

ADDRESS: Comments should be sent to: Dockets Section, Office of Hazardous Materials Operations, Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590. It is requested that five copies be submitted.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alan I. Roberts, Director, Office of Hazardous Materials Operations, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20590, Phone 202-426-0656.

(49 U.S.C. 1803 and 1804; 49 CFR 1.53(e).)

Issued in Washington, D.C. on May 5, 1978.

ALAN I. ROBERTS,
Director Office of Hazardous
Materials Operations.

[FR Doc. 78-13180 Filed 5-17-78; 8:45 am]

[4910-60]

[Docket HM-139; Amdt. No. 173-116]

PART 173—SHIPPERS—GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SHIPMENTS AND PACKAGINGS

Conversion of Individual Exemptions to Regulations of General Applicability; Correction

AGENCY: Materials Transportation Bureau, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: This document corrects a final rule in Docket HM-139; Amdt. 173-116 (43 FR 17942, April 27, 1978) by adding the following sentence in § 173.302(a)(3) which was erroneously omitted: "As used in this paragraph methane is a nonliquefied gas which has a minimum purity of 98.0 percent methane and which is commercially free of corroding components."

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 27, 1978.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Alan I. Roberts, Director, Office of Hazardous Materials Operations, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20590, 202-426-0656.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: In FR Docket 78-11462 beginning on page 17942 in the FEDERAL REGISTER of April 27, 1978, Item 11 is corrected to include the above sentence in § 173.302(a)(3) which was added in Docket HM-99; Amdt. 173-115 (43 FR 13382, March 30, 1978). The paragraph now reads:

§ 173.302 Charging of cylinders with non-liquefied compressed gases.

(a) ***

(3) Specification 3AX, 3AAX, or 3T (§§ 178.36, 178.37, 178.45 of this subchapter) cylinders are authorized only for the following nonliquefied gases: Air, argon, boron trifluoride, carbon monoxide, ethane, ethylene, helium, hydrogen, methane, neon, nitrogen, or oxygen, except that specification 3T is not authorized for hydrogen. As used in this paragraph methane is a nonliquefied gas which has a minimum purity of 98.0 percent methane and which is commercially free of corroding components.

(49 U.S.C. 1803, 1804, 1808; 49 CFR 1.53(e).)

Issued at Washington, D.C., on May 9, 1978.

L. D. SANTMAN,
Acting Director,
Materials Transportation Bureau.

[FR Doc. 78-13164 Filed 5-17-78; 8:45 am]

[4910-60]

SUBCHAPTER D—PIPELINE SAFETY

[Amdt. 192-31A; Docket No. OPSO-42]

PART 192—TRANSPORTATION OF NATURAL AND OTHER GAS BY PIPELINE

Design of Plastic Pipe

AGENCY: Materials Transportation Bureau (MTB).

ACTION: Postponement of effective date.

SUMMARY: This action defers the effective date of the marking requirement of § 192.63(b) for thermoplastic pipe manufactured after May 17, 1978, from May 18, 1978, until August 16, 1978. The new effective date will allow additional time needed by some plastic pipe manufacturers to obtain equipment needed to mark pipe in accordance with section 9.2 of ASTM D2513 (1975b edition).

EFFECTIVE DATE: This action is effective immediately.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Paul J. Cory, 202-426-2082.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As a result of Amendment 192-31 (43 FR 13880, April 3, 1978), which established § 192.63(b), thermoplastic pipe manufactured after May 17, 1978, and installed in gas pipelines must be marked in accordance with the coded system contained in section 9.2 of ASTM D2513 (1975b ed.). Under this system, pipe is marked by letters to

show its hydrostatic strength and related temperature basis.

When Amendment 192-31 was adopted, MTB did not anticipate any delay by manufacturers in obtaining marking equipment needed to implement the new marking procedures. Since then, however, a large manufacturer of plastic pipe has contacted MTB and advised that despite having placed orders as soon as Amendment 192-31 was published, it will not receive equipment for marking certain sizes of thermoplastic pipe in time to enable its customers to meet the present May 18, deadline. Checking with a sample group of other plastic pipe manufacturers, MTB determined that while some manufacturers anticipated no problems, others are facing an 8 to 10 week delay in delivery of needed equipment. Therefore, to allow sufficient time for manufacturers to obtain the necessary equipment and put it into operation, the effective date of § 192.63(b) with respect to thermoplastic pipe manufactured after May 17, 1978, is hereby extended until August 16, 1978.

In addition to the new marking requirements in § 192.63(b), Amendment 192-31 established in §§ 192.121 and 192.123 more appropriate limitations on the temperature for operating and testing thermoplastic pipe. Those limitations are not altered by this amendment and still take effect as scheduled on May 18, 1978. Although the temperature and marking requirements are deliberately related to provide assurance in the field that correct material is being installed, MTB believes that operators should nevertheless be allowed to take advantage of the safety and economic benefits of the new temperature limitations in the interim until August 16, 1978. Also, to postpone the effective date of the new temperature limitations would be unfair to those few manufacturers and operators who are now able to meet § 192.63(b). Operators who install thermoplastic pipe before August 16, 1978, for use at temperatures above 38° C (100° F) which is not marked in accordance with section 9.2 of ASTM D2513 (1975b ed.) are reminded that the pipe can be used only within the actual temperature and stress limits for which it has been tested and qualified.

(49 U.S.C. 1672; 49 U.S.C. 1804; App. A of Part 1 and App. A of Part 102 of 49 CFR.)

Issued in Washington, D.C., on May 16, 1978.

CESAR DELEON,
Acting Director, Office
of Pipeline Safety Operations.

[FR Doc. 78-13644 Filed 5-17-78; 8:45 am]