

Caverns—A Guide for State Regulators” (IOGCC Guide). The IOGCC Guide provides safety standards for the design, construction, and operation of gas storage caverns. The standards are useful to the industry as well as state agencies. Copies of the IOGCC Guide can be obtained from the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, 900 N.E. 23rd Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73152-3127 (phone: 405/525-3556; e-mail: iogcc@oklaosf.state.ok.us).

In addition, the American Petroleum Institute (API) has published guidelines for the underground storage of liquid hydrocarbons. RP 1114, Design of Solution-Mined Underground Storage Facilities, June 1994, provides basic guidance on the design and development of new solution-mined underground storage facilities. All aspects of solution-mined storage are covered, including selecting an appropriate site, physically developing the cavern, and testing and commissioning the cavern. Also covered are plug and abandonment practices. RP 1115, Operation of Solution-Mined Underground Storage Facilities, September 1994, provides basic guidance on the operation of solution-mined underground hydrocarbon liquid or liquefied petroleum gas storage facilities. All aspects of solution-mined underground storage operation, including cavern hydraulics, brine facilities, wellhead and hanging strings, and cavern testing are covered. Both documents are available from API, 1220 L Street NW., Washington DC 20005 (phone: 202/682-8000; e-mail: publications@api.org).

Subsequently, in view of the IOGCC guidelines, API guidelines, and state regulations, and because of the varying and diverse geology and hydrology of the many sites, RSPA has decided that generally applicable federal safety standards may not be appropriate for underground storage facilities. Moreover, consistent with the President’s policy on government regulation, before choosing a direct regulatory approach to a problem, we consider alternative solutions, such as eliciting state or local action, publishing advisories, encouraging the development and use of voluntary standards, and hosting cooperative federal/industry seminars. Therefore, RSPA, recognizing the value of underground hydrocarbon storage requirements tailored to a state’s particular circumstances, is encouraging state action and voluntary industry action as a way to assure underground storage safety instead of proposing additional federal regulations. The

following Advisory Bulletin is part of that effort.

## II. Advisory Bulletin (ADB-97-04)

*To:* Owners and Operators of Hazardous Liquid and Natural Gas Pipelines.

*Subject:* Underground storage.

*Purpose:* Inform owners and operators of the availability of guidelines for the design and operation of underground storage facilities and advise them to follow applicable state and RSPA safety standards.

*Advisory:* RSPA believes the IOGCC Guide and API documents are appropriate for use by pipeline operators and by state regulatory agencies concerned about the safety of those portions of underground salt cavern storage facilities not covered by RSPA pipeline safety regulations. Through prior direct communication, RSPA has urged state agencies to use these resources in their safety programs so as to make new RSPA regulations unnecessary. And at this time, we urge operators of underground storage facilities that serve interstate gas or hazardous liquid pipelines to comply not only with the IOGCC Guide and API documents but also with the appropriate state underground storage regulations to the extent feasible.

We also remind facility operators that current RSPA safety standards for gas and hazardous liquid pipelines require operators to take preventive actions that include system safety analyses and follow-up. In particular, under 49 CFR 192.605(c)(1)(v) and 195.402(d)(1)(v), operators must identify any foreseeable malfunction of a component that may result in a hazard to persons or property and take steps to reduce the risk. Also, under §§ 192.617 and 195.402(c) (5) and (6), operators must analyze failures to learn their causes and minimize the possibility of a recurrence. We believe these standards substantially satisfy the need that NTSB recognized for a comprehensive safety analysis as it relates to piping at underground storage facilities.

(49 U.S.C. Chapter 601; 49 CFR 1.53)

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 1, 1997.

**Cesar De Leon,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33421]

### West Virginia State Rail Authority— Acquisition Exemption—CSX Transportation, Inc.

West Virginia State Rail Authority, a Class III rail common carrier, for and on behalf of the State of West Virginia, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to acquire 29.59 miles of rail line from CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT) from milepost BUI-0.0, at Tygart Junction, to milepost BUI-28.4, at Elkins (known as the Belington Subdivision), and from milepost BUM-0.0, at Huttonsville Junction, to milepost BUM-1.19, at Elkins Junction, in Barbour and Randolph Counties, WV. CSXT will continue to be the operator of the property.

The transaction is expected to be consummated on or about July 4, 1997.

If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke does not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33421, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Francis G. McKenna, Esq., Anderson & Pendleton, C.A., 1700 K Street, N.W., Suite 1107, Washington, DC 20006.

Decided: July 2, 1997.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,  
Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Vernon A. Williams,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 97-18103 Filed 7-9-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Debt Management Advisory Committee; Meeting

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. App. § 10(a)(2), that a meeting will be held at the U.S. Treasury Department, 15th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., on July 29 and 30, 1997, of the following debt management advisory committee:

Public Securities Association  
Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee

The agenda for the meeting provides for a technical background briefing by