

amending 49 CFR parts 191 and 192 published at 86 FR 2210 on January 11, 2021, is delayed to March 21, 2021.

Incorporation by reference date: The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the final rule published at 86 FR 2210 on January 11, 2021, is delayed to March 21, 2021.

Enforcement discretion withdrawal date: The document published at 84 FR 11253 on March 26, 2019, is withdrawn as of March 21, 2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sayler Palabrica, Transportation Specialist, by telephone at 202–366–0559. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access and Filing

A copy of the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) (85 FR 35240, June 9, 2020), all comments received, the final rule, and all background material may be viewed online at <http://www.regulations.gov> using the docket number listed above. A copy of this document will be placed in the docket. Electronic retrieval help and guidelines are available on the website. It is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. An electronic copy of this document may also be downloaded from the Office of the Federal Register's website at <http://www.ofr.gov> and the Government Publishing Office's website at <http://www.gpo.gov>.

Background

On January 20, 2021, the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff issued a memorandum titled, “Regulatory Freeze Pending Review.” The memorandum requested that the heads of executive departments and agencies (agencies) take steps to ensure that the President's appointees or designees have the opportunity to review any new or pending rules. With respect to rules published in the **Federal Register**, but not yet effective, the memorandum asked that agencies consider postponing the rules' effective dates for 60 days from the date of the memorandum (*i.e.*, until March 21, 2021) for the purpose of reviewing any questions of fact, law, and policy the rules may raise.

In accordance with this direction, PHMSA has decided to delay the effective date of the final rule, Pipeline Safety: Gas Pipeline Regulatory Reform (RIN 2137–AF36), until March 21, 2021. PHMSA likewise delays the withdrawal of the March 26, 2019, “Exercise of Enforcement Discretion Regarding Farm Taps” (84 FR 11253) and the unpublished October 27, 2015, letter to

the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America announcing a stay of enforcement pertaining to certain pressure vessels, each of which are available in the docket for the final rule. The final rule amends part 191 and 192 to reduce regulatory burdens on operators on the construction, maintenance, and operation of gas transmission, gas distribution, and gas gathering pipeline systems. The amendments include changes to requirements for distribution integrity management, reporting, corrosion control, design, welding, and testing. The delay in the final rule's effective date will afford the President's appointees or designees an opportunity to review the final rule and will allow for consideration of any questions of fact, law, or policy that the final rule may raise before it becomes effective.

Waiver of Rulemaking and Delayed Effective Date

Under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553), PHMSA generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed regulations and publish final rules not less than 30 days before their effective dates. However, the APA provides that an agency is not required to conduct notice-and-comment rulemaking and may delay effective dates when the agency, for good cause, finds that each requirement is impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest (5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) and (d)(3)). There is good cause to waive both of these requirements here as they are impracticable. A delay in the effective date of the final rule, “Pipeline Safety: Gas Pipeline Regulatory Reform”, is necessary for the President's appointees and designees to have adequate time to review the rule before it takes effect, and neither the notice and comment process nor the delayed effective date could be implemented in time to allow for this review.

List of Subjects

49 CFR Part 191

Gas gathering, Integrity management, Pipeline reporting requirements, Pipeline safety.

49 CFR Part 192

Fire prevention, Incorporation by reference, Pipeline safety, Security measures.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 1, 2021, under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.97.

Tristan H. Brown,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2021–04572 Filed 3–4–21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

49 CFR Part 192

[Docket No. PHMSA–2018–0046; Amdt. No. 192–28]

RIN 2137–AF36

Pipeline Safety: Gas Pipeline Regulatory Reform; Correction

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: PHMSA is correcting its Gas Pipeline Regulatory Reform final rule that published in the **Federal Register** on January 11, 2021. The rule makes miscellaneous changes to the regulatory requirements for gas pipeline systems.

DATES: This correction is effective March 21, 2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sayler Palabrica, Transportation Specialist, by telephone at 202–366–0559.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: PHMSA is correcting its Gas Pipeline Regulatory Reform final rule that published in the **Federal Register** on January 11, 2021 (86 FR 2210). PHMSA is correcting the amendatory instructions to 49 CFR 192.281 and appendix B to part 192. PHMSA is also correcting the new regulatory text at § 192.507(d) to remove the word “hydrostatic,” consistent with the unanimous recommendation of the Gas Pipeline Advisory Committee and the stated intent in the preamble of the final rule.¹

List of Subjects in 49 CFR Part 192

Fire prevention, Incorporation by reference, Pipeline safety, Security measures.

Corrections

In FR Doc. 2021–00208 that appears on page 2210 of the **Federal Register** on Monday, January 11, 2021, the following corrections are made:

¹ See 86 FR 2210 at page 2234.

§ 192.281 [Corrected]

- 1. On page 2240, in the second column, in part 192, in amendment 10, the instruction “In § 192.281, revise paragraph (c) to read as follow:” is corrected to read “In § 192.281, revise paragraph (c) introductory text to read as follows:”
- 2. On page 2241, in the third column, in amendatory instruction 17, paragraph (d) is corrected to read as follows:

§ 192.507 [Corrected]

* * * * *

(d) For fabricated units and short sections of pipe, for which a post installation test is impractical, a preinstallation pressure test must be conducted in accordance with the requirements of this section.

Appendix B to Part 192 [Corrected]

- 3. On page 2242, in the third column, in part 192 in amendment 25, the instructions are corrected to read:

- a. In section I.A., remove the term “ASTM D2513–12ae1” and add in its place “ASTM D2513”; and
- b. In section I.B., remove the term “ASTM D2513–12ae1” and add in its place “ASTM D2513”.

Issued in Washington, DC, on March 1, 2021, under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.97.

Tristan H. Brown,

Acting Administrator.

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