

of final disposition announcing its decision to exempt these 26 individuals from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10). That final decision to grant exemptions to each of these individuals was based on the merits of each case and only after careful consideration of the comments received to its notices of applications. Those notices of applications stated in detail the qualifications, experience, and medical condition of each applicant for an exemption from the vision requirements. That information is available by consulting the above cited **Federal Register** publications.

Each of these 26 individuals identified in today's publication has successfully driven with an exception from the vision requirements for the past 2 years. Each driver has received physical examinations during the past 2-year period, in accordance with the program requirements. Either an ophthalmologist or optometrist has attested that each continued to meet the standard in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) in the better eye. Upon filing a renewal application, each of the 26 applicants has presented proof of continued qualification. Their vision impairment is stable. The driving record of all 26 renewal applicants continues to highlight their safe driving. These individuals have, and are continuing to, achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved absent the exemption.

Nonetheless, interested parties or organizations possessing information that would otherwise show that any, or all of these drivers, are not currently achieving the statutory level of safety should immediately notify the FMCSA. The FMCSA will evaluate any adverse evidence submitted and, if safety is being compromised or if continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31315 and 31136(e), the FMCSA will take immediate steps to revoke the exemption of a driver.

The FMCSA continues to find its exemption process appropriate to the statutory and regulatory requirements.

Issued on: August 12, 2004.

**Rose A. McMurray,**

*Associate Administrator, Policy and Program Development.*

[FR Doc. 04-18900 Filed 8-17-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Research and Special Programs Administration

#### Pipeline Safety: Unauthorized Excavations and the Installation of Third-Party Data Acquisition Devices on Underground Pipeline Facilities

**AGENCY:** Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS), Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of advisory bulletin.

**SUMMARY:** RSPA/OPS is issuing this advisory bulletin to owners and operators of gas and hazardous liquid pipeline systems on the potential for unauthorized excavations and the unauthorized installation of acoustic monitoring devices or other data acquisition devices on pipeline facilities. These devices are used by entities that hope to obtain market data on hazardous liquid and gas movement within the pipelines. Recent events have disclosed that devices were physically installed on pipelines without the owners permission. Operators must control construction on pipeline right-of-ways and ensure that they are carefully monitored to keep pipelines safe. This is in line with our efforts to prevent third-party damage as reflected by our support of the Common Ground Alliance, which is a nonprofit organization dedicated to shared responsibility in damage prevention and promotion of the damage prevention Best Practices. This advisory bulletin emphasizes the need to ensure that only authorized and supervised excavations are undertaken along the nation's pipeline systems.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Pepper by phone at (713) 270-9376, by fax at (713) 270-9515, or by e-mail at [john.pepper@rspa.dot.gov](mailto:john.pepper@rspa.dot.gov), regarding the subject matter of this advisory bulletin. General information about the Research and Special Programs Administration, Office of Pipeline Safety (RSPA/OPS) programs may be obtained by accessing OPS' home page at <http://ops.dot.gov>.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

RSPA/OPS has been advised of the unauthorized installation of devices on an operator's pipeline for the purpose of obtaining flow data for marketing purposes. The pipeline safety regulations require pipeline operators to carry out a written damage prevention program for buried pipelines. RSPA/OPS is encouraging operators to carefully review their damage

prevention programs and to survey their right-of-ways to ensure the discovery of similar inappropriate actions. RSPA/OPS also reminds owners and operators of pipelines and the public of the critical importance of accurately locating underground piping and ensuring the qualifications of personnel performing this work. RSPA/OPS believes that this Advisory Bulletin is necessary to make operators aware of a potential threat to their pipelines and to ensure that they take appropriate action to detect and correct any damage associated with these unauthorized installations.

#### Advisory Bulletin (ADB-04-03)

*To:* Owners and operators of gas transmission and hazardous liquid pipelines.

*Subject:* Potential for unauthorized excavations and the installation of acoustic monitoring devices or other data acquisition devices on pipeline facilities.

*Purpose:* To ensure that pipeline owners and operators are aware of and take actions to prevent or mitigate the dangers associated with unauthorized excavations and the attendant installation of devices by entities seeking to exploit the pipelines for other purposes, and to remind operators and the public of the need to ensure that underground pipeline facilities are adequately located and protected from inadvertent damage prior to excavations.

*Advisory:* RSPA/OPS urges all owners and operators of gas and hazardous liquid pipelines to vigilantly monitor their right-of-ways for unauthorized excavation and the installation of data acquisition devices by third parties seeking to extract product movement information from the pipelines. This activity can impact pipeline integrity either through damage to the pipeline caused by the excavation activities or damage to the pipe coating caused by the attachment of the devices to the pipeline. The installation of pipeline monitoring devices should only be performed with the express knowledge, consent, and support of the pipeline operators.

Damage to underground facilities caused by unauthorized excavation can occur without any immediate indication to the operator. Sometimes a damaged underground pipeline facility will not fail for years after the completion of excavation activities. Excavation equipment does not need to fully rupture a pipeline facility to create a hazardous situation. Damage to coatings and other corrosion prevention systems can increase the risk of a delayed

corrosion failure. Escaping and migrating gas can create a safety issue for people living and working near these facilities long after the completion of excavation activities. Leakage from a damaged or ruptured hazardous liquid pipeline can create environmental and safety issues. The primary safety concern is to ensure that excavation operations do not accidentally contact existing underground pipeline facilities. This can be averted by knowing the precise locations of all underground pipeline facilities in proximity to excavation operations and closely monitoring excavation activities.

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 12, 2004.

**Stacey L. Gerard,**

*Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.*  
[FR Doc. 04-18903 Filed 8-17-04; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

August 10, 2004.

The Department of Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance Officer listed. Comments regarding this information collection should be addressed to the OMB reviewer listed and to the Treasury Department Clearance Officer, Department of the Treasury, Room 11000, 1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220.

*Dates:* Written comments should be received on or before September 17, 2004, to be assured of consideration.

#### Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

*OMB Number:* 1545-0068.

*Form Number:* IRS form 2441.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Child and Dependent Care Expenses.

*Description:* Internal Revenue Code (IRC) section 21 allows a credit for child and dependent care expenses to be claimed on Form 1040 (reduced by employer-provided day care benefits excluded under section 129). Day care provider information must be reported to the IRS for both the credit and exclusion. Form 2441 is used to verify that the credit and exclusion are properly figured, and that provider information is reported.

*Respondents:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents/Recordkeepers:* 6,519,859.

*Estimated Burden Hours Respondent/Recordkeeper:*

Recordkeeping—39 min.

Learning about the law or the form—25 min.

Preparing the form—1 hr., 7 min.

Copying, assembling, and sending the form to the IRS—27 min.

*Frequency of response:* Annually.

*Estimated Total Reporting/Recordkeeping Burden:* 17,408,024 hours.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1022.

*Form Number:* IRS Form 7018-C.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Order Blank for Forms.

*Description:* Form 7018-C allows taxpayers who must file information returns a systematic way to order information tax forms materials.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit, individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 868,432.

*Estimated Burden Hours Respondent:* 3 minutes.

*Frequency of response:* Annually.

*Estimated Total Reporting Burden:* 43,422 hours.

*OMB Number:* 1545-1141.

*Notice Number:* Notice 89-102.

*Type of Review:* Extension.

*Title:* Treatment of Acquisition of Certain Financial Institutions; Tax Consequences of Federal Financial Assistance.

*Description:* Section 597 of the Internal Revenue Code provides that the Secretary provide guidance concerning the tax consequences of Federal financial assistance by qualifying institutions. These institutions may defer payment of Federal income tax attributable to the assistance. Required information identifies deferred tax liabilities.

*Respondents:* Business of other for-profit.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 250.

*Estimated Burden Hours Respondent:* 30 minutes.

*Frequency of response:* Annually.

*Estimated Total Reporting Burden:* 20 hours.

*Clearance Officer:* Glenn P. Kirkland, (202) 622-3428, Internal Revenue Service, Room 6411-03, 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20224.

*OMB Reviewer:* Joseph F. Lackey, Jr., (202) 395-7316, Office of Management and Budget, Room

10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

**Lois K. Holland,**

*Treasury PRA Clearance Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Internal Revenue Service

#### Open Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel

**AGENCY:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** An open meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be conducted (via teleconference). The TAP will be discussing issues pertaining to lessening the burden for individuals. Recommendations for IRS systemic changes will be developed.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held Monday, September 13, 2004.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mary O'Brien at 1-888-912-1227, or 206-220-6096.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1988) that an open meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel will be held Monday, September 13, 2004, from 8 a.m. P.d.t. to 9 a.m. P.d.t. via a telephone conference call. If you would like to have the TAP consider a written statement, please call 1-888-912-1227 or 206-220-6096, or write to Mary O'Brien, TAP Office, 915 2nd Avenue, MS W-406, Seattle, WA 98174 or you can contact us at <http://www.improveirs.org>. Due to limited conference lines, notification of intent to participate in the telephone conference call meeting must be made with Mary O'Brien. Ms O'Brien can be reached at 1-888-912-1227 or 206-220-6096.

The agenda will include the following: various IRS issues.

Dated: August 12, 2004.

**Bernard Coston,**

*Director, Taxpayer Advocacy Panel.*

[FR Doc. 04-18937 Filed 8-17-04; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4830-01-P**