

registration fee for this conference but all individuals and parties interested in attending must forward a completed participation form to the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety point of contact listed above for transmission to the IAEA by June 1, 2003. Individuals interested in submitting a paper for this conference should prepare it in accordance with the IAEA conference guidelines and submit it to both IAEA and the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety point of contact listed above by February 1, 2003. Copies of the official conference announcement, the participation and paper submission forms, and instructions and due dates for completion of these forms may be downloaded from the IAEA Transport Division's Web site at: http://www.iaea.org/ns/rasanet/programme/radiationsafety/transportation_safety/2_detailed_info_on_tsu_prog.htm.

Issued in Washington, DC on December 4, 2002.

Robert A. McGuire,

Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT

[Docket No. RSPA-98-4034]

Pipeline Safety: Project Modifications Approved for the Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America Pipeline Risk Management Demonstration Project

AGENCY: Office of Pipeline Safety, Research and Special Programs Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of risk management project modification and finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: The Research and Special Programs Administration's (RSPA) Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) has amended the Risk Management Demonstration Project Order issued to Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America (NGPL) to allow NGPL to conduct alternative risk control activities on five of its pipeline segments in lieu of compliance with certain pipeline safety regulations. OPS has also made a finding that this amendment will have no significant impacts on the environment.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this or any other demonstration project will be accepted in the Docket throughout the 4-year demonstration period. You may

send comments to the Dockets Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590-0991, or you may submit your comments electronically by logging on to the following Internet Web address: <http://dms.dot.gov>, and then clicking on "Help & Information" for instructions on how to file a document electronically. Comments should identify the docket number RSPA-1998-4034. Persons should submit the original comment document and one (1) copy. Persons wishing to receive confirmation of receipt of their comments must include a self-addressed stamped postcard. The Dockets Facility is located on the plaza level of the Nassif Building in Room 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC. The Dockets Facility is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elizabeth Callsen, OPS, (202) 366-4572, regarding the subject matter of this document. Contact the Dockets Unit, (202) 366-5046, for docket material. Comments may also be reviewed on line at the DOT Docket Management System Web site at <http://dms.dot.gov/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Project Order Amendment

On December 31, 1998, OPS issued Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America (NGPL) ¹ a Risk Management Demonstration Project Order authorizing NGPL to conduct a risk management project on its interstate natural gas transmission pipeline system. The project was one of several demonstration projects in a risk demonstration program authorized by 49 U.S.C. 60126. Since that Order was issued, NGPL identified five segments in its pipeline system where it proposed to perform alternative risk control activities in lieu of compliance with the regulations addressing class location changes. In a Notice dated August 17, 2001 (66 FR 43295), OPS described in detail the five segments and the proposed alternative activities. OPS stated that its analysis of the proposed activities had found them likely to provide superior protection. OPS announced its intent to amend the Demonstration Project Order and allow the alternative activities, after

¹ In 1998, NGPL was acquired by KN Energy, Inc. In October, 1999, KN Energy merged with Kinder Morgan, Inc. The merged company is named Kinder Morgan, Inc. (KMI). NGPL now operates its pipeline system as a subsidiary of KMI. The scope of the Risk Management Demonstration Project remains limited to the NGPL system.

consideration of public comment. OPS did not receive any public comment in response to that Notice.

This Notice announces OPS's issuance of an amendment to NGPL's Demonstration Project Order to exempt the five pipeline segments from compliance with 49 CFR 192.611 conditioned on NGPL performing the alternative activities. The decision to amend the Demonstration Project Order to allow the exemption is based on the conclusion that the alternative activities will provide superior safety to that provided by compliance with 49 CFR 192.611.

More detailed descriptions of all aspects of the NGPL demonstration project are available in the following documents:

(1) 66 FR 43295, "Pipeline Safety: Intent to Approve Project Modifications and Environmental Assessment of Modifications for the Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America Risk Management Demonstration Project," August 17, 2001.

(2) Docket Number RSPA-1998-4034-5, "Appendix A: Environmental Assessment," August 14, 2001.

(3) 63 FR 46497, "Pipeline Safety: Intent to Approve Project and Environmental Assessment for the Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America Risk Management Demonstration Project," September 1, 1998.

(4) 64 FR 1067, "Pipeline Safety: Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America; Approved for Risk Management Demonstration Program," January 7, 1999.

(5) "Demonstration Project Prospectus: Natural Gas Pipeline Company," available via the Pipeline Risk Management Information System (PRIMIS) on the OPS Web page at <http://ops.dot.gov>, and following the links to "Initiatives" and "Risk Management Initiative."

(6) "Risk Management Demonstration Project Order," RMD 98-4, December 31, 1998.

(7) "Amendment to Risk Management Demonstration Project Order," RMD 98-4, Amendment 1, November 18, 2002.

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

In accordance with section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Department of Transportation (DOT) Order 5610.1c, Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts, OPS conducted an Environmental Assessment (EA) of the alternative activities NGPL proposed

on the five pipeline segments (Docket #RSPA-1998-4034-5, "Appendix A: Environmental Assessment", August 14, 2001). In that EA, OPS concluded that the alternative activities would not have significant environmental impacts.

OPS received no public comment on the Environmental Assessment. Based on the analysis and conclusions reached in the Environmental Assessment and the analysis conducted in the above-listed documents, OPS has determined that there are no significant impacts on the environment associated with this action. The Environmental Assessment and the other above-listed documents are incorporated by reference into this FONSI. To summarize, OPS has concluded that the risk control alternatives on the five pipeline segments will provide superior protection for people living near the NGPL pipeline system when compared to current regulatory requirements. Although the alternative activities are expected to provide environmental benefits, due to the minimal environmental impact associated with gas pipeline failures, these benefits are not expected to be significant. The additional environmental protection results primarily from reducing the likelihood that pipeline failures will occur.

Issued in Washington, DC on December 9, 2002.

Stacey L. Gerard,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Customs Service

Modification, Expansion, and Re-Designation of National Customs Automation Program Test of the Account-Based Declaration Prototype To Free and Secure Trade

AGENCY: Customs Service, Treasury.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: In this notice, Customs is redesignating the National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) test of an Account-Based Declaration Prototype (NCAP/P) as the Free and Secure Trade (FAST) prototype, and modifying the importer eligibility requirements from those set forth in a notice published in the **Federal Register** on August 21, 1998. The FAST prototype will provide expedited processing of participants' qualifying merchandise in designated traffic lanes, provided that the merchandise is transported by certain

registered highway carriers and drivers and that specified data is submitted to Customs prior to the merchandise's arrival at the border. Customs is also announcing the addition of two additional ports of entry along the Northern Border for the testing of the prototype and the suspension of prototype participation at the one port of entry along the Southern Border. Participants in the present NCAP/P test need not reapply for participation in the FAST if they are participants in the Customs Trade Partnership against Terrorism (C-TPAT) initiative. Current NCAP/P participants must continue to follow all the operational procedures of the program and will be bound by the terms and conditions found in this notice effective upon publication of this notice. Public comments concerning any aspect of this test program or procedure are solicited.

EFFECTIVE DATES: The redesignated FAST program will begin upon publication of this notice. This prototype will be tested until the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) is completed. Applications to participate in this NCAP prototype test may be submitted at any time throughout the duration of this test. Evaluations of the prototype will occur periodically. Public comments on any aspect of the planned test must be received on or before January 1, 2003. All comments received will be part of the public record and made available to third parties upon request.

ADDRESSES: Written requests to participate in the prototype test should be sent to U.S. Customs Service, FAST Registration Office, 50 South Main Street, Suite 100R, St. Albans, Vermont 05478. Comments regarding any aspect of the test should be sent or faxed to Enrique S. Tamayo, U.S. Customs Service, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Room 5.2A, Washington, DC 20229, telephone number: (202) 927-3112; fax number: (202) 927-1096.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For inquiries regarding the eligibility of specific importers contact: Richard DiNucci at (202) 927-6302;

For questions on reconciliation contact: John Leonard at (202) 927-0915;

For questions on statement processing contact: Debbie Scott at (202) 927-1962;

For questions on violation billing contact: Byron Kissane at (202) 927-2148;

For questions on other aspects of the FAST Prototype contact: Daniel Buchanan at (617) 565-6236.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On March 27, 1997 Customs published a General Notice in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 14731) that announced Customs plan to conduct a test, pursuant to § 101.9(b) of the Customs Regulations (19 CFR 101.9(b)), of a planned National Customs Automation Program component (*see* 19 U.S.C. 1411-1414) called an account-based declaration prototype, known by the acronym NCAP/P. The NCAP/P was developed to provide the first operational demonstration of the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), with capabilities for processing imports that would integrate the new account-based import declaration process with other aspects of the Trade Compliance process and selected features of NCAP elements of Title VI of the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act, Pub. L. 103-182, 107 Stat. 2057 (December 8, 1993), popularly known as the Customs Modernization Act which established the National Automation Program (NCAP) as an automated and electronic system for the processing of commercial importations. This phase of the NCAP/P test was initially limited to certain importers that imported certain merchandise by truck through three ports: Laredo, Texas; and Detroit and Port Huron, Michigan.

On August 21, 1998 Customs published another General Notice in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 44949) that replaced the previously published document to revise the importer eligibility requirements for participation in the NCAP/P, incorporate enhancements to reconciliation, and clarify the statement process. This second General Notice also outlined the development and evaluation methodology that would be used in the test. As with the first notice, public comments were invited on any aspect of the test. Reference to these earlier documents should be sought by importers interested in participating in this account-based declaration processing prototype, or interested in understanding the ACE Trade Compliance account-based declaration process, which includes remote location filing, statement processing, and reconciliation. Further, the information published by Customs on August 21, 1998, concerning the test development methodology, the general requirements for the prototype test, maintenance of account, misconduct procedures, identification of the regulatory provisions suspended, and evaluating the prototype, remains the same except as provided below.