

**NPRM - Pipeline Safety: Miscellaneous Changes to Pipeline Safety Regulations**

**Advisory Committee Action: VOTE**

**Contacts: John Gale and Kay McIver**

On Tuesday, November 29, 2011, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (76 FR 73570) proposing to make miscellaneous changes to the pipeline safety regulations. The proposed changes would correct errors, address inconsistencies, and respond to rulemaking petitions.

**Background:**

Forty six comments covering thirteen subject areas were posted to the docket. In response to the comments and after further consideration, PHMSA intends to make several changes to the proposals in the final rulemaking. Following are the topics covered by the comment letters:

1. Responsibility to Conduct Construction Inspection
2. Leak Surveys for Type Gathering Lines
3. Qualifying Plastic Pipe Joiners
4. Mill Hydrostatic Tests for Pipe to Operate at Alternative MAOP
5. Regulating the Transportation of Ethanol by Pipeline
6. Limitation of Indirect Costs in State Grants
7. Transportation of Pipe
8. Threading Copper Pipe
9. Offshore Pipe Condition Reports
10. Calculating Pressure Reductions for Hazardous Liquid Integrity Anomalies
11. Testing Components other than Pipe Installed in Low-Pressure Gas Pipelines
12. Alternative MAOP Notifications
13. National Pipeline Mapping System
14. Welders vs Welding Operators
15. Components Fabricated by Welding
16. Odorization of Gas
17. Editorial Amendments

A summary of comments is attached.