

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES: Also at the same Baltimore site, on October 25, 1999, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., a listening session will be held for representatives of the truck, bus, and rail industries, transportation labor unions, brokers and shippers, chemical manufacturers, insurance industry, public safety advocates, and others who have notified us of their interest to attend and have submitted copies of their presentations, in English and Spanish, to the address below by October 12, 1999. This is an opportunity for presenters to voice their concerns, provide technical information, and offer suggestions relevant to achieving greater standards compatibility and improving cross-border trade. While written statements may be of any length, oral presentations will be limited to 10 minutes per presenter. After October 12, statements may be submitted for the record, and requests to present oral comments at the listening session will be accommodated only on a time-available basis.

Dated: September 29, 1999.

Roger Dean,

Acting Director, Office of International Transportation and Trade.

[FR Doc. 99-25831 Filed 10-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket RSPA-98-4957; Notice 8]

Notice of Extension of Existing Information Collection

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Request for public comments.

SUMMARY: As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) is publishing this notice seeking public comments on a proposed renewal of an information collection for the Alcohol Misuse Prevention Program for Pipeline Operators. This information collection requires gas pipeline operators, hazardous liquid pipeline operators, and liquefied natural gas (LNG) operators to document their alcohol misuse prevention programs.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received December 6, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments should identify the docket number of this notice, RSPA-98-4957, and be mailed to the Dockets Facility, U.S. Department of

Transportation, Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001. You should submit the original and one copy. If you wish to receive confirmation of receipt of your comments, you must include a stamped, self-addressed postcard. The Dockets facility is open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays. In addition, the public may also submit or review comments by accessing the Docket Management System's home page at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marvin Fell, Office of Pipeline Safety, Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20590, (202) 366-6205 or by electronic mail at marvin.fell@rspa.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Alcohol Misuse Prevention Program.

OMB Number: 2137-0587.

Type of Request: Extension of an existing information collection.

Abstract: Alcohol misuse has been identified by the Federal government as a significant danger to safety in the United States, and it is reasonable to assume that the problem exists in the gas pipeline industry, hazardous liquid pipeline industry, and the liquefied natural gas (LNG) industry. The potential harmful effects of alcohol misuse on safe pipeline and LNG facility operations warrant the comprehensive alcohol misuse testing regulation imposed on the pipeline industry. The regulations at 49 CFR Part 199 require information collection for an alcohol misuse prevention plan and associated testing records.

Respondents: Gas pipelines, hazardous liquid pipelines, and liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility operators.

Estimate of Burden: 6 hours per operator.

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.

Estimated Total Burden: 10,278 hours.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,713.

Copies of this information collection can be reviewed at the Dockets Facility, Plaza 401, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except Federal holidays. They also can be viewed over the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov>

Comments are invited on (a) the need for the proposed collection of

information for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 30, 1999.

Richard B. Felder,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.
[FR Doc. 99-25844 Filed 10-4-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket No. RSPA-98-4470]

Pipeline Safety: Meetings of Pipeline Safety Advisory Committees

AGENCY: Office of Pipeline Safety, Research and Special Programs Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of advisory committee meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C. App. 1) notice is hereby given of the following meetings of the Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee (TPSSC) and the Technical Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Standards Committee (THLPSSC). Both the TPSSC and the THLPSSC are statutorily mandated advisory committees that assist RSPA's Office of Pipeline Safety in its consideration of proposed safety regulations, risk assessments, and safety policies for hazardous liquid and natural gas pipelines. Each committee has an authorized membership of 15 persons, five each from government, industry, and the public. The committees meet in May and November of each year. Each Committee meeting, as well as a joint session of the two Committees, is held at the Department of Transportation, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. The November 3-4, 1999, meetings will be held in room 8236.

ADDRESSES: Comments on these meetings should be sent to the Dockets

Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Alternatively, comments may be e-mailed to ops.comments@rspa.dot.gov. All comments must reference Docket No. RSPA-98-4470. The Dockets Facility is located on the plaza level of the Nassif Building in Room 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC. The Dockets Facility is open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact Peggy Thompson at (202) 366-1933.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Jo Cooney, OPS, (202) 366-4774 or Richard Huriaux, OPS, (202) 366-4565, regarding the subject matter of this notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 3, 1999, at 9:00 a.m., the Technical Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Standards Committee will meet in room 8236 of the Nassif Building. The preliminary agenda includes:

1. Bellingham, WA Incident & Investigation
2. Industry Performance Report
3. Corrosion Control on Hazardous Liquid Pipelines
4. Pressure Testing Older Pipelines in Terminals
5. Update on Unusually Sensitive Areas (USA) Project
6. Oil Pollution Act Developments

On November 3, 1999, at 1:00 p.m., the THLPSSC will be joined by members of the TPSSC for a joint session of the gas and hazardous liquid pipeline advisory committees. The preliminary agenda includes:

1. Administration/RSPA/OPS Initiatives
2. Program Update
3. OPS Reauthorization: Congressional Perspectives
4. Challenges of the Current Regulatory Climate, Government Accounting Office & Inspector General Audits
5. Issues Raised by Recent Incidents & NTSB Perspectives
6. Opportunities for Improving Integrity Assurance
7. Underwater Abandoned Pipeline Facilities (VOTE)
8. Enforcement Procedures (VOTE)

On November 4, 1999, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., the Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee will meet. The preliminary agenda includes:

1. Plastic Pipeline Safety Standards & Research
2. Gas Pipeline Safety Standards; SIRRC report
3. Gas Gathering Line Definition
4. Remotely Controlled Valves on Natural Gas Pipelines
5. Update on the Local Distribution Company Risk Assessment Feasibility Team Initiative

All three meetings will be open to the public. Members of the public will have an opportunity to make short statements on the topics under discussion. Anyone wishing to make an oral statement must notify Peggy Thompson, Room 7128, Department of Transportation, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590, telephone (202) 366-1933, not later than October 15, 1999, on the topic of the statement and the time requested for presentation. The presiding officer at each meeting may deny any request to present an oral statement and may limit the time of any presentation.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 60102, 60115.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 30, 1999.

Richard B. Felder,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 99-25845 Filed 10-4-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket No. RSPA-97-2879]

Pipeline Safety: Rapid Isolation of Ruptured Sections of Gas Transmission Pipelines

AGENCY: Office of Pipeline Safety, Research and Special Programs Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a public meeting to consider the need for a rulemaking to establish time limits for isolating ruptured sections of gas transmission pipelines. The meeting agenda will include presentation of findings from a recent Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) study on remote control valves (RCV) and opportunity for public comments and suggestions.

DATES: The public meeting will be on November 4, 1999, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm in Room 8236 of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC. We encourage the public to present oral remarks at the public meeting. If you want to make an

oral presentation at the meeting, please notify Jenny Donohue no later than October 28, 1999, by telephone at 202-366-4046 or by e-mail at jenny.donohue@rspa.dot.gov. Please indicate the approximate length of your presentation.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments no later than December 6, 1999, by mail or hand delivery to the Dockets Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Comments should identify the docket number RSPA-97-2879. Persons should submit the original comment document and one (1) copy. Anyone who wants confirmation of mailed comments must include a self-addressed stamped postcard. You also may submit written comments to the docket electronically. To do so, log on to the following Internet Web address: <http://dms.dot.gov>. Click on "Help & Information" for instructions on how to file a document electronically. Late-filed comments will be considered so far as practicable.

Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact Peggy Thompson at (202) 366-1933.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lloyd Ulrich, OPS, (202) 366-4556, regarding the subject matter of this notice. Contact the Dockets Unit, (202) 366-5046, for docket material. Comments may also be reviewed online at the DOT Docket Management System website at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Since the March 23, 1994, Edison, New Jersey, pipeline failure in which two-and-one-half hours elapsed before the operator could locate and close functional valves, OPS has been exploring means of limiting the time for isolating ruptured sections of gas transmission pipelines. In 1995, NTSB recommended that RSPA expedite requirements for installing automatic-or remote-operated mainline valves on high-pressure pipelines in urban and environmentally sensitive areas to provide for rapid shutdown of failed pipeline segments. In the Federal pipeline safety law (49 U.S.C. 60102 (j)), Congress directed DOT to prescribe standards for the use of remote control valves (RCV), if a study showed that they reduced risk and were technically and economically feasible.

OPS has completed a study on RCVs titled "Remotely Controlled Valves on Interstate Natural Gas Pipelines," which