relationship(s) of those entities that are its affiliates based solely on paragraph (c)(5)(i)(C) of this section if those affiliates entered into such material relationship(s) before April 25, 2006, and are subject to a contractual prohibition preventing them from contributing to the applicant’s total financing.

(j) Designated entities must describe on their long-form applications how they satisfy the requirements for eligibility for designated entity status, and must list and summarize on their long form applications all agreements that affect designated entity status such as partnership agreements, shareholder agreements, management agreements, spectrum leasing arrangements, spectrum resale (including wholesale) arrangements, and all other agreements including oral agreements, establishing as applicable, de facto or de jure control of the entity or the presence or absence of attributable material relationships. Designated entities also must provide the date(s) on which they entered into the agreements listed. In addition, designated entities must file with their long-form applications a copy of each such agreement. In order to enable the Commission to audit designated entity eligibility on an ongoing basis, designated entities that are awarded eligibility must, for the term of the license, maintain at their facilities or with their designated agents the lists, summaries, dates and copies of agreements required to be identified and provided to the Commission pursuant to this paragraph and to § 1.2114.

3. Section 1.2111 is revised by removing paragraph (d)(2)(i) and redesignating paragraphs (d)(2)(ii) and (iii) as paragraphs (d)(2)(i) and (ii) and by revising them to read as follows:

§ 1.2111 Assignment or transfer of control: unjust enrichment.

(d) * * *

(2) Payment schedule. (i) The amount of payments made pursuant to paragraph (d)(1) of this section will be reduced over time as follows:

(A) A transfer in the first two years of the license term will result in a forfeiture of 100 percent of the value of the bidding credit; (B) A transfer in year 3 of the license term will result in a forfeiture of 75 percent of the value of the bidding credit; (C) A transfer in year 4 of the license term will result in a forfeiture of 50 percent of the value of the bidding credit; (D) A transfer in year 5 of the license term will result in a forfeiture of 25 percent of the value of the bidding credit; and (E) For a transfer in year 6 or thereafter, there will be no payment.

(ii) These payments will have to be paid to the United States Treasury as a condition of approval of the assignment, transfer, ownership change or reportable eligibility event (see § 1.2114).

4. Section 1.2112 is amended by revising paragraphs (b)(1)(iii) and (b)(2)(iii) to read as follows:

§ 1.2112 Ownership disclosure requirements for applications.

(b) * * *

(1) * * *

(iii) List and summarize all agreements or instruments (with appropriate references to specific provisions in the text of such agreements and instruments) that support the applicant’s eligibility as a small business under the applicable designated entity provisions, including the establishment of de facto or de jure control or the presence or absence of attributable material relationships. Such agreements and instruments include articles of incorporation and by-laws, partnership agreements, shareholder agreements, voting or other trust agreements, management agreements, franchise agreements, spectrum leasing arrangements, spectrum resale (including wholesale) arrangements, and any other relevant agreements (including letters of intent), oral or written;

49 CFR Parts 191, 192, 193 and 195

[DOCKET No. PHMSA–2012–0001]

Pipeline Safety: Implementation of the National Registry of Pipeline and Liquefied Natural Gas Operators

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.


SUMMARY: This notice advises owners and operators of pipeline facilities of PHMSA’s plan for implementing the national registry of pipeline and liquefied natural gas operators. This notice provides updates to the information contained in a PHMSA Advisory Bulletin published on January 13, 2012 (77 FR 2126).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jamerson Pender, Information Resources Manager, 202–366–0218 or by email at Jamerson.Pender@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On November 26, 2010, PHMSA published a final rule in the Federal Register [75 FR 72878] titled: “Pipeline Safety: Updates to Pipeline and Liquefied Natural Gas Reporting Requirements.” That final rule added two new sections, 49 CFR 191.22 and 195.64, to the pipeline safety regulations that concerned the establishment of a national registry of pipeline and liquefied natural gas (LNG) operators. New operators use the national registry to obtain an Operator Identification (OPID) Number and existing operators use it to notify PHMSA of certain actions, including company name changes, certain construction activities, and project planning.

The national pipeline operator registry became effective on January 1, 2012. In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act requirements, PHMSA issued a 60-day Federal Register notice on December 13, 2010 (75 FR 77604), and a 30-day Federal Register notice on 16471
November 10, 2011 (76 FR 70217). The purpose of these notices was to gather and respond to comments on the actual forms used to collect information for the national pipeline operator registry.

PHMSA is issuing this advisory bulletin to clarify the implementation of the national pipeline operator registry.

II. Advisory Bulletin (ADB—2012–04)

To: Owners and Operators of Pipeline and LNG Facilities.

Subject: Implementation of the National Registry of Pipeline and LNG Operators.

Advisory: This notice advises owners and operators of pipeline facilities of PHMSA’s plan for implementing the national registry of pipeline and LNG operators. This notice provides updates to the information contained in a PHMSA Advisory Bulletin on the same subject published on January 13, 2012 (77 FR 2126).

OPID Assignment Requests—§§ 191.22(a) and 195.64(a)

From January 1, 2012, to January 27, 2012, PHMSA collected fillable pdf versions of OPID Assignment Request (Form F 1000.1). Starting January 27, 2012, the Online Data Reporting System (ODES) is used by entities requesting a new OPID. PHMSA is entering the pdf versions of OPID Assignment Request forms into ODES and will notify requesters when the OPID has been established.

While subject to the pipeline safety regulations, operators of master meter systems or petroleum gas systems that serve fewer than 100 customers from a single source are not required to file annual reports (see 49 CFR 191.11(b)). There were several thousand master meter system operators and several hundred small liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) operators who fell within the scope of this exception as of December 31, 2011.

While also subject to the requirements of 49 CFR 191.22, PHMSA previously determined that the operators of these systems would not be required to obtain an OPID. Instead, PHMSA agreed to create OPIDs for these operators based on the existing data in the agency’s files. That is currently underway and will be completed by May 1, 2012.

In light of this experience, PHMSA has decided that master meter and small LPG operators established after December 31, 2011, will be required to obtain an OPID in accordance with 49 CFR 191.22. On May 1, 2012, PHMSA will modify ODES to allow these master meter and small LPG operators to request an OPID. The requirement to request an OPID continues to not apply to master meter and small LPG operators in existence prior to December 31, 2011.

Notifications—§§ 191.22(c) and 195.64(c)

On January 1, 2012, PHMSA began collecting fillable pdf versions of Notifications (Form F 1000.2). Starting March 27, 2012, operators will be able to submit notifications online through ODES, and PHMSA will enter all of the pdf versions of the notifications into ODES shortly thereafter.

PHMSA’s plan for implementing the national registry of pipeline and LNG operators has determined that the existence of these operators as of December 31, 2011, will be required to obtain an OPID. Instead, PHMSA agreed to create OPIDs for these operators based on the existing data in the agency’s files. That is currently underway and will be completed by May 1, 2012.


Issued in Washington, DC, on March 9, 2012.

Jeffrey D. Wiese, Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

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