I. Meeting Details

Members of the public may attend and make a statement during the advisory committee meetings. For a better chance to speak at the meetings, please contact Cheryl Whetsel at 202–366–4431 by January 15, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about the meetings, contact Cheryl Whetsel by phone at 202–366–4431 or by email at cheryl.whetsel@dot.gov or for technical questions about the proposed rule contact Mike Israni by phone at 202–366–4595 or by email at mike.israni@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

II. Committee Background

The LPAC is a statutorily created committee that advises PHMSA on technical feasibility, practicability, and cost-effectiveness of each proposed pipeline safety standard. PHMSA staff may also provide an update on several regulatory and policy initiatives if time allows.

III. Preliminary Agenda

The agenda will include the committee’s discussion and vote on the proposed rule, “Pipeline Safety: Safety of Hazardous Liquid Pipelines,” published in the Federal Register on October 13, 2015, (80 FR 61610) and on the associated regulatory analysis.

The proposed rule includes critical safety improvements for hazardous liquid pipelines and seeks to strengthen the way they are operated, inspected and maintained in the United States.

In this proposed rule, PHMSA addresses effective measures that hazardous liquid operators can take to improve the protection of high consequence areas and other vulnerable areas along their hazardous liquid onshore pipelines. In summary, the proposed rule addresses the following areas:

- Requirements for gravity lines.
- Reporting requirements for gathering lines.
- Inspections of pipelines following extreme weather events.
- Periodic assessments of pipelines not subject to integrity management.
- Pipeline repair criteria.
- Expanded use of leak detection systems.
- Increased use of in-line inspection tools.
- Clarifying other requirements.

ADRESSES: Document Availability: You may obtain copies of the proposed rule at http://www.regulations.gov. In the Search box, enter FWS–R7–NWRS–2014–0005, which is the docket number for this rulemaking. Then click on the Search button. On the resulting page, you may submit a comment by clicking on “Comment Now!”

Comment Submission: You may submit comments on the proposed rule by any one of the following methods:


2) By hard copy: Submit by U.S. mail or hand-delivery to: Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS–R7–NWRS–2014–0005; Division of Policy, Performance, and Management Programs; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: BPHC; 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041–3803.

3) At open houses or the public hearings: Written comments will be accepted by Service personnel at any of the open houses or public hearings.

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities, or to seek special assistance, contact Cheryl Whetsel by phone at 202–366–4431 by January 15, 2016.

For further information contact: For information about the meetings, contact Cheryl Whetsel by phone at 202–366–4431 or by email at cheryl.whetsel@dot.gov or for technical questions about the proposed rule contact Mike Israni by phone at 202–366–4595 or by email at mike.israni@dot.gov.
We request that you send comments only by the methods described above. We will post all comments on http://www.regulations.gov. This generally means that we will post any personal information you provide us.

Open Houses and Public Hearings: We will hold open houses and public hearings at the following locations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Location Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tok, Alaska</td>
<td>Tok School, 249 Jon Summar Road, Tok, Alaska; 907–883–5312.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldotna, Alaska</td>
<td>Kenai National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, Ski Hill Road, Soldotna, Alaska; 907–260–2820.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dillingham, Alaska</td>
<td>Dillingham City Council Chambers, 141 Main Street, Dillingham, Alaska; 907–842–1063.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galena, Alaska</td>
<td>Charlie Larsen Community Hall, Galena, Alaska; 907–656–1231.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Brady, Chief of Conservation Planning and Policy, National Wildlife Refuge System, Alaska Regional Office, 1011 E. Tudor Rd., Mail Stop 211, Anchorage, AK 99503; telephone (907) 306–7448.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

We published a proposed rule elsewhere in today’s Federal Register to clarify how our existing mandates for the conservation of natural and biological diversity, biological integrity, and environmental health on refuges in Alaska relate to predator control; prohibit several particularly effective methods and means for take of predators; and update our public participation and closure procedures. The proposed rule would not change Federal subsistence regulations or restrict the taking of fish or wildlife for subsistence uses under Federal subsistence regulations. See the proposed rule and associated environmental assessment at http://www.regulations.gov at Docket No. FWS–R7–NWRS–2014–0005 for further details.

Open Houses and Public Hearings

We are holding nine open houses and public hearings on the dates listed above in the DATES section at the locations listed above in the ADDRESSES section. We are holding the public hearings to provide interested parties an opportunity to present verbal testimony (oral, written comments) or written comments regarding the proposed rule and associated environmental assessment. A formal public hearing is not, however, an opportunity for dialogue with the Service; it is only a forum for accepting formal verbal testimony. In contrast to the public hearings, the open houses allow the public the opportunity to interact with Service staff, who will be available to provide information and address questions on the proposed rule and the environmental assessment.

We cannot accept verbal testimony at any of the open houses; verbal testimony can only be accepted at the public hearings. Anyone wishing to make an oral statement at a public hearing for the record is encouraged to provide a written copy of their statement to us at the hearing. In the event there is a large attendance, the time allotted for oral statements may be limited. Speakers can sign up at a hearing if they desire to make an oral statement. Oral and written statements receive equal consideration. There are no limits on the length of written comments submitted to us.

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodations to participate in an open house or public hearing should contact Stephanie Brady, Chief of Conservation Planning and Policy, National Wildlife Refuge System, Alaska (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT). Reasonable accommodation requests should be received at least 3 business days prior to the open house or public hearing to help ensure availability; American Sign Language or English as a second language interpreter needs should be received at least 2 weeks prior to the open house or public meeting.

Authors

The primary author of this document is Stephanie Brady, Chief of Conservation Planning and Policy, National Wildlife Refuge System, Anchorage Regional Office.