

Lower extremity injury research,
 Thorax injury research,
 Human injury simulation and analysis,
 Crash test dummy component
 development,
 Vehicle aggressivity and fleet
 compatibility,
 Upgrade side crash protection,
 Upgrade seat and occupant restraint
 systems,
 Child safety research, and
 Electric and alternate fuel vehicle safety.
 Specific Crash Avoidance R&D topics
 are:
 Truck crashworthiness/occupant
 protection,
 Truck tire traction,
 Portable data acquisition system for
 crash avoidance research,
 Systems to enhance EMS response
 (automatic collision notification)
 Vehicle motion environment,
 Crash causal analysis,
 Human factors guidelines for crash
 avoidance warning devices,
 Longer combination vehicle safety,
 Drowsy driver monitoring
 Driver workload assessment, and
 Performance guidelines for IVHS
 systems (approach).

Questions regarding research projects
 that have been submitted in writing not
 later than close of business on June 19,
 1995, will be answered as time permits.
 Beginning with this tenth meeting, the
 time allotted to answering questions has
 been increased. A transcript of the
 meeting, copies of materials handed out
 at the meeting, and copies of the
 suggestions offered by commenters will
 be available for public inspection in the
 NHTSA's Technical Reference Section,
 Room 5108, 400 Seventh St., SW,
 Washington, DC 20590. Copies of the
 transcript will then be available at 10
 cents a page, upon request to NHTSA's
 Technical Reference Section. The
 Technical Reference Section is open to
 the public from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

NHTSA will provide technical aids to
 participants as necessary, during the
 Research and Development Programs
 Meeting. Thus, any person desiring the
 assistance of "auxiliary aids" (e.g., sign-
 language interpreter, telecommunication
 devices for deaf persons (TTDs), readers,
 taped texts, braille materials, or large
 print materials and/or a magnifying
 device), please contact Rita Gibbons on
 202-366-4862 by close of business June
 21, 1995.

FOR FUTURE INFORMATION CONTACT: Rita
 Gibbons, Administrative Staff Assistant,
 Office of research and Development, 400
 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC
 20590. Telephone 202-366-4862. Fax
 number: 202-366-5930.

Issued: May 19, 1995.

George L. Parker,

*Associate Administrator for Research and
 Development.*

[FR Doc. 95-12832 Filed 5-24-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-M

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket No. P-94-1W; Notice 2]

Columbia Gulf Transmission Company; Transportation of Natural Gas by Pipeline, Grant of Waiver

Columbia Gulf Transmission
 Company (Columbia Gulf) has
 petitioned the Research and Special
 Programs Administration (RSPA) for a
 waiver from compliance with 49 CFR
 192.612(b)(3), which requires that gas
 pipeline facilities in the Gulf of Mexico
 found to be exposed on the seabed or
 constituting a hazard to navigation be
 reburied so that the top of the pipe is
 36 inches below the seabed for normal
 excavation or 18 inches for rock
 excavation.

During a DOT-required survey,
 Columbia Gulf discovered that a 260
 foot portion of the 36-inch Bluewater
 Mainline 200 did not meet the 12-inch
 depth of cover requirements of
 § 192.612. At the point where coverage
 is not sufficient, Columbia Gulf's
 pipeline crosses over a Trunkline Gas
 Company (Trunkline) 16-inch pipeline
 and an Amoco Production Company
 (AMOCO) abandoned 4-inch pipeline.
 Therefore, Columbia Gulf cannot
 comply with the lowering requirement
 without first lowering or crossing below
 the Trunkline and Amoco pipelines.
 This coincidental lowering would
 present the potential for damage to these
 lines which could cause environmental
 pollution.

This waiver will allow Columbia Gulf
 to cover 813 feet along the subject
 pipeline segment with a concrete mesh
 blanket alternative to the 36-inch depth
 of cover requirement. The waiver will
 also extend the time limitation required
 for compliance with § 192.612 until
 November 30, 1995, to allow for
 completion of the work.

A "concrete mesh blanket" unit is an
 8 foot x 20 foot section constructed from
 160 individually cast 17 inch x 17 inch
 x 9 inch beveled concrete briquettes
 inter-connected with 3/4 inch
 polypropylene UV stabilized line. A
 total of 41 (8 foot x 20 foot x 9 inch)
 units of "concrete mesh blanket" will be
 required to cover the 813 feet of affected
 pipeline. Each of the 41 units will be
 hydrojetted flush with the seabed and

permanently anchored with six screw
 anchors.

The top of the 12-inch pipeline the
 mesh blanket is intended to cover is
 presently buried 6 inches below
 unconsolidated bottom in the Gulf of
 Mexico from Lat. 29°30'21.46", Long.
 92°22'54.08" to Lat. 29°30'13.4", Long.
 92°22'53.98"; Block 15, Vermillion area,
 approximately 8 miles South of Pecan
 Island, LA. The pipeline is coated with
 concrete.

The use of the proposed blanket will
 effectively cover the pipeline to 15
 inches (9" blanket + 6" cover). The
 required reburial is to 36 inches below
 the bottom or 18 inches below a rock
 bottom. Therefore this waiver is
 necessary to allow for the use of the
 concrete mesh blanket.

Columbia Gulf will also install a rock
 shield over the pipeline before
 installation of the blanket. The rock
 shield must be of at least 3/8 inches of
 thickness constructed of an appropriate
 material, such as "Tuff N Nuff"
 manufactured by Submar.

In response to this petition and the
 justification contained therein, RSPA
 issued a notice of petition for waiver
 inviting interested parties to comment
 (Notice 1)(60 FR 10893, Feb. 28, 1995).
 In that notice, RSPA explained why
 granting a waiver from the requirements
 of § 192.612 to allow placement of the
 concrete mesh blanket would not have
 a deleterious impact on safety.
 Comments were received from three
 pipeline operators and one interstate
 pipeline association. Each commentor
 endorsed the petition and recommended
 granting the waiver.

One commentor further recommended
 that RSPA also require Columbia Gulf to
 notify Trunkline at least 48 hours in
 advance so as to allow a Trunkline
 inspector to be present while work is in
 progress in the vicinity of its pipeline.
 RSPA agrees, and hereby requires
 Columbia Gulf to notify Trunkline as
 described.

In view of these reasons and those
 stated in the foregoing discussion,
 RSPA, by this order, finds that a waiver
 of compliance with § 192.612(c)(3) is
 consistent with pipeline safety.
 Accordingly, Columbia Gulf
 Transmission Company's petition from
 compliance with § 192.612(b)(3) is
 granted.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 1672(d); § 1.53, and
 appendix A of part 106.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on May 19,
1995.

Cesar De Leon,

*Acting Associate Administrator for Pipeline
Safety.*

[FR Doc. 95-12837 Filed 5-24-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-60-P