

**ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION
GAS PIPELINE SAFETY SECTION**

Update for

**Alabama Natural Gas Association
Spring Seminar 2013**

March 5, 2013

**Embassy Suites
Hoover, Alabama**

Pipeline Safety Personnel Alignment

Inspectors : North Alabama - Greg Meadows
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PSC Update – 2013

H.R. 2845 (Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011) Highlights

SEC. 3. PIPELINE DAMAGE PREVENTION.

(a) MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR STATE ONE-CALL NOTIFICATION PROGRAMS.—Section 6103(a) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) MINIMUM STANDARDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to qualify for a grant under section 6106, a State one-call notification program, at a minimum, shall provide for—

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H.R. 2845 (Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011) Highlights

“(A) appropriate participation by all underground facility operators, including all government operators;

“(B) appropriate participation by all excavators, including all government and contract excavators; and

“(C) flexible and effective enforcement under State law with respect to participation in, and use of, one-call notification systems.

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H.R. 2845 (Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011) Highlights

“(2) EXEMPTIONS PROHIBITED.—In order to qualify for a grant under section 6106, a State one-call notification program **may not exempt municipalities, State agencies, or their contractors** from the one-call notification system requirements of the program.”

(Public Forum on Exemptions is Scheduled for March 14 ;

<http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/meetings/MtgHome.mtg?mtg=85>)

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NPRM (Notice of Proposed Rulemaking)
Dealing with Enforcement

Federal Register / Vol. 77, No. 63 / Monday, April 2, 2012 /
Proposed Rules

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration
49 CFR Parts 196 and 198
[Docket No. PHMSA–2009–0192]
RIN 2137–AE43
Pipeline Safety: Pipeline Damage
Prevention Programs

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NPRM (Notice of Proposed Rulemaking)
Dealing with Enforcement

§ 196.1 What is the purpose and scope of this part?

This part prescribes the minimum requirements that excavators must follow to protect underground pipelines from excavation-related damage. It also establishes an enforcement process for violations of these requirements.

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NPRM (Notice of Proposed Rulemaking)
Dealing with Enforcement

§ 198.51 What is the purpose and scope of this subpart?

This subpart establishes standards for effective state damage prevention enforcement programs and prescribes the administrative procedures available to a state that elects to contest a notice of inadequacy.

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NPRM (Notice of Proposed Rulemaking)
Dealing with Enforcement

**§ 198.53 When and how will PHMSA
evaluate state excavation damage
prevention law enforcement programs?**

A state that fails to establish an adequate enforcement program in accordance with 49 CFR 198.55 within five years of the finding of inadequacy may be subject to reduced grant funding established under 49 U.S.C. 60107.

The amount of the reduction in 49 U.S.C. 60107 grant funding shall not exceed 10% of prior year funding.

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H.R. 2845 (Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011) Highlights

- Section 4. - Requires, if appropriate, DOT to issue regulations requiring the use of remote or automatic shut-off valves, or equivalent technology. . . . where economically, technically and operationally feasible

Notice of Public Comment Issued by PHMSA;

Published in Federal Register on March 30, 2012

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H.R. 2845 (Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011) Highlights

- Sections 5 & 29 - Requires DOT to evaluate whether gas integrity management requirements should be expanded beyond HCAs, and whether such expansion would mitigate the need for class location requirements.

ANPRM (Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking) Issued By PHMSA; Published in the Federal Register on August 25, 2011

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H.R. 2845 (Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011) Highlights

- Section 7 – Requires DOT to conduct a follow-up biannual survey on whether operators have adopted plans to manage and replace cast iron pipe, and the status of those plans.

Section 7 - Continued

Section 7 of the new law requires the U.S. Department of Transportation to measure every two years the progress that owners and operators of pipeline facilities have made in adopting and implementing their plans for the safe management and replacement of cast iron gas pipelines. Additionally, not later than December 31, 2013, the Secretary of Transportation must submit to Congress a report that — (1) Identifies the total mileage of cast iron gas pipelines in the United States; and (2) evaluates the progress that owners and operators of pipeline facilities have made in implementing their plans for the safe management and replacement of cast iron gas pipelines.

Published in Federal Register on March 23, 2012 As Part of An Advisory Bulletin on Cast Iron

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H.R. 2845 (Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011) Highlights

- Section 9 – Requires DOT to issue regulations establishing time limits for notification . . . require notification no later than one (1) hour after confirmed discovery of accident or incident.

PHMSA will issue a proposed rule at a later date, but encourages owners and operators of the gas and hazardous liquids pipeline systems and LNG facilities, as a practice, to report such accidents and incidents within one hour of **confirmed discovery**.

As Published in the Federal Register on January 30, 2013

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H.R. 2845 (Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011) Highlights

- Section 22 – If appropriate, DOT shall issue regulations requiring the use of excess flow valves, or equivalent technology, where economically, technically and operationally feasible on new or entirely replaced distribution branch services, multifamily facilities, and small commercial facilities.

Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM)
Published in the Federal Register on November 25,
2011; Extension Granted on February 3, 2012

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H.R. 2845 (Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011) Highlights

- Section 23 – DOT shall require pipeline owners or operators to conduct a verification of the records of the owner or operator for intra- and interstate gas transmission pipes in Class 3 and 4 locations and Class 1 and 2 HCAs
 - Ensure records accurately reflect pipeline physical and operational characteristics
 - Confirm established Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP)

Advisory Bulletin Published in Federal Register on December 21, 2012 Regarding Reporting of Exceedances

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DIMP:

An operator may subdivide its pipeline into regions with similar characteristics (e.g., contiguous areas within a distribution pipeline consisting of mains, services and other appurtenances; areas with common materials or environmental factors), and for which similar actions likely would be effective in reducing risk.

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SHRIMP is a **tool**.

It is only as good as the

effort

and the information that is
put into it.

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Cyber Security

Cyberspies linked to China's military targeted nearly two dozen US natural gas pipeline operators over a recent six-month period, stealing information that could be used to sabotage US gas pipelines, according to a restricted US government report and a source familiar with the government investigation.

From December 2011 through June 2012, cyberspies targeted 23 gas pipeline companies with e-mails crafted to deceive key personnel into clicking on malicious links or file attachments that let the attackers slip into company networks, says the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) report.