

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Research and Special Programs Administration****49 CFR Parts 192 and 195**

[Docket No. RSPA-98-3783; Notice 9]

RIN 2137-AB38

Qualification of Pipeline Personnel**AGENCY:** Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the next meeting of the negotiated rulemaking committee on qualification of pipeline personnel. In January 1998 this committee concluded a negotiated rulemaking to develop a proposed rule on qualification of pipeline employees performing certain functions on pipelines subject to the pipeline safety

regulations. The advisory committee is composed of persons who represent the interests that would be affected by the rule, such as gas pipeline operators, hazardous liquid pipeline operators, representatives of state and federal governments, labor organizations, and other interested parties.

DATES: The Committee will meet from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm on February 22, 1999, and from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on February 23, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The Committee will meet at the American Gas Association, 1515 Wilson Boulevard, 11th floor, Arlington, Virginia.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Eben M. Wyman, (202) 366-0918, or by e-mail (eben.wyman@rspa.dot.gov) regarding the subject matter of this Notice; or the Dockets Unit, (202) 366-4453, for copies of this document or other material in the docket.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 27, 1999, OPS published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), Qualification of Pipeline Personnel (63 FR 57269). The comment period ended on December 28, 1998. The negotiated rulemaking advisory committee that developed this NPRM will reconvene at this meeting to discuss comments received regarding the NPRM, and will work to prepare the final rule. This meeting is open to the public. RSPA expects this will be the final meeting of the advisory committee on operator personnel qualification.

Issued in Washington, DC on January 27, 1999.

Richard B. Felder,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

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