Coatings with higher operating temperatures, and in-line inspection tool findings are accurate, verified, and the in-line tools are appropriate for the pipeline threat. This bulletin is intended to inform operators about PHMSA’s failure investigation of the Plains Pipeline May 19, 2015, accident in Santa Barbara, California and to urge operators to take all necessary actions, including, but not limited to, those set forth in this bulletin, to prevent and mitigate the breach of integrity, leaks, and/or failures of their pipeline facilities and to ensure the safety of the public and operating personnel and to protect the environment.

Operators must have and implement procedures to operate, maintain, assess, and repair their pipelines. These procedures for insulated and buried pipelines should take into consideration:

1. The need for coatings and cathodic protection systems to be designed, installed, and maintained so as not to foster an environment of shielding and moisture that can lead to excessive external corrosion growth rates and pipe steel cracking such as stress corrosion cracking.

2. Coatings for buried, insulated pipelines that may result in cathodic protection “shielding” yet still comply with 49 CFR part 192, subpart I or 49 CFR part 195, subpart H. Inadequate corrosion prevention may be addressed through any one or more methods, or a combination of methods, including, but not limited to, the following:
   - Replacing insulated and buried pipelines with compromised coating systems or inadequate cathodic protections systems;
   - Repairing or re-coating compromised portions of the coating on insulated and buried pipelines to ensure adequate corrosion control; or
   - Taking other special precautions if an operator suspects that adequate cathodic protection cannot be provided due to shielding resulting from insulated coatings that have become disbonded. Such precautions may include:
     - More frequent reassessments;
     - Usage of the appropriate assessment tools for all threats including stress corrosion cracking;
     - Coordination of data from the appropriate ILI technologies;
     - More stringent repair criteria targeted at CUI or corrosion under disbonded coatings for insulated and buried pipelines;
     - Usage of a leak detection system with instrumentation and associated calculations to monitor line pack (the total volume of liquid present in a pipeline section) along all portions of the pipeline when it is operating or shut down; and
     - Valve spacing to limit any possible spill volumes with remotely operated valves and pressure monitoring at the valves.

3. Advanced ILI data analysis techniques to account for the potential growth of CUI, including interaction criteria for anomaly assessment.

4. ILI data, subsequent analysis of the data, and pipeline excavation that:
   - Follow the ILI guidelines of API Standard 1163, “In-Line Inspection Systems Qualification Standard” 2nd edition, April 2013, (API Std. 1163) for ILI assessments;
   - Use additional or more frequent reassessment intervals and confirmations when the insulated and buried pipeline external coating, shields the pipeline from CP, retains moisture on insulated coating systems, and operates at higher operating temperatures; and
   - Assess and mitigate operational and environmental conditions in shielded and insulated coatings that lead to excessive corrosion growth rates, pipe steel cracking, and all other threats.

In addition to the above, an operator’s operating and maintenance processes and procedures should be reviewed and updated at least annually, unless operational inspections for integrity warrant shorter review periods.

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Alan K. Mayberry,
Acting Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

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BILLING CODE 4910–60–W
Crystal City, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal City, VA 22202 (unless otherwise listed):
- **HSR 1**—Health Care and Clinical Management on August 23–24, 2016;
- **HSR 2**—Behavioral, Social, and Cultural Determinants of Health and Care on August 23–24, 2016;
- **HSR 4**—Mental and Behavioral Health on August 23–24, 2016;
- **HSR 5—Health Care System Organization and Delivery on August 23–24, 2016;
- **CDA**—Career Development Award Meeting on August 25–26, 2016;
- **HSR 3**—Healthcare Informatics on August 24–25, 2016;
- **NRI**—Nursing Research Initiative from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on August 26, 2016;
- **HSR 6**—Post-acute and Long-term Care on August 25, 2016;
- **HSR 8**—Randomized Program Evaluations from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on August 25, 2016; and
- **HSR 0**—Precision Mental Health from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on August 25, 2016.

The purpose of the Board is to review health services research and development applications involving: The measurement and evaluation of health care services; the testing of new methods of health care delivery and management; and nursing research. Applications are reviewed for scientific and technical merit, mission relevance, and the protection of human and animal subjects. Recommendations regarding funding are submitted to the Chief Research and Development Officer.

Each subcommittee meeting of the Board will be open to the public the first day for approximately one half-hour at the start of the meeting on August 23–24 (HSR 1, 2, 4, 5; August 24–25 (HSR 3), August 25 (HSR 0, 6, 8), August 25–26 (CDA), and August 26 (NRI) to cover administrative matters and to discuss the general status of the program.

Members of the public who wish to attend the open portion of the subcommittee meetings may dial 1–800–767–1750, participant code 10443#.

The remaining portion of each subcommittee meeting will be closed for the discussion, examination, reference to, and oral review of the intramural research proposals and critiques. During the closed portion of each subcommittee meeting, discussion and recommendations will include qualifications of the personnel conducting the studies (the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), as well as research information (the premature disclosure of which would likely compromise significantly the implementation of proposed agency action regarding such research projects).

As provided by subsection 10(d) of Public Law 92–463, as amended by Public Law 94–409, closing the meeting is in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B).

No oral or written comments will be accepted from the public for either portion of the meetings. Those who plan to participate during the open portion of a subcommittee meeting should contact Ms. Liza Catucci, Administrative Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs, Health Services Research and Development Service (10P9H), 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, or by email at Liza.Catucci@va.gov. For further information, please call Ms. Catucci at (202) 443–5797.

Dated: June 16, 2016.

Jelessa Burney,
Federal Advisory Committee Management Officer.
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