

Rule Updates

2020 South Dakota/North Dakota Pipeline Safety Operator Training Wednesday, October 21, 2020

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Inside Meter Sets

- ▶ Incident on August 10, 2016 in Silver Spring, MD - mercury service regulator inside apartment building with an unconnected vent line resulted in 7 fatalities, 65 residents injured, and 3 fire fighters injured.
- ▶ NTSB report identified serious flaws in the inspection of inside meter sets.
- ▶ NTSB recommended to PHMSA to:
 - ▶ Require that all new service regulators be installed outside an occupied structure.
 - ▶ Require that all existing service regulators to be relocated to the outside whenever the gas line, meter, or regulator is replaced.
 - ▶ Prioritize multifamily structures over single family dwellings.

Inside Meter Sets- Requirements

- ▶ 192.355(b) requires service regulators to be vented outdoors and rain/insect resistant, located where gas can vent freely, away from openings to buildings, and protected from damage
- ▶ 192.357(d) requires regulator that might release gas to be vented to the outside atmosphere
- ▶ 192.353 requires each service regulator to be located in a readily accessible location and if installed in a building must be as near as practical to the service line entrance into the building
- ▶ 192.723 requires operators conduct leakage surveys of their system including service regulators located inside buildings each calendar year not exceeding 15 months for business districts and at least once every 5 year for areas outside business districts
- ▶ 192.481 requires operators to check meters and regulator for atmospheric corrosion at least once every 3 years (not to exceed 39 months.)

Emergency Order - October 2019

- ▶ Emergency Order - Written order issued in response to an imminent hazard imposing restrictions, prohibitions, or safety measures on owners and operators of gas or hazardous liquid pipeline facilities without prior notice or an opportunity for a hearing.
- ▶ Imminent Hazard - the existence of a condition relating to a gas or hazardous liquid pipeline facility that presents a substantial likelihood that death, serious illness, severe personal injury or a substantial endangerment to health, property, or the environment may occur before the reasonable foreseeable completion date of a formal proceeding begun to lessen the risk of such death illness, injury or endangerment.

Safety of Gas Transmission and Gathering Pipelines - MEGA Rule

- ▶ MAOP Reconfirmation
- ▶ Expansion of Assessment Requirements

- ▶ Resources
 - ▶ Covered in depth by Lane Miller earlier.
 - ▶ Final Rule Document
 - ▶ Proposed FAQs
 - ▶ Final FAQs published September 15, 2020
 - ▶ Amendment to Rule (published 7/6/2020)
 - ▶ Stay of enforcement due to COVID-19

Gas Transmission Rule Amendment -

- ▶ 192.5 (d) records of class location only applies to gas transmission lines
- ▶ 192.624(a)(1) MAOP reconfirmation only required when MAOP records are not traceable, verifiable and complete for transmission lines.
- ▶ Parts of the Gas Transmission rule that still apply to distribution (in my opinion):
 - ▶ 191.23 - Reporting safety related conditions for any MAOP exceedance
 - ▶ 191.25 - Filing safety related condition reports filed by email
 - ▶ 192.18 - Notifying PHMSA- email and address information
 - ▶ 192.517- Test records must be retained for life of pipeline
 - ▶ 192.619 - MAOP: Steel or plastic pipelines
 - ▶ 192.805 - significantly modified OQ plans must be submitted to PHMSA

Changes to Gas Transmission Incident Form

- ▶ Questions and answer choices focusing on the chronological event log and operator actions.
- ▶ Sections for the item involved in the failure has been updated to limit the number of “other” selections.\
- ▶ Injuries that do not require overnight hospitalization such as on-site treatment or visits to hospitals or clinics for treatment will be recorded.
- ▶ In addition to the cost of public and private property damages, the number of buildings affected, residential and business will also be recorded.
- ▶ Third party damages will now include a question about One-call state law exemptions contributing to the event.
- ▶ For outside force events caused by vehicles not engages in excavation, several questions have been added to help describe the driver and circumstances of the accident.
- ▶ Part J - questions regarding integrity assessments
- ▶ Part K - contributing factors to an incident

Proposed Farm Tap FAQs and Stay of Enforcement

- ▶ **Farm Tap Enforcement Discretion**
- ▶ Considering AGA's request to revise §§ 192.740 and 192.1003 to give operators the choice of managing the risk to farm taps under either of these regulatory sections.
- ▶ PHMSA will not take any enforcement action relating to violations of § 192.740 as long as farm taps are part of the DIMP plan.
- ▶ Provides operators with the flexibility to choose to either address the safety of farm taps under the current regulatory framework of §§ 192.740 and 192.1003(b), or under the regulatory framework that was in place prior to March 24, 2017, by including farm taps in their DIMP.
- ▶ **FAQs - see attached document**

Advisory Bulletins & Stay of Enforcement

- ▶ River Flooding
- ▶ Earth Movement
- ▶ Flooding
- ▶ Inside Meter Sets
- ▶ Low Pressure Systems

- ▶ PHMSA Notice of Stay of Enforcement and Notice of on Enforcement Discretion to Operators Affected by COVID-10 Outbreak
 - ▶ Operator Qualification
 - ▶ Control Rooms
 - ▶ Drug Testing
 - ▶ Communicate and Document

Proposed Rule on Valve Installation and Minimum Rupture Detection Standards

- ▶ Comments were required by April 6, 2020
- ▶ Apply to gas transmission and hazardous liquid lines.
- ▶ In response to congressional mandate call for the installation of remote control valves or equivalent technology on newly constructed and replaced lines.

Notice of Proposed Rule Making on Regulatory Reform

- ▶ Comments were due August 10, 2020
- ▶ Includes flexibility for inspecting farm taps
- ▶ Repeal DIMP requirement for master meters
- ▶ Repeal requirement to submit mechanical fitting failures
- ▶ Adjust dollar amount for incidents
- ▶ Allow remote monitoring of rectifiers
- ▶ Revise inspection interval for atmospheric corrosion
- ▶ Update PE design standard
- ▶ Revise test requirement for pressure vessels
- ▶ Revise welder qualifications to provide scheduling flexibility
- ▶ Allow pretest pipe for pipeline operating an <30% SMYS

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Changes to Class Location

- ▶ Amends the requirements for gas transmission pipeline segments that experience a change in class location.
- ▶ Under the existing regulations, pipeline segments located in areas where the population density has significantly increased must perform one of the following actions: reduce the pressure of the pipeline segment, pressure test the pipeline segment to higher standards, or replace the pipeline segment. This proposed rule would add an alternative set of requirements operators could use, based on implementing integrity management principles and pipe eligibility criteria, to manage certain pipeline segments where the class location has changed from a Class 1 location to a Class 3 location.
- ▶ Comments due December 14, 2020.

Rulemaking Process

- ▶ Where can I find information on the Status of Significant rulemakings?
 - ▶ DOT
 - ▶ Report on DOT Significant Rulemakings (Monthly reports)
 - ▶ <http://www.dot.gov/regulations/report-on-significant-rulemakings>
 - ▶ OMB
 - ▶ www.reginfo.gov