

§ 107.339 [Amended]

9. In § 107.339, "OHMT" is changed to "Office of the Chief Counsel".

PART 171—GENERAL INFORMATION, REGULATIONS, AND DEFINITIONS

10. The authority citation for Part 171 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 1802, 1803, 1804, 1808; 49 CFR Part 1, unless otherwise noted.

11. § 171.7, paragraph (d)(21) is revised to read as follows:

§ 171.7 Matter incorporated by reference.

(d) * * *

(21) United Nations Recommendations (UN Recommendations) is titled "Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods", Fourth revised edition (1986).

§ 171.15 [Amended]

12. In paragraph (b) of § 171.15, the toll call number for the Department is changed from "202-426-2675" to "202-267-2675".

§ 171.17 [Amended]

13. In paragraph (a) of § 171.17, the toll call number is changed from "202-426-2675" to "202-267-2675".

PART 172—HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TABLES AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COMMUNICATIONS REGULATIONS

14. The authority citation for Part 172 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 1803, 1804, 1805, 1808; 49 CFR Part 1, unless otherwise noted.

§ 172.101 [Amended]

15. In the § 172.101 Hazardous Materials Table:

a. The entry "Methyl norbornene dicarboxylic anhydride. See Memtetrahydro phthalic anhydride" is removed.

b. For the entry "Motor vehicle etc. . . . the symbols "+E" are removed from column 1.

16. In § 172.525, the graphic depiction of the RESIDUE placard is revised to appear as follows:

§ 172.525 Standard requirements for the RESIDUE placard.

(b) * * *



PART 173—SHIPPERS—GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SHIPMENTS AND PACKAGINGS

16. The authority citation for Part 173 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 1803, 1804, 1805, 1806, 1807, 1808; 49 CFR Part 1, unless otherwise noted.

§ 173.262 [Amended]

17. In paragraph (b)(3) of § 173.262, the word "screw-up" is corrected to read "screw-cap"

§ 173.266 [Amended]

18. In paragraph (f)(1) of § 173.266, the reference "179.3(e)" is corrected to read "179.3(a)".

19. In § 173.415, paragraph (c) is revised to read as follows:

§ 173.415 Authorized Type A packages.

(c) Any Type B, B(U) or B(M) packaging pursuant to § 173.416.

PART 174—CARRIAGE BY RAIL

20. The authority citation for Part 174 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 1803, 1804, 1805, 1808; 49 CFR Part 1, unless otherwise noted.

§ 174.750 [Amended]

21. In paragraph (b) of § 174.750, the agency "Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA)" is changed to "U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)".

PART 175—CARRIAGE BY AIRCRAFT

22. The authority citation for Part 175 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 1803, 1804, 1805, 1807, 1808; 49 CFR Part 1, unless otherwise noted.

23. In § 175.20, the last sentence is revised to read as follows:

§ 175.20 Compliance.

* * * (See 14 CFR 121.135, 121.401, 121.433a, 135.323, 135.327 and 135.333.)

PART 178—SHIPPING CONTAINER SPECIFICATIONS

24. The authority citation for Part 178 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 1803, 1804, 1805, 1806, 1808; 49 CFR Part 1, unless otherwise noted.

§ 178.16-19 [Amended]

25. In paragraph (c)(2) of § 178.16-19, the word "Operation" is changed to "Transportation".

§ 178.45-17 [Amended]

26. In paragraph (e) of § 178.45-17, the word "Transportation" is added after the word "Materials".

§ 178.65-14 [Amended]

27. In paragraph (d) of § 178.65-14, the word "Regulation" is changed to "Transportation".

§ 178.338-3 [Amended]

28. In paragraph (b) of § 178.338-3 following the introductory text, the formula changes from "S=(T/2)+((T²/4)+S_a, 20.5" to "S=(T/2)+((T²/4)+S_a)^{0.5}".

Issued in Washington, D.C., on September 26, 1986, under the authority delegated in 49 CFR Part 1, Appendix A.

M. Cynthia Douglass,
Administrator, Research and Special Programs Administration.

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49 CFR Part 192

[Docket No. PS-90, Amdt. 192-53]

Transportation of Natural and Other Gas by Pipeline; Period for Confirmation or Revision of Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This amendment clarifies a pipeline safety regulation regarding the period for confirmation or revision of a pipeline's maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP). Under the present regulation, the MAOP of a pipeline must be confirmed or reduced within 18 months after a population increase near the pipeline results in a more restrictive class location. Some operators have misinterpreted this rule to preclude

confirmation of the pre-existing MAOP at a date beyond the 18-month period if the initial action taken is to reduce the MAOP. The amendment makes it clear that confirmation by pressure testing may occur at any time after the 18-month period, if the initial compliance action was to reduce the MAOP under § 192.611(b).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 31, 1986.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: L.M. Furrow, (202) 426-2392. Copies of the amendment and documents related thereto may be obtained from the Dockets Branch, Room 8426, Research and Special Programs Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, (202) 366-3148.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By letter of January 22, 1985, (P-30), The Gas Piping Technology Committee of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) petitioned RSPA to clarify the period allowed for confirmation or revision of a pipeline's MAOP following a change in class location.

Whenever an increase in population density causes an increase in a pipeline's designated class location under § 192.5, and the hoop stress corresponding to the pipeline's MAOP is not commensurate with the new class location, the MAOP must be confirmed or revised according to the rules in § 192.611. Paragraph (e) of § 192.611 requires that the confirmation or revision be completed within 18 months of the change in class location.

Section 192.611 permits alternative actions for pipelines that have not previously been pressure tested for at least 8 hours to at least 90 percent of specified minimum yield strength. These alternatives are (1) reduce the pipeline's MAOP (to the level where the corresponding hoop stress does not exceed the stress permitted for new pipelines in that class location (§ 192.611(b)), or (2) pressure test the pipeline and either re-establish the original MAOP or establish a lower MAOP based on that test (§ 192.611(c)).

Because of operating constraints, reductions in market demand or gas supplies, or other economic factors, operators sometimes find it more practical to temporarily reduce a pipeline's MAOP and postpone pressure testing until operating conditions warrant re-instatement of the pre-existing MAOP. However, ASME argued that the 18-month rule of § 192.611(e) thwarts this option because it makes the two alternatives mutually exclusive. In other words, ASME said operators who choose pressure reduction as a

temporary measure are precluded from pressure testing after the 18-month period to confirm the pre-existing MAOP. As a result, operators are compelled to test within 18 months to preserve an existing MAOP, even though that pressure level is not necessary for current operations.

Although, RSPA had not interpreted the 18-month rule to block operators who choose one compliance option from later selecting the other, it was concerned that § 192.611(e) may, through misinterpretation, be adversely affecting economical pipeline operations of some operators. Therefore, RSPA proposed in Notice 1 (51 FR 19878; June 3, 1986) to amend § 192.611(e) to make it clear that operators who reduce a pipeline's MAOP under § 192.611(b) within the 18-month period may at a later date reinstate the preexisting MAOP by pressure testing under § 192.611(c).

Sixteen gas operators, one trade association and one State agency submitted written comments on the proposed rule. All commenters favored the clarifying rule change.

One commenter, however, thought that the ceiling § 192.553(d) sets on the level to which the MAOP of a pipeline may be increased would nullify the benefits intended by the proposed amendment to § 192.611(e). Section 192.553(d) restricts the increase in MAOP of existing pipelines to the level permitted for newly constructed pipelines of the same material in the same location. This restriction applies whenever a pipeline's MAOP is being increased as part of the uprating process under Subpart K. As indicated by § 192.553(d), itself, and the other provisions of Subpart K, uprating raises the MAOP of a pipeline to a "new" level to which the pipeline was not previously qualified. In contrast, increasing a temporarily reduced MAOP after testing under § 192.611(c) does not uprate the pipeline, because § 192.611(c)(2) does not permit the increase to exceed the previously qualified MAOP in effect at the time the class location change occurred. Therefore, the pressure restriction in § 192.553(d) on uprating does not apply to confirmation or revision of MAOP under § 192.611.

Advisory Committee Review

The Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee, a 15-member advisory committee established under section 4(b) of the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968, considered the proposed rule at a meeting in Washington, DC on June 10, 1986. The committee declared the proposed rule to be technically feasible, reasonable, and practicable. A transcript of the

Committee's deliberations and a report of its findings are available in the docket for this proceeding.

Classification

This final rule is not a "major" rule under Executive Order 12291, since the rule will have an economic impact on the economy of less than \$100 million a year. The rule will result in cost saving to consumers, industry, and government agencies, and no adverse impacts are anticipated. This rule is not "significant" under Department of Transportation procedures (44 FR 11034). The rule will reduce the costs of confirmation or revision programs by allowing a more economical alternative to pressure testing in complying with the current rule. However, this savings is not expected to be large enough to warrant preparation of a Regulatory Evaluation.

Based on the facts available concerning the impact of this rulemaking action, I certify pursuant to section 605 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act that the action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

List of Subjects in 49 CFR Part 192

Pipeline safety, Maximum allowable operating pressure.

PART 192—[AMENDED]

In view of the above, RSPA amends Part 192 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

1. The authority citation for Part 192 continues to read as set forth below:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 1672; U.S.C. 1804; 49 CFR 1.53 and Appendix A of Part 1.

2. Section 192.611(e)(2) is revised to read as follows:

§ 192.611 Change in class location: Confirmation or revision of maximum allowable operating pressure.

* * * * *

(e) * * *

(2) Confirmation or revision due to change in class location that occur on or after July 1, 1973, must be completed within 18 months of the change in class location. Pressure reduction under paragraph (b) of this section within the 18-month period does not preclude establishing a maximum allowable operating pressure under paragraph (c) of this section, at a later date.

Issued in Washington, DC, on September 2, 1986.

M. Cynthia Douglass,
Administrator, Research and Special
Programs Administration.

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