



**Billing Code: 4910-60-W**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration**

**[Docket No. PHMSA-2016-0136]**

**Pipeline Safety: Meeting of the Gas and Liquid Pipeline Safety Advisory Committees**

**AGENCY:** Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA),

Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of advisory committee meetings.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces public teleconference meeting of the Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee, also known as the Gas Pipeline Advisory Committee (GPAC), and the Technical Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Standards Committee, also known as the Liquid Pipeline Advisory Committee (LPAC), to discuss the Valve Installation and Minimum Rupture Detection Standards notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

**DATES:** PHMSA will hold public meetings on July 22-23, 2020. GPAC will meet from 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. ET on Wednesday, July 22, 2020, while LPAC will meet from 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. ET on Thursday, July 23, 2020. Members of the public who want to attend are asked to register no later than July 15, 2020. PHMSA requests that individuals who require disability accommodations to notify Tewabe Asebe by July 15, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held via teleconference. The agenda and any additional information, including information how to participate in the teleconference will be published on the meeting website at <https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/meetings/MtgHome.mtg?mtg=149>.

Presentations will be available on the meeting website and on the E-Gov website,

<https://www.regulations.gov/>, under docket number PHMSA-2016-0136 no later than 30 days following the meetings. You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. PHMSA-2016-0136, by any of the following methods:

- *E-Gov Web:* <https://www.regulations.gov/>. This site allows the public to enter comments on any Federal Register notice issued by any agency. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 1 (202) 493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building: Room W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590-0001.
- *Hand Delivery:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building: Room W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590-0001, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.
- *Instructions:* Identify Docket No. PHMSA-2016-0136 at the beginning of your comments. If you submit your comments by mail, submit two copies. Internet users may submit comments at <https://www.regulations.gov/>. If you would like confirmation that PHMSA received your comments, please include a self-addressed stamped postcard that is labeled “Comments on PHMSA-2016-0136.” The docket clerk will date stamp the postcard prior to returning it to you via the U.S. mail.
- *Note:* All comments received will be posted without edits to <https://www.regulations.gov/>, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act heading for more information. Anyone can use the site to search all comments by the name of the submitting individual or, if the comment was submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc., the name of the signing individual. Therefore, please review the complete U.S. Department of Transportation Privacy Act Statement in the Federal

Register (65 FR 19477) or the Privacy Notice at <https://www.regulations.gov> before submitting comments.

- *Privacy Act Statement:* In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. The DOT posts these comments without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to <https://www.regulations.gov>, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.dot.gov/privacy>.
- *Confidential Business Information:* Confidential Business Information (CBI) is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments in response to this notice contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this notice, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Pursuant to 49 CFR 190.343, you may ask PHMSA to provide confidential treatment to information you give to the agency by taking the following steps: (1) mark each page of the original document submission containing CBI as “Confidential;” (2) send PHMSA a copy of the original document with the CBI deleted along with the original, unaltered document; and (3) explain why the information you are submitting is CBI. Unless you are notified otherwise, PHMSA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the Freedom of Information Act and they will not be placed in the public docket of this notice. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Tewabe Asebe, DOT, PHMSA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, PHP-30, Washington, D.C. 20590-0001. Any commentary PHMSA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket.

- *Docket:* For access to the docket or to read background documents or comments, go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for accessing the dockets. Alternatively, this information is available by visiting DOT at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building: Room W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590-0001, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tewabe Asebe, Transportation Specialist, Office of Pipeline Safety, by phone at 202-366-5523 or by email at [tewabe.asebe@dot.gov](mailto:tewabe.asebe@dot.gov).

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **I. Meeting Agenda**

GPAC and LPAC will meet in separate sessions to discuss the Valve Installation and Minimum Rupture Detection Standards NPRM that PHMSA published in the Federal Register on February 6, 2020, (85 FR 7162). GPAC and LPAC will review the NPRM and its associated regulatory analysis. PHMSA will post additional details on the meeting website in advance of the meetings.

PHMSA proposed to revise the Pipeline Safety Regulations applicable to newly constructed and entirely replaced onshore natural gas transmission and hazardous liquid pipelines to mitigate ruptures. Additionally, PHMSA is revising the regulations regarding rupture detection to shorten pipeline segment isolation times. These proposals address congressional mandates, incorporate recommendations from the National Transportation Safety Board, and are necessary to reduce the consequences of large-volume, uncontrolled releases of natural gas and hazardous liquid pipeline ruptures.

## II. Background

GPAC and LPAC are statutorily mandated advisory committees that provide PHMSA and the Secretary of Transportation with recommendations on proposed standards for the transportation of natural gas or hazardous liquids by pipeline. These committees were established in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 60115 and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 2), to review PHMSA's regulatory initiatives and determine their technical feasibility, reasonableness, cost-effectiveness, and practicability. Each committee consists of 15 members, with membership evenly divided among Federal and state governments, regulated industry, and the general public.

## III. Public Participation

These meetings will be open to the public. Members of the public who wish to virtually attend must register on the meeting website and include their names and affiliations. PHMSA will provide members of the public with opportunities to make a statement during the course of these meetings. Additionally, PHMSA will record the meetings and post a record to the public docket. PHMSA is committed to providing all participants with equal access to these meetings. If you need disability accommodations, please contact Tewabe Asebe by phone at (202) 366-5523 or by email at [tewabe.asebe@dot.gov](mailto:tewabe.asebe@dot.gov).

PHMSA is not always able to publish a notice in the Federal Register quickly enough to provide timely notice regarding last-minute issues that impact a previously announced advisory committee meeting. Therefore, individuals should check the meeting website or contact Tewabe Asebe regarding any possible changes.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 15, 2020, under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.97.

**Alan K. Mayberry,**

*Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.*

[FR Doc. 2020-13357 Filed: 6/19/2020 8:45 am; Publication Date: 6/22/2020]