

*B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition*

The NYSE does not believe that the proposed rule change would result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

*C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others*

The NYSE has neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

*III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action*

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding, or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (A) By order approve such proposed rule change; or
- (B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

**IV. Solicitation of Comments**

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filings will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the NYSE. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-NYSE-2002-62 and should be submitted by December 31, 2002.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>9</sup>

**Margaret H. McFarland,**  
*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-31553 Filed 12-13-02; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 8010-01-P**

**SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

**[Declaration of Disaster #3473]**

**State of Alaska**

As a result of the President's major disaster declaration on December 4, 2002, I find that the Kenai Peninsula Borough, Kodiak Island Borough, and Chignik Bay area to include Chignik, Chignik Lake, Chignik Lagoon in the State of Alaska constitute a disaster area due to damages caused by severe winter storms, flooding, coastal erosion and tidal surge occurring on October 23, 2002 and continuing through November 12, 2002. Applications for loans for physical damage as a result of this disaster may be filed until the close of business on February 3, 2003 and for economic injury until the close of business on September 4, 2003 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 4 Office, P.O. Box 13795, Sacramento, CA 95853-4795.

In addition, applications for economic injury loans from small businesses located in the following areas and jurisdictions may be filed until the specified date at the above location: Lake and Peninsula Borough, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Municipality of Anchorage, Chugach Regional Educational Attendance Areas (REAA), and Iditarod Area REAA in the State of Alaska.

*The interest rates are:*

	Percent
For Physical Damage:	
Homeowners with credit available elsewhere: .....	5.875
Homeowners without credit available elsewhere: .....	2.937
Businesses with credit available elsewhere: .....	6.648
Businesses and non-profit organizations without credit available elsewhere: .....	3.324
Others (including non-profit organizations) with credit available elsewhere: .....	5.500
For Economic Injury:	
Businesses and Small Agricultural Cooperatives without credit available elsewhere: .....	3.324

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 347311. For economic injury the number is 9T6600 for Alaska.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59002 and 59008)  
Dated: December 9, 2002.

**Herbert L. Mitchell,**

*Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 02-31549 Filed 12-13-02; 8:45 am]  
**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Research and Special Programs Administration**

**International Standards on the Transport of Radioactive Materials; Conference**

**AGENCY:** Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Notice of international conference.

**SUMMARY:** This notice is to advise interested persons that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Maritime Organization, and the Universal Postal Union are co-sponsoring an international conference on the safe transport of radioactive materials. The conference will take place at the Austria Centre, Vienna, Austria from July 7 through July 11, 2003. The objective of the conference is to exchange information on issues related to the safe transport of radioactive material and to formulate recommendations regarding further international co-operation in this area.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Richard Boyle, Radioactive Materials Branch, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety, Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590; Phone: (202) 366-2993, Facsimile: (202) 366-3753, email: [rick.boyle@rspa.dot.gov](mailto:rick.boyle@rspa.dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The conference is directed to a broad spectrum of professionals dealing with the safe transport of radioactive material. The preliminary agenda includes topical sessions on: adequacy and effectiveness of the international transport regulations; effectiveness of radiation protection in transport; packaging and transport of nuclear fuel cycle material; packaging and transport of non-nuclear fuel cycle material; compliance and quality assurance programming; liability in the transport of radioactive material; and emergency response and preparedness. There is no

registration fee for this conference but all individuals and parties interested in attending must forward a completed participation form to the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety point of contact listed above for transmission to the IAEA by June 1, 2003. Individuals interested in submitting a paper for this conference should prepare it in accordance with the IAEA conference guidelines and submit it to both IAEA and the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety point of contact listed above by February 1, 2003. Copies of the official conference announcement, the participation and paper submission forms, and instructions and due dates for completion of these forms may be downloaded from the IAEA Transport Division's Web site at: [http://www.iaea.org/ns/rasanet/programme/radiationsafety/transportation\\_safety/2\\_detailed\\_info\\_on\\_tsu\\_prog.htm](http://www.iaea.org/ns/rasanet/programme/radiationsafety/transportation_safety/2_detailed_info_on_tsu_prog.htm).

Issued in Washington, DC on December 4, 2002.

**Robert A. McGuire,**

*Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.*

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BILLING CODE 4910-60-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT

[Docket No. RSPA-98-4034]

#### **Pipeline Safety: Project Modifications Approved for the Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America Pipeline Risk Management Demonstration Project**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of risk management project modification and finding of no significant impact.

**SUMMARY:** The Research and Special Programs Administration's (RSPA) Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) has amended the Risk Management Demonstration Project Order issued to Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America (NGPL) to allow NGPL to conduct alternative risk control activities on five of its pipeline segments in lieu of compliance with certain pipeline safety regulations. OPS has also made a finding that this amendment will have no significant impacts on the environment.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on this or any other demonstration project will be accepted in the Docket throughout the 4-year demonstration period. You may

send comments to the Dockets Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0991, or you may submit your comments electronically by logging on to the following Internet Web address: <http://dms.dot.gov>, and then clicking on "Help & Information" for instructions on how to file a document electronically. Comments should identify the docket number RSPA-1998-4034. Persons should submit the original comment document and one (1) copy. Persons wishing to receive confirmation of receipt of their comments must include a self-addressed stamped postcard. 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 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Elizabeth Callsen, OPS, (202) 366-4572, regarding the subject matter of this document. Contact the Dockets Unit, (202) 366-5046, for docket material. Comments may also be reviewed on line at the DOT Docket Management System Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov/>.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Project Order Amendment**

On December 31, 1998, OPS issued Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America (NGPL) <sup>1</sup> a Risk Management Demonstration Project Order authorizing NGPL to conduct a risk management project on its interstate natural gas transmission pipeline system. The project was one of several demonstration projects in a risk demonstration program authorized by 49 U.S.C. 60126. Since that Order was issued, NGPL identified five segments in its pipeline system where it proposed to perform alternative risk control activities in lieu of compliance with the regulations addressing class location changes. In a Notice dated August 17, 2001 (66 FR 43295), OPS described in detail the five segments and the proposed alternative activities. OPS stated that its analysis of the proposed activities had found them likely to provide superior protection. OPS announced its intent to amend the Demonstration Project Order and allow the alternative activities, after

<sup>1</sup> In 1998, NGPL was acquired by KN Energy, Inc. In October, 1999, KN Energy merged with Kinder Morgan, Inc. The merged company is named Kinder Morgan, Inc. (KMI). NGPL now operates its pipeline system as a subsidiary of KMI. The scope of the Risk Management Demonstration Project remains limited to the NGPL system.

consideration of public comment. OPS did not receive any public comment in response to that Notice.

This Notice announces OPS's issuance of an amendment to NGPL's Demonstration Project Order to exempt the five pipeline segments from compliance with 49 CFR 192.611 conditioned on NGPL performing the alternative activities. The decision to amend the Demonstration Project Order to allow the exemption is based on the conclusion that the alternative activities will provide superior safety to that provided by compliance with 49 CFR 192.611.

More detailed descriptions of all aspects of the NGPL demonstration project are available in the following documents:

(1) 66 FR 43295, "Pipeline Safety: Intent to Approve Project Modifications and Environmental Assessment of Modifications for the Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America Risk Management Demonstration Project," August 17, 2001.

(2) Docket Number RSPA-1998-4034-5, "Appendix A: Environmental Assessment," August 14, 2001.

(3) 63 FR 46497, "Pipeline Safety: Intent to Approve Project and Environmental Assessment for the Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America Risk Management Demonstration Project," September 1, 1998.

(4) 64 FR 1067, "Pipeline Safety: Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America; Approved for Risk Management Demonstration Program," January 7, 1999.

(5) "Demonstration Project Prospectus: Natural Gas Pipeline Company," available via the Pipeline Risk Management Information System (PRIMIS) on the OPS Web page at <http://ops.dot.gov>, and following the links to "Initiatives" and "Risk Management Initiative."

(6) "Risk Management Demonstration Project Order," RMD 98-4, December 31, 1998.

(7) "Amendment to Risk Management Demonstration Project Order," RMD 98-4, Amendment 1, November 18, 2002.

##### **Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**

In accordance with section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Department of Transportation (DOT) Order 5610.1c, Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts, OPS conducted an Environmental Assessment (EA) of the alternative activities NGPL proposed