

Application No.	Docket No.	Applicant	Regulation(s) affected	Modification of exemption	Nature of exemption thereof
13961-M	RSPA-04-19297	3AL Testing Corporation Denver, CO.	49 CFR 172.203(a); 172.301(c); 180.205(f),(g); 180.209(a).	13961	To reissue the exemption originally issued on an emergency basis for the transportation of DOT Specification 3AL cylinders containing Division 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 materials when retested by a 100% ultrasonic examination in lieu of the internal visual and hydrostatic retest.
13997-M	RSPA-04-19643	Maritime Helicopters Homer, AK.	49 CFR 172.101(9b); 172.302(c).	13997	To reissue the exemption originally issued on an emergency basis for the transportation of a Division 2.1 material in DOT Specification 51 portable tanks that exceed the quantities limitation by cargo aircraft.
13998-M	RSPA-04-19651	3 AL Testing Corp. Denver, CO.	49 CFR 172.203(a); 172.302a(b)(2), (4)(5); 180.205(f)(g); 180.209(a), (b)(1)(iv).	13998	To reissue the exemption originally issued on an emergency basis for the transportation of DOT Specification 3A, 3AA, 3BN cylinders containing Division 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 materials when retested by a 100% ultrasonic examination in lieu of the internal visual and hydrostatic retest.
14005-M	RSPA-04-19585	Scientific Cylinder International, LLC Castle Rock, CO.	49 CFR 172.203(a), 172.301(c), 180.205(f)(4), 180.205(g), 180.209(a).	14005	To reissue the exemption originally issued on an emergency basis for the transportation of DOT Specification 3A, 3AA, 3BN cylinders containing Division 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 materials when retested by a 100% ultrasonic examination in lieu of the internal visual and hydrostatic retest.
14006-M	RSPA-04-19586	Scientific Cylinder International, LLC Castle Rock, CO.	49 CFR 172.203(a), 172.301(c), 180.205(f)(4), 180.205(g), 180.209(a).	14006	To reissue the exemption originally issued on an emergency basis for the transportation of DOT Specification 3 AL cylinders containing Division 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 materials when retested by a 100% ultrasonic examination in lieu of the internal visual and hydrostatic retest.

[FR Doc. 05-1060 Filed 1-19-05; 8:45am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

Pipeline Safety: Semi-Annual Reporting of Performance Measures for Gas Transmission Pipeline Integrity Management

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of advisory
bulletin.

SUMMARY: This document provides
guidance to operators of gas
transmission pipelines regarding semi-
annual reporting of performance
measures for integrity management.
Operators of gas transmission pipelines
subject to Subpart O, "Pipeline Integrity
Management," must submit four overall
measures of their integrity management
performance on a semi-annual basis.
The first report was due August 31,

2004, and was the subject of RSPA/OPS
Advisory Bulletin ADB-04-02 (69 FR
43881) which published on July 22,
2004. This document provides
additional guidance for operators
regarding on-line reporting that will be
available for the report due in February
2005 and subsequent reports.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Zach Barrett by phone at (405) 954-5559
or by e-mail at zbarrett@tsi.jcabi.gov,
regarding the subject matter of this
Advisory Bulletin. General information
about the RSPA/OPS programs may be
obtained by accessing RSPA's home
page at <http://RSPA.dot.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On December 15, 2003 (68 FR 69778)
RSPA/OPS published a new Subpart O
to the regulations governing safety of gas
pipelines in 49 CFR part 192. Subpart O
establishes requirements governing
integrity management programs for gas
transmission pipelines. Included among
these provisions (49 CFR 192.945) are
requirements for each transmission
pipeline operator to maintain
quantitative measures of its integrity

management performance, including at
least four overall performance measures
specified in ASME/ANSI B31.8S,
"Managing System Integrity of Gas
Pipelines", Section 9.4. The same
regulation requires that each operator
submit the four overall performance
measures to RSPA/OPS semi-annually.

The acceptable means for submitting
reports required by Subpart O are in 49
CFR 192.951. That regulation specifies
an address for submission by mail,
includes a facsimile number, and
provides that submissions may be made
through the online reporting system
provided by RSPA/OPS for electronic
reporting. The electronic system is
available at the RSPA/OPS Home Page
at <http://ops.dot.gov>. The electronic
submission form for integrity
management performance measures is
available from the "Gas IMP Reporting"
link on that page.

Advisory Bulletin ADB-04-02
informed natural gas transmission
pipeline operators that the initial
performance measures submission
required by August 31, 2004, could be
abbreviated, in recognition of the
developmental state of operator integrity

management programs. This advisory bulletin provides additional information concerning on-line reporting of performance measures for the report due in February 2005.

Advisory Bulletin (ADB-05-01)

To: Operators of gas transmission pipelines.

Subject: Semi-Annual Reporting of Integrity Management Performance Measures in 49 CFR 192.945.

Purpose: To provide guidance to operators for making required semi-annual submission of performance measures for integrity management.

Advisory: Operators are required by 49 CFR 192.945 to submit integrity management performance measures semi-annually. RSPA/OPS developed an electronic form to facilitate submission of the required measures. This form is available on the RSPA/OPS Home Page (<http://ops.dot.gov>) for "Gas IMP Reporting". RSPA/OPS strongly encourage operators to submit data using the electronic form, since this minimizes future transcription and handling, and lessens the chance for error. Operators may also submit the information by mail or facsimile, addressed to RSPA/OPS, 400 7th Street, SW., Room 2103, Washington, DC 20590. The fax number is (202) 366-4566. Please clearly notate your correspondence with "Gas IMP Reporting".

The four overall performance measures that gas transmission pipeline operators are required to submit are the:

1. Number of pipeline miles inspected versus program requirements;
2. Number of immediate repairs completed as a result of the integrity management inspection program;
3. Number of scheduled repairs completed as a result of the integrity management program; and
4. Number of leaks, failures, and incidents (classified by cause).

With respect to the first performance measure, the phrase "versus program requirements" refers to the number of miles of the operator's pipeline system that require assessment in accordance with Subpart O, (*i.e.*, the number of miles in high consequence areas.) Operators were not required to have developed their integrity management programs and baseline inspection plans until December 17, 2004, and thus may not have known the total number of miles that would require assessment at the time the first report was due (August 31, 2004). Similarly, operators may not have known, at that time, what repairs were reportable, since they may not have known which were made in high consequence areas. For these reasons,

Advisory Bulletin ADB-04-02 advised operators that the quantitative performance measures would not be required for the first (August 31, 2004) report. That report, instead, allowed operators to report that they had begun assessment activities by June 17, 2004, in conformance with the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (codified at 49 U.S.C. 60109(c)).

The December 17, 2004, deadline for identifying high consequence areas has now passed. Operators should be aware of how many miles of their pipeline system are in high consequence areas and where those areas are located. Operators should have all of the information needed for the overall quantitative performance measures required by the rule. Operators must include the quantitative information in their February 2005 reports and in subsequent semi-annual submissions, unless the requirement is changed by future rulemaking. The February 2005 report should include data covering all of calendar year 2004, (*i.e.*, it should include the quantitative data that would have been reported in August 2004 but for which reporting was deferred by the earlier advisory bulletin.) Failure to submit performance measures in accordance with the rule could result in enforcement action.

The electronic report form provides a template with data fields that operators can complete to submit the required quantitative performance measures for 2004 (report due February 28, 2005). Operators who submit by mail or facsimile should similarly include all of the quantitative information required by the rule and the referenced standard.

The rule does not now require that performance measures be submitted separately for each state in which a pipeline operator operates. State pipeline safety authorities will have significant involvement in oversight of the implementation of integrity management requirements for gas transmission pipelines and performance measure information for their state will be useful for prioritizing and managing this work. RSPA/OPS is considering a change to the rule that would require operators to report separately for each state in which they have transmission pipeline. In the meantime, RSPA/OPS encourages operators with transmission pipeline in more than one state to submit their integrity management performance measure information separately for each state.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 12, 2005.

Stacey L. Gerard,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34641]

Nicholas B. Temple and Eric Temple— Control Exemption—Central Washington Railroad Company

Nicholas B. Temple and Eric Temple (Petitioners), noncarrier individuals, have filed a verified notice of exemption for Petitioners to control Central Washington Railroad Company (CWA), upon CWA's becoming a Class III rail carrier.

The transaction was expected to be consummated on or after December 29, 2004.

This transaction is related to the concurrently filed verified notice of exemption in STB Finance Docket No. 34640, *Central Washington Railroad Company—Lease and Operation Exemption—The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company*. In that proceeding, CWA seeks to lease, from The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company, and operate approximately 41.57 miles of rail line in Washington State and to acquire specified incidental trackage rights.

Petitioners also control the Columbia Basin Railroad Company, Inc. (CBRW), which leases and operates property in the State of Washington.¹

Petitioners state that: (1) The railroads do not connect with each other or any railroad in their corporate family; (2) the transaction is not part of a series of anticipated transactions that would connect the railroads with each other or any railroad in their corporate family; and (3) the transaction does not involve a Class I carrier. Therefore, the transaction is exempt from the prior approval requirements of 49 U.S.C. 11323. See 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(2).

Under 49 U.S.C. 10502(g), the Board may not use its exemption authority to relieve a rail carrier of its statutory obligation to protect the interests of its employees. Section 11326(c), however, does not provide for labor protection for transactions under sections 11324 and 11325 that involve only Class III rail carriers. Accordingly, the Board may not impose labor protective conditions here,

¹ Each Petitioner has a 50% ownership interest in CBRW.