing releases of natural gas from pipeline facilities; [and]

(iii) the protection of the environment; and

(iv) mitigation of threats posed by geological hazards; and

(E) the extent to which the plan addresses the replacement or remediation of pipelines that are known to leak based on the material (including cast iron, unprotected steel, wrought iron, and historic plastics with known issues), design, or past operating and maintenance history of the pipeline.

(3) REVIEW OF PLANS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, and not less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary or relevant State authority with a certification in effect under section 60105 shall review each plan described in this subsection.

(B) CONTEXT OF REVIEW.—The Secretary may conduct a review under this paragraph as an element of the inspection of the operator carried out by the Secretary under subsection (b).

(C) INADEQUATE PROGRAMS.—If the Secretary determines that a plan reviewed under this paragraph does not comply with the requirements of this chapter (including any regulations promulgated under this chapter), has not been adequately implemented, is inadequate for the safe operation of a pipeline facility, or is otherwise inadequate, the Secretary may conduct enforcement proceedings under this chapter.

(4) ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF MAINTAINING RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—*As part of the review conducted under paragraph (3), the Secretary shall allow for an alternative method of maintaining rights-of-way for pipelines and other pipeline facilities under a voluntary program carried out by the operator if the Secretary determines that the alternative method—*

(i) achieves a level of safety at least equal to the level of safety required by the regulations promulgated under this chapter; and

(ii) allows for timely emergency response.

(B) PURPOSE.—*An operator considering implementing an alternative method described in subparagraph (A) may consider incorporating into the plan for implementing that method 1 or more conservation practices, including—*

(i) integrated vegetation management practices, including reduced mowing;

(ii) the development of habitat and forage for pollinators and other wildlife through seeding or planting of diverse native forbs and grasses;

(iii) practices relating to maintenance strategies that promote early successional vegetation or limit disturbance during periods of highest use by target pollinator species and other wildlife on pipeline or facility rights-of-way, including—

(I) increasing mowing height;

(II) reducing mowing frequency; and

(III) refraining from mowing monarch and other pollinator habitat during periods in which monarchs or other pollinators are present;

(iv) an integrated vegetation management plan that may include approaches such as mechanical tree and brush removal and targeted and judicious use of herbicides and mowing to address incompatible or undesirable vegetation while promoting compatible and beneficial vegetation on pipeline and facility rights-of-way;

(v) *planting or seeding of deeply rooted, regionally appropriate perennial grasses and wildflowers, including milkweed, to enhance habitat;*

(vi) *removing shallow-rooted grasses from planting and seeding mixes, except for use as nurse or cover crops; and*

(vii) *obtaining expert training or assistance on wildlife- and pollinator-friendly practices, including—*

(I) native plant identification;

(II) establishment and management of regionally appropriate native plants;

(III) land management practices; and

(IV) integrated vegetation management.

(C) CONSULTATION.—

(i) **AVAILABLE GUIDANCE.**—*In developing alternative methods under this paragraph, an operator shall consult any available guidance issued by—*

(I) the Secretary; or

(II) an applicable State agency carrying out compliance activities on behalf of the Secretary in accordance with section 60105.

(ii) **LEADING INDUSTRY PRACTICES.**—*In the absence of guidance described in clause (i), an operator may consult leading industry practices and guidance to develop and implement alternative methods under this paragraph.*

(D) REQUIREMENTS.—*An operator using an alternative method under this paragraph shall ensure that the alternative inspection plans of the operator continue to ensure that the operator can identify risks to pipeline facilities.*

(E) SAVINGS PROVISION.—*Nothing in this paragraph exempts an operator from compliance with any applicable requirements under this chapter (including any regulations promulgated under this chapter).*

(b) * * *

(c) PIPELINE FACILITIES OFFSHORE AND IN OTHER WATERS.—(1)
In this subsection—

(A) “abandoned” means permanently removed from service.

(B) “pipeline facility” includes an underwater abandoned pipeline facility.

(C) if a pipeline facility has no operator, the most recent operator of the facility is deemed to be the operator of the facility.

(2)(A) Not later than May 16, 1993, on the basis of experience with the inspections under section 3(h)(1)(A) of the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968 or section 203(l)(1)(A) of the Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Act of 1979, as appropriate, and any other information available to the Secretary, the Secretary shall establish a mandatory, systematic, and, where appropriate, periodic inspection program of—

(i) all offshore pipeline facilities; and

(ii) any other pipeline facility crossing under, over, or through waters where a substantial likelihood of commercial navigation exists, if the Secretary decides that the location of

the facility in those waters could pose a hazard to navigation or public safety.

(B) In prescribing standards to carry out subparagraph (A) of this paragraph—

(i) the Secretary shall identify what is a hazard to navigation with respect to an underwater abandoned pipeline facility; and

(ii) for an underwater pipeline facility abandoned after October 24, 1992, the Secretary shall include requirements that will lessen the potential that the facility will pose a hazard to navigation and shall consider the relationship between water depth and navigational safety and factors relevant to the local marine environment.

(3)(A) The Secretary shall establish by regulation a program requiring an operator of a pipeline facility described in paragraph (2) of this subsection to report a potential or existing navigational hazard involving that pipeline facility to the Secretary through the appropriate Coast Guard office.

(B) The operator of a pipeline facility described in paragraph (2) of this subsection that discovers any part of the pipeline facility that is a hazard to navigation shall mark the location of the hazardous part with a Coast-Guard-approved marine buoy or marker and immediately shall notify the Secretary as provided by the Secretary under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph. A marine buoy or marker used under this subparagraph is deemed a pipeline sign or right-of-way marker under section 60123(c) of this title.

(4)(A) The Secretary shall establish a standard that each pipeline facility described in paragraph (2) of this subsection that is a hazard to navigation is buried not later than 6 months after the date the condition of the facility is reported to the Secretary. The Secretary may extend that 6-month period for a reasonable period to ensure compliance with this paragraph.

(B) In prescribing standards for subparagraph (A) of this paragraph for an underwater pipeline facility abandoned after October 24, 1992, the Secretary shall include requirements that will lessen the potential that the facility will pose a hazard to navigation and shall consider the relationship between water depth and navigational safety and factors relevant to the local marine environment.

(5)(A) Not later than October 24, 1994, the Secretary shall establish standards on what is an exposed offshore pipeline facility and what is a hazard to navigation under this subsection.

(B) Not later than 6 months after the Secretary establishes standards under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, or October 24, 1995, whichever occurs first, the operator of each offshore pipeline facility not described in section 3(h)(1)(A) of the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968 or section 203(l)(1)(A) of the Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Act of 1979, as appropriate, shall inspect the facility and report to the Secretary on any part of the facility that is exposed or is a hazard to navigation. This subparagraph applies only to a facility that is between the high water mark and the point at which the subsurface is under 15 feet of water, as measured from mean low water. An inspection that occurred after October 3, 1989, may be used for compliance with this subparagraph if the inspection conforms to the requirements of this subparagraph.

(C) The Secretary may extend the time period specified in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph for not more than 6 months if the

operator of a facility satisfies the Secretary that the operator has made a good faith effort, with reasonable diligence, but has been unable to comply by the end of that period.

(6)(A) The operator of a pipeline facility abandoned after October 24, 1992, shall report the abandonment to the Secretary in a way that specifies whether the facility has been abandoned properly according to applicable United States Government and State requirements.

(B) Not later than October 24, 1995, the operator of a pipeline facility abandoned before October 24, 1992, shall report to the Secretary reasonably available information related to the facility, including information that a third party possesses. The information shall include the location, size, date, and method of abandonment, whether the facility has been abandoned properly under applicable law, and other relevant information the Secretary may require. Not later than April 24, 1994, the Secretary shall specify how the information shall be reported. The Secretary shall ensure that the Government maintains the information in a way accessible to appropriate Government agencies and State authorities.

(C) The Secretary shall request that a State authority having information on a collision between a vessel and an underwater pipeline facility report the information to the Secretary *and Tribal officials from any affected Indian Tribe* in a timely way and make a reasonable effort to specify the location, date, and severity of the collision. Chapter 35 of title 44 does not apply to this subparagraph.

(7) The Secretary may not exempt from this chapter an offshore hazardous liquid pipeline facility only because the pipeline facility transfers hazardous liquid in an underwater pipeline between a vessel and an onshore facility.

(8) If, after reviewing existing Federal and State regulations for hazardous liquid gathering lines located offshore in the United States, including within the inlets of the Gulf of Mexico, the Secretary determines it is appropriate, the Secretary shall issue regulations, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, subjecting offshore hazardous liquid gathering lines and hazardous liquid gathering lines located within the inlets of the Gulf of Mexico to the same standards and regulations as other hazardous liquid gathering lines. The regulations issued under this paragraph shall not apply to production pipelines or flow lines.

(d) * * *

(e) **[IN GENERAL] POST-INSPECTION BRIEFING AND PRELIMINARY FINDINGS.**—After the completion of a Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration pipeline safety inspection, the Administrator of such Administration, or the State authority certified under section 60105 of title 49, United States Code, to conduct such inspection, shall—

(1) within 30 days, conduct a post-inspection briefing with the owner or operator of the gas or hazardous liquid pipeline facility inspecting outlining any concerns; and

(2) within 90 days, to the extent practicable, provide the owner or operator with written preliminary findings of the inspection.

(f) *INSPECTION OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—When requiring an operator to inspect the surface conditions on or adjacent to a pipeline right-of-way, the Secretary shall allow the use of unmanned aircraft systems and satellites.

(2) *SAVINGS PROVISION.*—Nothing in this subsection affects any obligation to operate an unmanned aircraft system in accordance with all relevant Federal laws relating to the use of unmanned aircraft systems.

§ 60109. High-density population areas and environmentally sensitive areas

(a) * * *

(b) * * *

(c) * * *

(d) * * *

(e) **DISTRIBUTION INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS.**—

(1) * * *

(2) * * *

(3) * * *

(4) * * *

(5) * * *

(6) * * *

(7) **EVALUATION OF RISK.**—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations to ensure that each distribution integrity management plan developed by an operator of a distribution system includes an evaluation of—

(i) the risks resulting from the [presence of cast iron pipes and mains in the distribution system; and] *presence, in the distribution system, of pipes and mains made of—*

(I) *cast iron;*

(II) *unprotected steel;*

(III) *wrought iron; or*

(IV) *historic plastics with known safety issues;*

and

(ii) the risks that could lead to or result from the operation of a low-pressure distribution system at a pressure that makes the operation of any connected and properly adjusted low-pressure gas burning equipment unsafe, as determined by the Secretary.

(B) * * *

[(C) DEADLINES.—

[(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, each operator of a distribution system shall make available to the Secretary or the relevant State authority with a certification in effect under section 60105, as applicable, a copy of—

[(I) the distribution integrity management plan of the operator;

[(II) the emergency response plan under section 60102(d)(5); and

[(III) the procedural manual for operations, maintenance, and emergencies under section 60102(d)(4).

[(ii) UPDATES.—Each operator of a distribution system shall make available to the Secretary or make available for inspection to the relevant State authority described in clause (i), if applicable, an updated plan or manual described in that clause by not later than 60 days after the date of a significant update, as determined by the Secretary.

[(iii) APPLICABILITY OF FOIA.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to authorize the disclosure of any information that is exempt from disclosure under section 552(b) of title 5.]

(C) DEADLINES.—

(i) *EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN.*—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025, each operator of a distribution system shall make available to the Secretary or the relevant State authority with a certification in effect under section 60105, as applicable, and to any affected Indian Tribe, a copy of the emergency response plan under section 60102(d)(5).

(ii) *OTHER DOCUMENTS.*—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025, each operator of a distribution system shall make available to the Secretary or the relevant State authority with a certification in effect under section 60105, as applicable, a copy of—

(I) the distribution integrity management plan of the operator; and

(II) the procedural manual for operations, maintenance, and emergencies under section 60102(d)(4).

(iii) *UPDATES.*—Not later than 60 days after the date of a significant update, as determined by the Secretary, to a plan or manual described in clause (i) or (ii), the operator of the applicable distribution system shall—

(I) in the case of an emergency response plan described in clause (i), make available to the Secretary or make available for inspection to the relevant State authority described in that clause (if applicable), and make available for inspection to any affected Indian Tribe, an updated copy of the emergency response plan; and

(II) in the case of a plan or manual described in clause (ii), make available to the Secretary or make available for inspection to the relevant State authority described in that clause (if applicable) an updated copy of the applicable plan or manual.

(iv) *APPLICABILITY OF FOIA.*—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to authorize the disclosure of any information that is exempt from disclosure under section 552(b) of title 5.

(D) * * *

- (f) * * *
- (g) * * *

§ 60110. Excess flow valves

- (a) * * *
- (b) * * *
- (c) * * *
- (d) * * *
- (e) * * *

(f) **FIRE SHUTOFF VALVES OR EQUIVALENT TECHNOLOGY.**—

(1) **DEFINITIONS.**—*In this subsection:*

(A) **EQUIVALENT TECHNOLOGY.**—*The term “equivalent technology” means any technology that—*

(i) *is not an excess flow valve; and*

(ii) *meets the performance standard of shutting off gas on a service line of a distribution system to a dwelling or other building in the event of a fire.*

(B) **FIRE-FIRST IGNITION.**—*The term “fire-first ignition” means an occurrence in which a fire originating from a foreign source causes a natural gas system to fail, release, or ignite.*

(C) **FIRE SAFETY VALVE.**—*The term “fire safety valve” means—*

(i) *a fire shutoff valve; and*

(ii) *any equivalent technology.*

(D) **FIRE SHUTOFF VALVE.**—*The term “fire shutoff valve” means a spring-loaded plug that is held in place by a fusible link that—*

(i) *is made of a low-melting-point alloy;*

(ii) *is attached to a gas source; and*

(iii) *melts when exposed to fire, causing the spring-loaded plug to close, shutting off the gas to a dwelling or other building connected to a service line of a distribution system.*

(2) **STUDY.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—*Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall complete a study on the effectiveness of fire safety valves in order to determine the ability of fire safety valves to improve public safety through mitigation of secondary ignitions, such as fire-first ignitions.*

(B) **REQUIREMENTS.**—*The study under subparagraph (A) shall evaluate—*

(i) *various scenarios and applications for deploying fire safety valves;*

(ii) *the current incidence of fire-first ignition of natural gas distribution pipelines;*

(iii) *anticipated reduction of fire-first ignition risk under various fire safety valve deployment scenarios, including—*

(I) *lowering the likelihood of gas ignition; and*

(II) *lowering the impact and damage of fire-first ignition incidents;*

(iv) *the long-term durability, construction, and effectiveness of fire safety valves; and*

(v) *the commercial availability of fire safety valves for the pipeline industry.*

(3) *RULEMAKING.—After completing the study described in paragraph (2), the Secretary may prescribe risk-based standards on the circumstances under which an operator of a natural gas distribution system shall be required to install fire shutoff valves or equivalent technologies in the system.*

§ 60111. * * *

§ 60112. Pipeline facilities hazardous to life and property

(a) * * *

(b) * * *

(c) *OPPORTUNITY FOR STATE COMMENT.—The Secretary shall provide, to any appropriate official of a State in which a pipeline facility is located and about which a proceeding has begun under this section, notice and an opportunity to comment on an agreement the Secretary proposes to make to resolve the proceeding. State comment shall incorporate comments of affected local officials and a Tribal official from any affected Indian Tribe.*

(d) * * *

(e) * * *

§ 60113. * * *

§ 60114. One-call notification systems

(a) * * *

(b) * * *

(c) * * *

(d) * * *

(e) * * *

(f) *LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not conduct an enforcement proceeding under subsection (d) for a violation within the boundaries of a State that has the authority to impose penalties described in [section 60134(b)(7)] section 60134(b)(1)(G) against persons who violate that State's damage prevention laws, unless the Secretary has determined that the State's enforcement is inadequate to protect safety, consistent with this chapter, and until the Secretary issues, through a rulemaking proceeding, the procedures for determining inadequate State enforcement of penalties.*

(g) * * *

§ 60115. Technical safety standards committees

(a) * * *

(b) *COMPOSITION AND APPOINTMENT.—(1) * * **

(2) * * *

(3) *The members of each committee are appointed as follows:*

(A) *5 individuals selected from departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States Government [and of], Indian Tribes, and the States.*

(B) *5 individuals selected from the natural gas or hazardous liquid industry, as appropriate, after consulting with industry representatives.*

(C) *5 individuals selected from the general public.*

(4)(A) * * *

(5) * * *

(c) COMMITTEE REPORTS ON PROPOSED STANDARDS.—(1) * * *

(2) Not later than 90 days after receiving the proposed standard and supporting analyses, the appropriate committee shall prepare and submit to the Secretary a report on the technical feasibility, reasonableness, cost-effectiveness, and practicability of the proposed standard and include in the report recommended actions. The Secretary shall publish each report, including any recommended actions and minority views. The report if timely made is part of the proceeding for prescribing the standard. The Secretary is not bound by the conclusions of the committee. However, if the Secretary rejects the conclusions of the committee, the Secretary shall publish the reasons *and notify the appropriate committees of Congress (as defined in section 2 of the PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025)*.

(3) * * *

(d) * * *

(e) MEETINGS.—Each committee shall meet with the Secretary at least [up to 4] 2 times annually. Each committee proceeding shall be recorded. The record of the proceeding shall be available to the public.

(f) * * *

§ 60116. Public education programs

(a) * * *

(b) MODIFICATION OF EXISTING PROGRAMS.—[Not later than 12 months after the date of enactment of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002] *Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025*, each owner or operator of a gas or hazardous liquid pipeline facility shall review its existing public education program for effectiveness and modify the program as necessary. The completed program shall include activities to advise *affected Indian Tribes*, affected municipalities, school districts, businesses, and residents of pipeline facility locations. The completed program shall be submitted to the Secretary or, in the case of an intrastate pipeline facility operator, the appropriate State agency, and shall be periodically reviewed by the Secretary or, in the case of an intrastate pipeline facility operator, the appropriate State agency.

(c) * * *

§ 60117. Administrative

(a) * * *

(b) ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES.—

(1) PROCESS.—In implementing enforcement procedures under this chapter and part 190 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations), the Secretary shall—

(A) allow the respondent to request the use of a consent agreement and consent order to resolve any matter of fact or law asserted;

(B) allow the respondent and the agency to convene 1 or more meetings—

(i) for settlement or simplification of the issues; [or]

(ii) to aid in the disposition of issues; or

(iii) *to allow a recipient of a warning under section 190.205 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or a*

successor regulation), to discuss claims made in the warning with relevant staff;

(C) require that the case file in an enforcement proceeding include all agency records pertinent to the matters of fact and law asserted;

(D) allow the respondent to reply to each post-hearing submission of the agency;

(E) allow the respondent to request that a hearing be held, and an order be issued, on an expedited basis;

(F) require that the agency have the burden of proof, presentation, and persuasion in any enforcement matter;

(G) require that any order contain findings of relevant fact and conclusions of law;

(H) require the Office of Pipeline Safety to file a post-hearing recommendation not later than 30 days after the deadline for any post-hearing submission of a respondent;

(I) require an order on a petition for reconsideration to be issued not later than 120 days after the date on which the petition is filed; **[and]**

(J) allow an operator to request that an issue of controversy or uncertainty be addressed through a declaratory order in accordance with section 554(e) of title 5**].**;

(K) for civil penalties over \$1,000,000, adjusted each year for inflation, allow the respondent to request a formal hearing in accordance with section 554 of title 5, conducted by an administrative law judge; and

(L) provide a written response to a request for the withdrawal or modification of a written warning issued under this section.

[(2) OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.—A hearing under this section shall be—

[(A) noticed to the public on the website of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration; and

[(B) in the case of a formal hearing (as defined in section 190.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation)), open to the public.]

(2) HEARING REQUIREMENTS.—*A hearing under this section shall—*

(A) be noticed to the public on the website of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration on its own page titled “Upcoming Enforcement Hearings”;

(B) provide an orderly and timely process, as determined by the Secretary;

(C) in the case of a formal hearing, be open to the public.

(3) * * *

(4) * * *

(c) * * *

(d) * * *

(e) * * *

(f) * * *

(g) TESTING FACILITIES INVOLVED IN ACCIDENTS.—The Secretary may require testing of a part of a pipeline facility subject to this chapter that has been involved in or affected by an accident only after—

(1) notifying the appropriate State official in the State in which the facility is located *and an appropriate Tribal official from any affected Indian Tribe*; and

(2) attempting to negotiate a mutually acceptable plan for testing with the owner of the facility and, when the Secretary considers appropriate, the National Transportation Safety Board.

(h) * * *

(i) COOPERATION.—The Secretary may—

(1) advise, assist, and cooperate with other departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States Government, the States, *Indian Tribes*, and public and private agencies and persons in planning and developing safety standards and ways to inspect and test to decide whether those standards have been complied with;

(2) consult with and make recommendations to other departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Government, State and local governments, *Indian Tribes*, and public and private agencies and persons to develop and encourage activities, including the enactment of legislation, that will assist in carrying out this chapter and improve State and local pipeline safety programs; and

(3) participate in a proceeding involving safety requirements related to a liquefied natural gas facility before the Commission or a State authority.

(j) * * *

(k) * * *

(l) AUTHORITY FOR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—To carry out this chapter, the Secretary may enter into grants, cooperative agreements, and other transactions with any person, agency, or instrumentality of the United States, any unit of State or local government, *Indian Tribes*, any educational institution, or any other entity to further the objectives of this chapter. The objectives of this chapter include the development, improvement, and promotion of one-call damage prevention programs, research, risk assessment, and mapping.

(m) * * *

(n) RESTORATION OF OPERATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may advise, assist, and cooperate with the heads of other departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States Government, the States, *Indian Tribes*, and public and private agencies and persons to facilitate the restoration of pipeline operations that have been or are anticipated to become disrupted by manmade or natural disasters.

(2) * * *

(o) * * *

(p) EMERGENCY ORDER AUTHORITY.—

(1) * * *

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—

(A) * * *

(B) CONSULTATION.—In considering the factors under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall consult, as the Secretary determines appropriate, with appropriate Federal

agencies, State agencies, *Indian Tribes*, and other entities knowledgeable in pipeline safety or operations.

- (3) * * *
- (4) * * *
- (5) * * *
- (6) * * *
- (7) * * *
- (8) * * *
- (9) * * *

§ 60118. Compliance and waivers

- (a) * * *
- (b) * * *

(c) WAIVERS BY SECRETARY.—

(1) NONEMERGENCY WAIVERS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—On application of an owner or operator of a pipeline facility, the Secretary by order may waive compliance with any part of an applicable standard prescribed under this chapter with respect to such facility on terms the Secretary considers appropriate if the Secretary determines that the waiver is **[not inconsistent]** *consistent* with pipeline safety.

(B) HEARING.—The Secretary may act on a waiver under this paragraph only after notice *and comment* and an opportunity for a hearing.

(C) ACTION ON APPLICATION.—*Not later than 180 days after receiving an application for a waiver under this paragraph, the Secretary shall—*

(i) complete any applicable review relating to the application and act on the application by—

(I) issuing an order granting the waiver; or

(II) denying the application; or

(ii) inform the applicant that additional time is needed to review the application, including by providing notifications of the need for additional time at least once every 180 days until the waiver is granted or the application is denied.

- (2) * * *

[(3) STATEMENT OF REASONS.—The Secretary shall state in an order issued under this subsection the reasons for granting the waiver.]

(3) STATEMENT OF REASONS.—The Secretary shall state in an order issued under this subsection that is publicly posted on the website of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration the reasons for granting or denying the waiver.

- (d) * * *
- (e) * * *
- (f) * * *

§ 60119. Judicial review

(a) REVIEW OF REGULATIONS, ORDERS, AND OTHER FINAL AGENCY ACTIONS.—(1) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a person, *including an Indian Tribe*, adversely affected by a regulation prescribed under this chapter or an order issued under this chapter may apply for review of the regulation or order by filing

a petition for review in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit or in the court of appeals of the United States for the circuit in which the person resides or has its principal place of business. The petition must be filed not later than 89 days after the regulation is prescribed or order is issued. The clerk of the court immediately shall send a copy of the petition to the Secretary of Transportation.

§ 60120. * * *

§ 60121. * * *

§ 60122. Civil penalties

(a) GENERAL PENALTIES.—(1) A person that the Secretary of Transportation decides, after written notice and an opportunity for a hearing, has violated section 60114(b), 60114(d), or 60118(a) of this title or a regulation prescribed or order issued under this chapter is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than ~~【\$200,000】~~ \$400,000 for each violation. A separate violation occurs for each day the violation continues. The maximum civil penalty under this paragraph for a related series of violations is ~~【\$2,000,000】~~ \$4,000,000.

(2) * * *

(3) * * *

(b) PENALTY CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining the amount of a civil penalty under this section—

(1) the Secretary shall consider—

(A) the nature, circumstances, and gravity of the violation, including adverse impact on the environment;

(B) with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior violations, and any effect on ability to continue doing business;

(C) good faith in attempting to comply; ~~【and】~~

(D) self-disclosure and correction of violations, or actions to correct a violation, prior to discovery by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration; ~~【and】~~

(E) the timeliness of emergency response notification, including by reducing penalties for cases in which incidents are reported within 10 minutes of a suspected release; and

(F) advanced coordination with State, local, Tribal, and territorial governmental entities resulting in the relevant and timely use of existing public alert notification systems; and

(2) the Secretary may consider—

(A) the economic benefit gained from the violation without any reduction because of subsequent damages; and

(B) other matters that justice requires.

(c) * * *

(d) * * *

(e) * * *

(f) * * *

§ 60123. * * *

§ 60124. * * *

§ 60125. Authorization of appropriations

(a) GAS AND HAZARDOUS LIQUID.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—From fees collected under section 60301, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355) and the provisions of this chapter relating to gas and hazardous liquid—

(A) ~~【\$156,400,000 for fiscal year 2021】~~ *\$185,000,000 for fiscal year 2026*, of which—

(i) \$9,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355); and

(ii) ~~【\$63,000,000】~~ *\$83,250,000* shall be used for making grants;

(B) ~~【\$158,500,000 for fiscal year 2022】~~ *\$190,365,000 for fiscal year 2027*, of which—

(i) \$9,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355); and

(ii) ~~【\$66,000,000】~~ *\$85,660,000* shall be used for making grants; ~~【and】~~

(C) ~~【\$162,700,000 for fiscal year 2023】~~ *\$195,886,000 for fiscal year 2028*, of which—

(i) \$9,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355); and

(ii) ~~【\$69,000,000】~~ *\$88,150,000* shall be used for making grants~~【.】~~;

(D) *\$201,556,000 for fiscal year 2029*, of which—

(i) *\$9,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355); and*

(ii) *\$90,700,000 shall be used for making grants; and*

(E) *\$207,412,000 for fiscal year 2030*, of which—

(i) *\$9,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355); and*

(ii) *\$93,340,000 shall be used for making grants.*

(2) TRUST FUND AMOUNTS.—In addition to the amounts authorized to be appropriated under paragraph (1), there are authorized to be appropriated from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund established by section 9509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355) and the provisions of this chapter relating to hazardous liquid—

(A) ~~【\$27,000,000 for fiscal year 2021】~~ *\$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2026*, of which—

(i) \$3,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355); and

- (ii) ~~【\$11,000,000】~~ *\$13,500,000* shall be used for making grants;
 - (B) ~~【\$27,650,000 for fiscal year 2022】~~ *\$31,000,000 for fiscal year 2027*, of which—
 - (i) \$3,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355); and
 - (ii) ~~【\$12,000,000】~~ *\$13,950,000* shall be used for making grants; ~~【and】~~
 - (C) ~~【\$28,700,000 for fiscal year 2023】~~ *\$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2028*, of which—
 - (i) \$3,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355); and
 - (ii) ~~【\$13,000,000】~~ *\$14,400,000* shall be used for making grants~~【.】~~;
 - (D) *\$33,000,000 for fiscal year 2029, of which—*
 - (i) *\$3,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355); and*
 - (ii) *\$14,850,000 shall be used for making grants; and*
 - (E) *\$34,000,000 for fiscal year 2030, of which—*
 - (i) *\$3,000,000 shall be used to carry out section 12 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107–355); and*
 - (ii) *\$15,300,000 shall be used for making grants.*
- (3) UNDERGROUND NATURAL GAS STORAGE FACILITY SAFETY ACCOUNT.—From fees collected under section 60302, there is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out section 60141 ~~【\$8,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2023】~~ *\$7,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030.*
- (b) EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANTS.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish a program for making grants to State, county, and local governments, *and affected Indian Tribes*, in high consequence areas, as defined by the Secretary, for emergency response management, training, and technical assistance. To the extent that such grants are used to train emergency responders, such training shall ensure that emergency responders have the ability to protect nearby persons, property, and the environment from the effects of accidents or incidents involving gas or hazardous liquid pipelines, in accordance with existing regulations.
- (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated ~~【\$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2023 to carry out this subsection】~~ *\$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030.*
- (c) * * *

§ 60126. * * *

§ 60127. * * *

§ 60128. * * *

§ 60129. Protection of employees providing pipeline safety information

(a) DISCRIMINATION AGAINST EMPLOYEE.—

(1) * * *

(2) Employer defined.—In this section, the term “employer” means—

(A) a person owning or operating a pipeline facility; [or]

(B) a contractor or subcontractor of [such a person.] *a person described in subparagraph (A); or*

(C) *an officer, employee, or agent of a person described in subparagraph (A).*

(b) DEPARTMENT OF LABOR COMPLAINT PROCEDURE.—

(1) * * *

(2) * * *

(3) FINAL ORDER.—

(A) * * *

(B) REMEDY.—If, in response to a complaint filed under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Labor determines that a violation of subsection (a) has occurred, the Secretary of Labor shall order the person or persons who committed such violation to—

(i) take affirmative action to abate the violation;

(ii) reinstate the complainant to his or her former position together with the compensation (including back pay *with interest*) and restore the terms, conditions, and privileges associated with his or her employment; and

(iii) provide compensatory damages to the complainant, *including compensation for any special damages sustained as a result of the discrimination.*

If such an order is issued under this paragraph, the Secretary of Labor, at the request of the complainant, shall assess against the person or persons against whom the order is issued a sum equal to the aggregate amount of all costs and expenses (including attorney’s and expert witness fees) reasonably incurred, as determined by the Secretary of Labor, by the complainant for, or in connection with, the bringing the complaint upon which the order was issued.

(C) * * *

(D) * * *

(4) * * *

(5) * * *

(6) * * *

(c) * * *

(d) * * *

(e) * * *

§ 60130. Pipeline safety information grants to communities

(a) * * *

(b) * * *

(c) FUNDING.—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), out of amounts made available under [section 2(b) of the PIPES Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–183; 130 Stat. 515), the Secretary shall use \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2023 to carry out this section.] *section 60125(a)(1), the Secretary shall use to carry out this section—*

- (A) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2026;
- (B) \$2,750,000 for fiscal year 2027;
- (C) \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2028;
- (D) \$3,250,000 for fiscal year 2029; and
- (E) \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2030.

(2) **IMPROVING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—From the amounts used to carry out this section under paragraph (1) each fiscal year, the Secretary shall award [\$1,000,000] to an eligible applicant through a competitive selection process for the purpose of improving the quality of technical assistance provided to communities or individuals under this [section.] *section—*

- (A) \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2026;
- (B) \$1,250,000 for fiscal year 2027;
- (C) \$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2028;
- (D) \$1,750,000 for fiscal year 2029; and
- (E) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2030.

(3) **LIMITATION.**—Any amounts used to carry out this section shall not be derived from user fees collected under section 60301.

(d) **DEADLINES.**—

(1) **NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY.**—*Not later than 60 days after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this section, the Secretary shall publish a notice of funding opportunity for the funds.*

(2) **APPLICATIONS.**—*To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an eligible applicant shall submit to the Secretary an application—*

- (A) *in such form and containing such information as the Secretary considers to be appropriate; and*
- (B) *by such date as the Secretary may establish, subject to the condition that the date shall be not later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary publishes the notice of funding opportunity under paragraph (1).*

(3) **SELECTION.**—*Not later than 120 days after the date on which the Secretary publishes the notice of funding opportunity under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall announce the selection by the Secretary of eligible applicants to receive grants in accordance with this section.*

[(d)](e) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The term “technical assistance” means engineering, research, and other scientific analysis of pipeline safety issues, including the promotion of public participation on technical pipeline safety issues in proceedings related to this chapter.

(2) **ELIGIBLE APPLICANT.**—The term “eligible applicant” means a nonprofit entity that—

- (A) is a public safety advocate;
- (B) has pipeline safety expertise;

(C) is able to provide individuals and communities with technical assistance; and

(D) was established with funds designated for the purpose of community service through the implementation of section 3553 of title 18 relating to violations of this chapter.

§ 60131. * * *

§ 60132. National pipeline mapping system

(a) * * *

(b) * * *

(c) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE LOCAL RESPONSE CAPABILITIES.—The Secretary may provide technical assistance to [State and local] *State, local, and Tribal* officials to improve local response capabilities for pipeline emergencies by adapting information available through the National Pipeline Mapping System to software used by emergency response personnel responding to pipeline emergencies.

(d) * * *

(e) PROGRAM TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF NATIONAL PIPELINE MAPPING SYSTEM.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary shall develop and implement a program promoting greater awareness of the existence of the National Pipeline Mapping System to [State and local] *State, local, and Tribal* emergency responders and other interested parties. The program shall include guidance on how to use the National Pipeline Mapping System to locate pipelines in communities and local jurisdictions.

(f) * * *

§ 60133. Coordination of environmental reviews

(a) INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.—

(1) * * *

(2) * * *

(3) * * *

(4) * * *

(5) STATE AND LOCAL CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this subsection, the Interagency Committee shall consult with appropriate State [and local], *local, and Tribal* environmental, pipeline safety, and emergency response officials, and such other officials as the Interagency Committee considers appropriate.

(b) * * *

(c) SAVINGS PROVISIONS; NO PREEMPTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed—

(1) * * *

(2) to preempt applicable Federal, State, *Tribal*, or local environmental law.

(d) * * *

(e) * * *

(f) * * *

§ 60134. State damage prevention programs

(a) * * *

(b) *STATE DAMAGE PREVENTION PROGRAM ELEMENTS.*—[An]

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—An effective damage prevention program includes the following elements:

[(1)](A) Participation by operators, excavators, and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of methods for establishing and maintaining effective communications between stakeholders from receipt of an excavation notification until successful completion of the excavation, as appropriate.

[(2)](B) A process for fostering and ensuring the support and partnership of stakeholders, including excavators, operators, locators, designers, and local government in all phases of the program.

[(3)](C) A process for reviewing the adequacy of a pipeline operator's internal performance measures regarding persons performing locating services and quality assurance programs.

[(4)](D) Participation by operators, excavators, and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of effective employee training programs to ensure that operators, the one-call center, the enforcing agency, and the excavators have partnered to design and implement training for the employees of operators, excavators, and locators.

[(5)](E) A process for fostering and ensuring active participation by all stakeholders in public education for damage prevention activities.

[(6)](F) A process for resolving disputes that defines the State authority's role as a partner and facilitator to resolve issues.

[(7)](G) Enforcement of State damage prevention laws and regulations for all aspects of the damage prevention process, including public education, and the use of civil penalties for violations assessable by the appropriate State authority.

[(8)](H) A process for fostering and promoting the use, by all appropriate stakeholders, of improving technologies that may enhance communications, underground pipeline locating capability, and gathering and analyzing information about the accuracy and effectiveness of locating programs.

[(9)](I) A process for review and analysis of the effectiveness of each program element, including a means for implementing improvements identified by such program reviews.

(J) *A State one-call program that includes, or is making substantial progress toward including, the one-call leading practices described in paragraph (2).*

(2) *ONE-CALL LEADING PRACTICES.*—The one-call leading practices referred to in paragraph (1)(J) are the following:

(A) *Restricting the size or scope of a one-call ticket for standard locate requests (which may include process exceptions for special large project tickets).*

(B) *Restricting the longevity of a one-call ticket for standard locate requests (which may include process exceptions for special large project tickets).*

(C) *Specifying tolerance (soft-dig only) zone horizontal dimensions.*

(D) *Specifying tolerance zone requirements.*

(E) *Specifying emergency excavation notification requirements.*

(F) *Specifying the responsibilities of excavators, including the reporting of damages or suspected damages.*

(G) *Defining who is an excavator and what is considered excavation.*

(H) *Requiring the use of white-lining.*

(I) *Requiring a positive response before excavation begins, such as a utility, municipality, or other entity that places the relevant marks positively responding to the notification center, and the excavator checking for that positive response before beginning excavation.*

(J) *Requiring that newly installed underground facilities be locatable with commercially available technology.*

(K) *Requiring the marking of sewer lines and laterals.*

(L) *Specifying the qualifications of, and requirements for, those excavators performing trenchless excavation activities that are not subject to pipeline construction requirements under part 192 or 195 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations).*

(c) **FACTORS TO CONSIDER.—[In]**

(1) *IN GENERAL.—In making grants under this section, the Secretary shall take into consideration the commitment of each State to ensuring the effectiveness of its damage prevention program, including legislative and regulatory actions taken by the State.*

(2) *EVALUATION CRITERIA.—The evaluation criteria used by the Secretary for determining the effectiveness of a State damage prevention program shall include consideration of whether the State, at a minimum—*

(A) *engages in effective, active, and meaningful enforcement of State one-call laws, including the efficacy of fines and penalties;*

(B) *requires reporting to the local one-call center of excavation damage events that affect pipelines and other underground facilities that are not privately owned, including (to the extent available at the time of the reporting)—*

(i) *information about the nature of the incident, including its apparent cause;*

(ii) *the organizations involved;*

(iii) *the impact to public safety, utility operations, and customer service; and*

(iv) *the impact to the environment; and*

(C) *limits exemptions to State damage prevention laws.*

(d) * * *

(e) * * *

(f) * * *

(g) * * *

(h) * * *

(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to provide grants under this section ~~【\$1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2023. Such funds shall remain】~~ *\$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030, to remain available until expended.*

§ 60135. * * *

§ 60136. * * *

§ 60137. * * *

§ 60138. * * *

§ 60139. * * *

§ 60140. * * *

§ 60141. * * *

§ 60142. Pipeline safety enhancement programs

(a) * * *

(b) * * *

(c) DURATION.—

(1) * * *

(2) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall not establish any additional safety-enhancing testing programs under subsection (a) after the date that is ~~【3 years after the date of enactment of this section】~~ *5 years after the date of enactment of the PIPE-LINE Safety Act of 2025.*

(d) SAFETY STANDARDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require, as a condition of approval of a testing program under subsection (a), that the safety measures in the testing program are designed to achieve a level of safety that is greater than *or equal to* the level of safety required by this chapter.

[(2) DETERMINATION.—

[(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may issue an order under subparagraph (A) of section 60118(c)(1) to accomplish the purpose of a testing program for a term not to exceed the time period described in subsection (c) if the condition described in paragraph (1) is met, as determined by the Secretary.

[(B) LIMITATION.—An order under subparagraph (A) shall pertain only to those regulations that would otherwise prevent the use of the safety technology to be tested under the testing program.】

(2) DETERMINATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—*To accomplish the purpose of a testing program, the Secretary may issue an order waiving compliance with any part of an applicable standard prescribed under this chapter if the condition described in paragraph (1) is met, as determined by the Secretary.*

(B) LIMITATION.—*The Secretary shall not require testing program applicants to use the nonemergency waiver process, or to otherwise meet the requirements of the non-emergency waiver process, established under section 60118(c)(1).*

(3) * * *

(e) * * *

(f) * * *

(g) * * *

[(h) **AUTHORITY TO TERMINATE PROGRAM.**—The Secretary shall immediately terminate a testing program under subsection (a) if continuation of the testing program would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of this chapter.]

(h) **AUTHORITY TO TERMINATE PROGRAM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—*The Secretary shall immediately terminate a testing program under subsection (a) if continuation of the testing program would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of this chapter.*

(2) **NOTIFICATION.**—*Not later than 10 days after the termination of a testing program under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall notify the relevant pipeline operators of how they can address any deficiencies identified by the Secretary.*

(3) **REINSTATEMENT.**—*If the Secretary determines that the deficiencies identified under paragraph (2) are addressed, the Secretary shall reinstate the testing program.*

(i) * * *

(j) * * *

(k) * * *

(l) * * *

(m) **APPROVAL PROCESS.**—*Establishment of a testing program under subsection (a) shall not be considered a major Federal action (as defined in section 111 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4336e)) for purposes of that Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).*

§ 60143. Idled pipelines

(a) * * *

(b) **RULEMAKING.**—

[(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the PIPES Act of 2020, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations prescribing the applicability of the pipeline safety requirements to idled natural or other gas transmission and hazardous liquid pipelines.]

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—*Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations prescribing the applicability of the pipeline safety requirements to—*

(A) *idled natural gas transmission pipelines;*

(B) *idled other gas transmission pipelines; and*

(C) *idled hazardous liquid pipelines.*

(2) * * *

§ 60144. Voluntary information-sharing system

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—*In this section:*

(1) **ADMINISTRATOR.**—*The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.*

(2) **GOVERNING BOARD.**—*The term “Governing Board” means the governing board established under subsection (d)(1).*

(3) *ISSUE ANALYSIS TEAM.*—The term “Issue Analysis Team” means an Issue Analysis Team established under subsection (g)(1).

(4) *PROGRAM MANAGER.*—The term “Program Manager” means the Program Manager described in subsection (e).

(5) *THIRD-PARTY DATA MANAGER.*—The term “Third-Party Data Manager” means the Third-Party Data Manager appointed under subsection (f)(1).

(6) *VIS.*—The term “VIS” means the voluntary information-sharing system established under subsection (b)(1).

(b) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall establish a confidential and nonpunitive voluntary information-sharing system to encourage the sharing of pipeline safety data and information in order to improve the safety of gas transmission pipelines, gas distribution pipelines, liquefied natural gas facilities, underground natural gas storage facilities, and hazardous liquid pipelines.

(2) *REQUIREMENT.*—The VIS shall be implemented and managed in accordance with the report entitled “Pipeline Safety Voluntary Information-Sharing System Recommendation Report” prepared under section 10 of the PIPES Act of 2016 (49 U.S.C. 60108 note; Public Law 114–183) by the Voluntary Information Sharing System Working Group convened under that section.

(3) *PURPOSE.*—The purpose of the VIS shall be to serve as a comprehensive and integrated system—

(A) to gather, evaluate, and quantify critical pipeline safety data and information; and

(B) to share recommended remediation measures and lessons learned across the pipeline industry in an efficient and confidential manner.

(c) *GOVERNANCE.*—The VIS shall be governed, in accordance with this section, by the Governing Board, with support from—

(1) the Program Manager;

(2) the Third-Party Data Manager; and

(3) 1 or more Issue Analysis Teams.

(d) *GOVERNING BOARD.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator, after consulting with public, government, and private pipeline safety stakeholders, shall establish a governing board for the VIS.

(2) *COMPOSITION.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—The Governing Board shall be composed of 15 members who shall represent a balanced cross-section of pipeline safety stakeholders, in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C).

(B) *REPRESENTATION.*—The Governing Board shall be composed of the following members:

(i) 5 individuals selected from relevant pipeline safety departments, agencies, or instrumentalities of the Federal Government or State or territorial governments, 1 of whom shall be the Administrator (or a designee of the Administrator).

(ii) 5 individuals selected from the gas or hazardous liquid industries, such as individuals representing or otherwise associated with—

- (I) operators;
- (II) trade associations;
- (III) inspection technology, coating, or cathodic protection vendors;
- (IV) standards development organizations;
- (V) research and development consortia; or
- (VI) pipeline inspection organizations.

(iii) 5 individuals selected from general public safety advocacy organizations with relevant pipeline safety expertise, including—

- (I) pipeline safety and environmental public interest groups;
- (II) public institutions of higher education with pipeline safety expertise; and
- (III) nonprofit employee labor organizations.

(C) REQUIREMENTS.—

(i) PIPELINE INDUSTRY.—At least 1 member of the Governing Board appointed under subparagraph (B)(ii) shall be a representative of the pipeline industry.

(ii) PIPELINE SAFETY PUBLIC INTEREST GROUPS.—At least 1 member of the Governing Board appointed under subparagraph (B)(iii) shall be a representative of a pipeline safety public interest group.

(3) TERMS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), each member of the Governing Board shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

(B) INITIAL MEMBERS.—In appointing the initial members of the Governing Board, the Administrator shall appoint members to terms of 1, 2, or 3 years to ensure that each year thereafter—

- (i) the terms of 5 members will expire; and
- (ii) the term of not less than 1 and not more than 2 members described in each of clauses (i) through (iii) of paragraph (2)(B) will expire.

(C) REAPPOINTMENT.—A member or former member of the Governing Board appointed under clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (2)(B) may be reappointed, but may only serve for a total of 3 terms.

(4) CO-CHAIRS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Governing Board shall be co-chaired by—

- (i) the Administrator (or a designee of the Administrator);
- (ii) a representative of the pipeline industry appointed under paragraph (2)(B)(ii), who shall be appointed co-chair by the Administrator, with the advice and consent of the Governing Board; and
- (iii) a representative of a pipeline safety public interest group, who shall be appointed co-chair by the Administrator, with the advice and consent of the Governing Board.

- (B) *RESPONSIBILITIES OF CO-CHAIRS.*—The co-chairs shall be jointly responsible for organizing and conducting meetings of the Governing Board.
- (5) *AUTHORITY.*—The Governing Board shall have authority—
- (A) to govern and provide strategic oversight of the VIS;
 - (B) to develop governance documents, including a charter for the Governing Board that shall—
 - (i) be made available to the public; and
 - (ii) describe—
 - (I) the scope of the authority of the Governing Board; and
 - (II) the objectives of the Governing Board;
 - (C) to select and appoint the Third-Party Data Manager in accordance with subsection (f);
 - (D) to approve the criteria and procedures governing how the Third-Party Data Manager will receive and accept pipeline safety data and information;
 - (E) to establish, and appoint members of, Issue Analysis Teams in accordance with subsection (g);
 - (F) to collaborate with Issue Analysis Teams to identify issues and topics to be analyzed by the Issue Analysis Teams;
 - (G) to collaborate with Issue Analysis Teams to specify the type of pipeline safety data and information necessary for the Issue Analysis Teams to analyze the issues and topics identified under subparagraph (F);
 - (H) to determine the information to be disseminated by the VIS;
 - (I) to determine the reports to be disseminated by the VIS;
 - (J) to issue, not less frequently than annually, publicly available reports on—
 - (i) VIS processes;
 - (ii) the membership of the Governing Board;
 - (iii) issues and topics being investigated and analyzed by Issue Analysis Teams or the Governing Board;
 - (iv) pipeline safety data and information that the VIS has requested for submission to the VIS; and
 - (v) safety trends identified by the Administrator, Issue Analysis Teams, or the Governing Board; and
 - (K) to perform such other functions that the Governing Board determines are—
 - (i) necessary or appropriate; and
 - (ii) consistent with the purpose of the VIS described in subsection (b)(3).
- (6) *DECISIONMAKING.*—
- (A) *IN GENERAL.*—Decisions and approvals of the Governing Board shall be made by a super-majority of the members, as described in subparagraph (B).
 - (B) *SUPERMAJORITY DESCRIBED.*—A supermajority referred to in subparagraph (A) shall consist of not fewer than—
 - (i) $\frac{2}{3}$ of the total members of the Governing Board; and
 - (ii) 1 additional member of the Governing Board.

(e) *PROGRAM MANAGER.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Administrator (or a designee of the Administrator) shall serve as the Program Manager for the VIS.

(2) *RESPONSIBILITIES.*—The Program Manager shall provide the day-to-day program management and administrative support for the VIS, including oversight of the Third-Party Data Manager.

(f) *THIRD-PARTY DATA MANAGER.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Governing Board shall appoint a Third-Party Data Manager to provide data management and data oversight services for the VIS.

(2) *QUALIFICATIONS.*—The Third-Party Data Manager shall have expertise in data protection, aggregation, and analytics.

(3) *RESPONSIBILITIES.*—In carrying out the services described in paragraph (1), the Third-Party Data Manager shall—

(A) receive and secure pipeline safety data and information submitted to the VIS;

(B) accept pipeline safety data and information submitted to the VIS that meets the criteria and procedures approved by the Governing Board under subsection (d)(5)(D);

(C) de-identify, store, and manage pipeline safety data and information that is accepted by the VIS;

(D) collaborate with Issue Analysis Teams to analyze and aggregate pipeline safety data and information that is accepted by the VIS;

(E) prepare reports as requested by the Governing Board regarding the type of pipeline safety data and information that is managed by the VIS; and

(F) make recommendations to the Governing Board regarding the management of pipeline safety data and information by the VIS, as appropriate.

(g) *ISSUE ANALYSIS TEAMS.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Governing Board shall establish, and appoint the members of, 1 or more Issue Analysis Teams as the Governing Board determines to be appropriate and relevant to the pipeline safety work of the VIS.

(2) *QUALIFICATIONS.*—An Issue Analysis Team established under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) subject to subparagraph (B), consist of pipeline safety technical and subject matter experts; and

(B) may include, as appropriate, representatives from public safety advocacy organizations described in subsection (d)(2)(B)(iii).

(3) *RESPONSIBILITIES.*—An Issue Analysis Team shall—

(A) work with the Third-Party Data Manager to aggregate and analyze pipeline safety data and information submitted to the VIS relating to the issues and topics analyzed by the Issue Analysis Team; and

(B) submit internal reports and recommendations to the Governing Board on those issues and topics.

(h) *APPLICATION OF FACA.*—Chapter 10 of title 5 (commonly referred to as the “Federal Advisory Committee Act”) shall not apply to—

(1) the VIS;

(2) the Governing Board; or

(3) any Issue Analysis Team.

(i) PARTICIPATION IN THE VIS.—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The submission of data and information to the VIS by any person shall be voluntary, with no person compelled to participate in, or to submit data or information to any person for inclusion in, the VIS.

(2) *REQUIREMENT.*—The VIS shall not accept data or information relating to an operator if the operator has not authorized the submission of that data or information for inclusion in the VIS.

(3) *ENCOURAGING INFORMATION SHARING.*—The Governing Board shall encourage the voluntary sharing of pipeline safety data and information among—

(A) operators of gas transmission pipelines, gas distribution pipelines, and hazardous liquid pipelines;

(B) employees of those operators;

(C) labor unions representing those employees;

(D) contractors of the operators described in subparagraph (A);

(E) in-line inspection service providers;

(F) non-destructive evaluation experts;

(G) the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration; and

(H) representatives of—

(i) State pipeline safety agencies;

(ii) relevant Tribal agencies;

(iii) pipeline safety public interest groups;

(iv) manufacturers of gas transmission, gas distribution, and hazardous liquid pipeline infrastructure and equipment; and

(v) relevant research and academic institutions.

(4) *LIMITATION ON INCLUSION OF DATA AND INFORMATION IN THE VIS.*—Pipeline safety data and information accepted by the Third-Party Data Manager for inclusion in the VIS under subsection (f)(3)(B) shall be related to the issues and topics identified by the Governing Board for analysis by an Issue Analysis Team under subsection (d)(5)(F).

(5) *TYPES OF DATA AND INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE VIS.*—Pipeline safety data and information accepted by the Third-Party Data Manager for inclusion in the VIS under subsection (f)(3)(B) may include—

(A) pipeline integrity risk analysis information;

(B) lessons learned from accidents and near misses;

(C) process improvements;

(D) technology deployment practices;

(E) information obtained through VIS pipeline safety surveys of pipeline operator employees, subject to the condition that such surveys are voluntarily agreed to by the pipeline operator;

(F) pipeline safety data and information which may lead to the identification of pipeline safety risks, as specified by the Governing Board; and

(G) any other relevant data or information, as determined by the Governing Board.

(j) *CONFIDENTIALITY.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—To facilitate the sharing of otherwise nonpublic pipeline safety data and information with the VIS, the data and information accepted, stored, managed, analyzed, or produced by the VIS—

(A) shall be kept confidential by the VIS; and

(B) except as otherwise provided in this section, is not subject to disclosure by the VIS under any other law.

(2) *PROHIBITION.*—Except as provided in paragraph (3), no person, including the Program Manager, the Third-Party Data Manager, any member of the Governing Board, and any member of an Issue Analysis Team, and no Federal, State, local, or Tribal agency having or obtaining access to nonpublic information accepted, analyzed, stored, managed, or produced by the VIS may release or communicate that nonpublic information from the VIS, either in an identified or de-identified form, to any person who does not have the authority to view VIS data.

(3) *EXCEPTION.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2) and subsections (k) and (l), on approval by the Governing Board under subparagraph (B), the Governing Board or the Administrator may disclose de-identified nonpublic information obtained by the VIS.

(B) *APPROVAL.*—Approval to disclose de-identified nonpublic information under subparagraph (A)—

(i) shall be based on an analysis of the de-identified nonpublic information; and

(ii) may, in the sole discretion of the Governing Board, consist of any safety findings or recommendations that the Governing Board determines to publish or authorizes the Administrator to publish to improve pipeline safety.

(C) *PUBLIC REPORTS.*—In issuing public reports under subsection (d)(5)(J), the Governing Board shall approve the disclosure of de-identified nonpublic information obtained by the VIS that the Governing Board determines is necessary to adequately describe and illustrate the issues and topics being investigated and analyzed by Issue Analysis Teams or the Governing Board.

(4) *SAVINGS PROVISION.*—This subsection does not apply to public information that may be submitted to the VIS.

(k) *APPLICABILITY OF FOIA.*—

(1) *EXEMPTION.*—Any nonpublic information that is accepted, stored, managed, analyzed, or produced by the VIS and subsequently obtained by the Secretary or the Administrator from the VIS is exempt from the requirements of section 552 of title 5.

(2) *APPLICABILITY.*—For purposes of paragraph (1), this section shall be considered to be a statute described in section 552(b)(3)(B) of title 5.

(l) *EXCLUSION OF VIS INFORMATION IN LITIGATION AND OTHER PROCEEDINGS.*—

(1) *EXCLUDED EVIDENCE.*—Except as provided in paragraph (3), any nonpublic information that is accepted, stored, managed, analyzed, or produced by the VIS may not be obtained from the VIS—

(A) for use as evidence for any purpose in any Federal, State, local, Tribal, or private litigation, including any action or proceeding; or

(B) to initiate any enforcement action or civil litigation against a pipeline operator or the employees or contractors of a pipeline operator relating to a probable violation under this chapter (including any regulation promulgated or order issued under this chapter).

(2) *EXCLUSION FROM DISCOVERY.*—Except as provided in paragraph (3), any nonpublic information that is accepted, stored, managed, analyzed, or produced by the VIS shall not be subject to discovery from the VIS in any Federal, State, local, Tribal, or private litigation or other proceeding.

(3) *LIMITATIONS ON EXCLUSIONS.*—The exclusions described in paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply to data or information that—

(A) is evidence of a criminal violation;

(B) is not related to the purpose of the VIS described in subsection (b)(3);

(C) is otherwise required to be reported to the Secretary under part 190, 191 (including information about an incident or accident), 192, 194, 195, or 199 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations);

(D) is required to be reported to a State authority under State pipeline safety laws; or

(E) is developed or obtained from a source other than the VIS, including through discovery from a person or an entity other than the VIS in an enforcement action or private litigation.

(m) *EFFECT ON DISCOVERY.*—Except as provided in subsection (l)(2), nothing in this section or any rule or regulation promulgated under this section—

(1) creates a defense to a discovery request; or

(2) otherwise limits or affects the discovery of pipeline safety data and information arising from a cause of action authorized under any other Federal, State, or local law.

(n) *SAVINGS PROVISION.*—Nothing in this section affects any Federal, State, or local pipeline safety law.

(o) *ANNUAL REPORTS.*—Each fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit to Congress, by the end of that fiscal year, a report on the status of the VIS.

(p) *FUNDING.*—

(1) *SUSTAINABLE FUNDING.*—The Secretary shall—

(A) explore sustainable funding sources for the VIS, including public-private partnerships; and

(B) to the maximum extent practicable, sustainably fund the VIS through the use of those sustainable funding sources.

(2) *LIMITED ADDITIONAL FUNDING.*—In addition to the fees collected under section 60301, the Secretary may collect an additional \$5,000,000 under that section for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to establish, implement, and manage the VIS.

* * * * *

ALASKA NATURAL GAS PIPELINE ACT

* * * * *

[15 U.S.C. 720n(d)]

SEC. 116. LOAN GUARANTEES.

(a) * * *

(b) * * *

(c) * * *

(d) LOAN TERMS AND FEES.—[(1) The Secretary]

(1) LOAN TERMS.—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary may issue Federal guarantee instruments under this section that take into account repayment profiles and grace periods justified by project cash flows and project-specific considerations. [The term]*

(B) *DURATION.*—*The term of any loan guaranteed under this section shall not exceed 30 years.*

[(2) An eligible]

(2) FEES.—

(A) *ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.*—

(i) *IN GENERAL.*—*Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall charge, and collect on or after the date of the financial close of an obligation, a fee for a guarantee in an amount that the Secretary determines is sufficient to cover applicable administrative expenses (including any costs associated with third-party consultants engaged by the Secretary).*

(ii) *AVAILABILITY.*—*Fees collected under this paragraph shall—*

(I) *be deposited by the Secretary into the Treasury; and*

(II) *remain available to the Secretary, without further appropriation, until expended to cover applicable administrative expenses described in clause (i).*

(iii) *REDUCTION IN FEE AMOUNT.*—*Notwithstanding clause (i), and subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary may reduce the amount of a fee for a guarantee under this subparagraph.*

(B) *DEBT OBLIGATIONS.*—*An eligible lender may assess and collect from the borrower such other fees and costs associated with the application and origination of the loan or other debt obligation as are reasonable and customary for a project finance transaction in the oil and gas sector.*

(e) * * *

(f) * * *

(g) * * *

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PIPES ACT OF 2020

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SEC. 106. REGULATORY UPDATES.

(a) **DEFINITION OF OUTSTANDING MANDATE.**—[In this section, the term “outstanding mandate” means—]

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*In this section, the term “outstanding mandate” means a final rule described in paragraph (2) that—*

(A) is required to be issued by the Secretary (including any subordinate of the Secretary); and

(B) has not been published in the Federal Register.

(2) *FINAL RULE DESCRIBED.*—*A final rule referred to in paragraph (1) is any of the following:*

[(1)](A) [a final] A final rule required to be issued under the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011 (Public Law 112–90; 125 Stat. 1904) [that has not been published in the Federal Register;].

[(2)](B) [a final] A final rule required to be issued under the PIPES Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–183; 130 Stat. 514) [that has not been published in the Federal Register; and].

[(3)](C) [any other] Any other final rule regarding gas or hazardous liquid pipeline facilities required to be issued under this Act or an Act enacted prior to the date of enactment of this Act [that has not been published in the Federal Register].

(D) A final rule required to be issued under the PIPELINE Safety Act of 2025.

(b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **PERIODIC UPDATES.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 30 days thereafter until a final rule [referred to in paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a)] is published in the Federal Register [described in subsection (a)(2) is published in the Federal Register with respect to the applicable outstanding mandate], the Secretary shall publish on a publicly available website of the Department of Transportation an update regarding the status of each outstanding mandate in accordance with subsection (c).

(2) * * *

(c) * * *

(d) **REQUIRED BRIEFING.**—*If the Secretary fails to update the website as required under subsection (b)(1), an appropriate employee of the Administration shall provide an in-person briefing to the relevant committees of Congress every 30 days until the requirements of that subsection are met.*

(e) **OPTIONAL BRIEFING.**—*Annually, the Administrator shall offer to provide a briefing, by the Administrator or a designee, to the relevant committees of Congress on the status of outstanding mandates.*

(f) **RESTRICTION OF FUNDS.**—*If a requirement of subsection (b) is not met for over 90 days, no funds authorized or appropriated may be used to support travel for the Administrator or the Deputy Administrator of the Administration, unless necessary for the response to or investigation of a pipeline or hazardous materials incident.*

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PIPELINE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2002

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[49 U.S.C. 60101 note; Public Law 107-355]

SEC. 12. PIPELINE INTEGRITY, SAFETY, AND RELIABILITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

- (a) * * *
- (b) * * *
- (c) * * *
- (d) * * *
- (e) * * *

(f) PIPELINE INTEGRITY PROGRAM.—Of the amounts available in the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund established by section 9509 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 9509), **[\$3,000,000]** *\$2,500,000* shall be transferred to the Secretary of Transportation, as provided in appropriation Acts, to carry out programs for detection, prevention, and mitigation of oil spills for each of **[the fiscal years 2021 through 2023]** *fiscal years 2026 through 2030*.

- (g) * * *
- (h) * * *
- (i) * * *

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