

protection requirements of 49 CFR 195.238(a)(5) and 195.242(a) for existing insulated piping addressed by the waiver, subject to the following amendments:

1. Alyeska will continue to inspect all thermally insulated mainline pipe by a program of annual internal inspection tool corrosion surveys capable of detecting and assessing potentially injurious corrosion. RSPA's Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) and Alyeska concur that Alyeska should conduct the next internal inspection tool corrosion survey during the spring of 1996, a period of approximately 18 months from the previous survey. This one-time deviation from an annual schedule is required to place the timing of internal inspection tool corrosion surveys in the early spring of the year.

Running the survey in the spring of 1996 will minimize the adverse affects of wax precipitation on data quality, which would be encountered if a summer or fall 1995 survey were conducted and will avoid the serious weather constraints of a survey taking place during the 1995/1996 winter. Running the survey in the spring of 1996 will permit the completion of scheduled improvements to the corrosion inspection tool. Running the survey in the spring of 1996 will also allow full evaluation of that data with data from the survey conducted during the summer/fall of 1994.

Subsequent internal inspection tool surveys will continue to be conducted annually until OPS determines from the technical data presented by Alyeska that a reduced monitoring frequency is justified.

2. If evaluation of the internal inspection tool corrosion survey data indicates areas of potentially injurious corrosion:

A. An excavation and evaluation of actual corrosion found shall be made in accordance with 49 CFR 195.416(h) to determine if structural repairs are necessary.

B. Structural repairs, if required shall be made in accordance with requirements of ASME B31.4 and Alyeska's Maintenance and Repair Manual (MR-48).

C. Recoating and cathodic protection of excavated piping will be applied in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR 195.238(a)(5) and 195.242(a).

3. Alyeska will submit to OPS the following engineering studies, which may provide the technical basis for future modification of this proposed waiver.

A. A detailed study of all insulated joints with identified corrosion including a comparison with joints

previously identified as being corroded. Results will be used to evaluate the ability of internal inspection tools used on the TAPS to reliably and repeatedly detect, measure and assess corrosion that may impact structural integrity. Results of this study may also be used to provide the most desirable location to do at least one investigation of the corrosion mechanism described in item 3B below.

B. A completed analysis of mechanisms of corrosion under insulation to determine if the observed corrosion is active or dormant will be completed. This study will include review of internal inspection tool corrosion survey data, field observations from at least one dig and laboratory testing to confirm corrosion mechanisms. Field testing may include the installation of corrosion monitoring devices such as electrical resistance probes or corrosion rate coupons.

C. No later than December 1, 1996, a completed feasibility study of remediation designs and options to be used for the effective control of corrosion under mainline insulated piping. The feasibility study will consider corrosion mechanisms determined previously. A schedule will be provided so that OPS will have the opportunity to witness the internal inspection tool corrosion survey evaluation and installation of any remedial corrective systems.

Interested parties are invited to comment on the proposed amendment to waiver by submitting in duplicate such data, views, or arguments as they may desire. RSPA specifically requests comments on the adequacy of the proposed action regarding 195.238(a)(5) and 195.242(a). Comments should identify the Docket and Notice numbers, and be submitted to the Dockets Unit.

All comments received before July 24, 1995 will be considered before final action is taken. Late filed comments will be considered so far as practicable. No public hearing is contemplated, but one may be held at a time and place set in a Notice in the **Federal Register** if requested by an interested person desiring to comment at a public hearing and raising a genuine issue.

Issued in Washington, DC on June 1, 1995.

Cesar De Leon,

Acting Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

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[Docket No. P-95-1W; Notice 1]

Transportation of Hazardous Liquid by Pipeline Petition for Waiver; Alyeska Pipeline Service Company

SUMMARY: Alyeska Pipeline Service Company (Alyeska) has petitioned the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) for an amendment to the August 16, 1975, waiver (Docket No. Pet. 75-13W) from compliance with the coating and cathodic protection requirements of 49 CFR 195.238(a)(5) and 195.242(a) regarding buried pump station and terminal insulated piping. RSPA proposes to grant this amendment subject to the noted stipulations.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before July 24, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: L.E. Herrick, 202-366-5523 regarding the subject matter of this notice or the Dockets Branch, 202-366-5046, regarding copies of this notice or other material that is referenced herein.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to the Dockets Branch, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, Washington, DC 20590. All comments and Docket material may be reviewed in the Dockets Branch, room 8421, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By letter dated November 24, 1975, Alyeska requested a waiver from compliance with the coating and cathodic protection requirements of 49 CFR 195.238(a)(5) and 195.242(a) with respect to thermally insulated pump station and terminal piping on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS). 49 CFR 195.238(a)(5) requires that each component in a hazardous liquid pipeline that is to be buried or submerged must have an external protective coating that supports any supplemental cathodic protection. In addition, if an insulating-type coating is used, it must have low moisture absorption and provide high electrical resistance. 49 CFR 195.242(a) requires a cathodic protection system be installed for all buried or submerged hazardous liquid facilities to mitigate corrosion that might result in structural failure. A test procedure must also be developed to determine whether adequate cathodic protection has been achieved.

On August 16, 1976, RSPA granted Alyeska this waiver (Docket No. Pet. 75-13W) on the premise that the applied thermal insulation design would prevent corrosion from occurring on the piping. However, subsequent inspections of the insulated piping discovered that the annular insulation

system was not sufficiently effective in preventing external corrosion on portions of the buried piping.

Alyeska estimates 14,500 linear feet of piping was originally installed subject to the 1976 waiver. To date, Alyeska has rerouted approximately 11,000 linear feet of above ground piping or installed cathodic protection with a design meeting the requirements of 195.238(a)(5) and 195.2424(a). In general, this rerouting or repair was made on areas with the greatest corrosion. For the remaining approximately 3500 feet of below ground insulated piping, RSPA proposes to prohibit any further use of thermal insulation design installed during construction and to amend the waiver on the existing insulated piping subject to the following stipulations: 1. At Pump Station No. 1. In 1995, Alyeska will install an insulated box containing cathodic protection on approximately 450 feet of 48-inch mainline piping and will also complete tie-in of the 2-inch fuel gas separator drain line. This will complete the installation of cathodic protection to all active piping at Pump Station No. 1 that is subject to 49 CFR 195.

2. At Pump Station No. 2. Alyeska will conduct annual sample inspections of approximately 220 feet of piping for injurious corrosion and repair as required until pump station No. 2 is removed from service.

3. Pump Station No. 5 piping subject to this amendment is approximately 1490 feet. At Pump Station No. 5 Alyeska will either:

A. Install insulated boxes containing cathodic protection or move the piping above ground by December 31, 1996; or,

B. If Alyeska determines by September 1995 that Pump Station No. 5 will be removed from service prior to December 31, 1999, continue to perform annual sample inspections for corrosion and repair as required until Pump Station No. 5 is removed from service.

4. The North Pole Meter Station piping subject to this amendment and

extension is approximately 560 feet between the 48-inch mainline and the meter building. At the North Pole Meter Station Alyeska will either:

A. Provide cathodic protection to existing 8-inch crude supply and 6-inch residuum return piping by December 31, 1996, and conduct sample inspections for corrosion in 1995, or

B. Upgrade the meter station connection and replace with new larger diameter piping meeting 49 CFR Part 195 requirements by December 31, 1996.

5. At transition piping at pump stations and Valdez Marine Terminal (VMT), the above ground insulated piping that transitions to below ground non-insulated piping occurs at the seven non-permafrost stations (pump station No. 4 and Nos. 7-12) and the VMT. Typical repair consists of removal of the below ground insulation and coating, followed by coating replacement and an outer mechanical protective layer. Alyeska will repair and complete inspections of ten percent of the insulated transitions at each of the applicable pump stations and at VMT by the end of 1995.

Inspections of ten percent of the transitions were completed at each of the pump stations 4, 9, and 12 in 1994 with the following results: PS-4, two transitions inspected with no corrosion; PS-9, three transitions inspected, two with no corrosion and one with slight corrosion with a 65 mil pit; and PS-12, three transitions inspected with no corrosion at two locations and less than 30 mils pitting at the other location. A total of five transitions were inspected at the VMT in 1994, a total of five percent, with no corrosion found at any location.

In 1995, Alyeska will conduct inspections of ten percent of the transitions at pump stations Nos. 7, 8, 10, and 11 and an additional five transitions at VMT. Alyeska will continue an inspection and repair program based upon the results of these and future inspections. Transition piping subject to

this amendment and extension is approximately 800 feet.

For the purpose of this amendment sample inspect/sample inspection means to excavate and expose a portion of a line segment, typically 3 feet to 20 feet in length, for the purpose of visual examination and measurement of corrosion. Portions of pipe segments with no inspection information will be given priority, and reinspection frequency will be based upon the severity of corrosion found, line service, and pipe accessibility. The maximum interval for sample inspection will not exceed 5 years.

Injurious corrosion means corrosion to the extent that replacement or repair is required as determined by 49 CFR 195.416(h). Repair means structural repair of piping and/or coating repairs.

Interested parties are invited to comment on the proposed amendment to waiver by submitting in duplicate such data, views, or arguments as they may desire. RSPA specifically requests comments on the adequacy of the proposed action regarding 195.238(a)(5) and 195.242(a). Comments should identify the Docket and Notice numbers, and be submitted to the Dockets Unit, Room 8421, Research and Special Programs Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20590.

All comments received before July 24, 1995 will be considered before final action is taken. Late filed comments will be considered as practicable. No public hearing is contemplated, but one may be held at a time and place set in a Notice in the **Federal Register** if requested by an interested person desiring to comment at a public hearing and raising a genuine issue.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on June 1, 1995.

Cesar De Leon,

Acting Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

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