

and public participation in protecting the nation's drinking water. The agency's CCR retrospective review will look for opportunities to improve the effectiveness of communicating drinking water information to the public, while lowering the burden on water systems and States. One example suggested by water systems is to allow electronic delivery through email, thereby reducing mailing charges. As EPA evaluates alternative delivery options and other opportunities to improve communication with consumers, the agency will consider impacts on consumer burden, environmental justice, and State implementation. By improving communication, customers are better prepared to make informed decisions and the readership of CCRs also may increase.

Dated: January 25, 2012.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

49 CFR Parts 191, 192 and 195

[Docket ID PHMSA-2010-0026]

RIN 2137-AE59

Pipeline Safety: Miscellaneous Changes to Pipeline Safety Regulations

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA); DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On November 29, 2011, PHMSA published in the **Federal Register** a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking titled: "Miscellaneous Changes to Pipeline Safety Regulations" seeking comments on the need for changes to the regulations covering pipeline safety regulations. The Committee on Pipe and Tube Imports Ad Hoc Large Diameter Line Pipe Producers Group Transportation Subcommittee and the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America petitioned PHMSA to extend the comment period. PHMSA is granting these requests and extending the comment period from February 3, 2012, to March 6, 2012.

DATES: The closing date for filing comments is extended from February 3, 2012, to March 6, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Comments should reference Docket No. PHMSA-2010-0026 and may be submitted in the following ways:

- *E-Gov Web Site:* <http://www.Regulations.gov>. This site allows the public to enter comments on any **Federal Register** notice issued by any agency.

- *Fax:* 1-(202) 493-2251.
- *Mail:* DOT Docket Management System: U.S. DOT, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

Hand Delivery: U.S. DOT Docket Management System; West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You should identify the Docket No. PHMSA-2010-0026 at the beginning of your comments. If you submit your comments by mail, please submit two copies. To receive confirmation that PHMSA received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Internet users may submit comments to the Docket at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Note: Comments are posted without changes or edits to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. There is a privacy statement published on <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information contact Kay McIver at 202-366-4046 or by Email at kay.mciver@dot.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On November 29, 2011, PHMSA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) that would make miscellaneous amendments to the pipeline safety regulations (76 FR 73570). On January 12, 2012, the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America requested an extension of the comment period for that NPRM. On January 20, 2012, the Committee on Pipe and Tube Imports Ad Hoc Large Diameter Line Pipe Producers Group Transportation Subcommittee also requested an extension of the comment period to further review a National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) recommendation that would impact guidelines on the transportation of pipe. PHMSA believes that extension of the comment period is warranted based on the information

provided in these requests. Therefore, PHMSA has extended the comment period from February 3, 2012 to March 6, 2012.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 30, 2012.

Jeffrey D. Wiese,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 2012-2406 Filed 2-2-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

49 CFR Part 192

[Docket ID PHMSA-2011-0009]

RIN 2137-AE71

Pipeline Safety: Expanding the Use of Excess Flow Valves in Gas Distribution Systems to Applications Other Than Single-Family Residences

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA); DOT.

ACTION: Advance notice of proposed rulemaking; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: On November 25, 2011, PHMSA published in the **Federal Register** an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM), titled: "Pipeline Safety: Expanding the Use of Excess Flow Valves (EFVs) in Gas Distribution Systems to Applications Other Than Single-Family Residences." The ANPRM sought public comment on several issues related to expanding the use of EFVs in gas distribution systems. On January 10, 2012, PHMSA received a request to extend the comment period to provide additional time to respond to the ANPRM. In light of that request, PHMSA is extending the comment period from February 18, 2012, to March 19, 2012.

DATES: The closing date for filing comments is extended from February 18, 2012, until March 19, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Comments should reference Docket No. PHMSA-2011-0009 and may be submitted in the following ways:

- *E-Gov Web Site:* <http://www.Regulations.gov>. This site allows the public to enter comments on any **Federal Register** notice issued by any agency.

- *Fax:* 1-(202) 493-2251.
- *Mail:* DOT Docket Management System: U.S. DOT, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey

Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

• **Hand Delivery:** U.S. DOT Docket Management System; West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You should identify the Docket No. PHMSA-2011-0009 at the beginning of your comments. If you submit your comments by mail, submit two copies. To receive confirmation that PHMSA received your comments, include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Internet users may submit comments at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Note: Comments are posted without changes or edits to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. There is a privacy statement published on <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information contact Mike Israni at (202) 366-4566 or by email at mike.israni@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Transportation Safety Board has made a safety recommendation (P-01-02) to PHMSA that EFVs be installed in all new and renewed gas service lines, regardless of a customer's classification, when the operating conditions are compatible with readily available valves. In response to that recommendation, on November 25, 2011, PHMSA published in the **Federal Register** an ANPRM titled: "Pipeline Safety: Expanding the Use of Excess Flow Valves in Gas Distribution Systems to Applications Other Than Single-Family Residences" (76 FR 72666). The ANPRM sought public comment on several issues related to expanding the use of EFVs in gas distribution systems. PHMSA also sought comment from gas distribution system operators on their experiences using EFVs, particularly from a cost-benefit perspective.

On January 10, 2012, the American Gas Association (AGA) and the American Public Gas Associations (APGA) asked PHMSA to extend the ANPRM comment period by at least 30 days. AGA and APGA stated that the depth and scope of the ANPRM requires that stakeholders have substantially more time to respond. AGA and APGA further stated that the existence of two other significant PHMSA rulemakings open for comment and the recent passage of the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011 (PL112-90), have imposed

additional demands on their resources for analysis.

PHMSA has posed important questions in the ANPRM on the technical challenges and potential costs and benefits of expanding the use of EFV applications beyond single family residences. Expanded use of EFVs, if implemented, could impose significant cost on the pipeline industry. PHMSA needs thorough responses to the ANPRM to facilitate its consideration of these important and complex issues. Accordingly, PHMSA is granting the request filed by AGA and APGA and extending the comment period from February 18, 2012, to March 19, 2012.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 30, 2012.

Jeffrey D. Wiese,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 2012-2518 Filed 2-2-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 300

[Docket No. 120106033-2031-01]

RIN 0648-BB68

Pacific Halibut Fisheries; Catch Sharing Plan

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: NMFS proposes to approve and implement changes to the Pacific Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (Plan) for the International Pacific Halibut Commission's (IPHC or Commission) regulatory Area 2A off Washington, Oregon, and California (Area 2A). NMFS proposes to implement the portions of the Plan and management measures that are not implemented through the IPHC. These measures include the sport fishery allocations and management measures for Area 2A. These actions are intended to enhance the conservation of Pacific halibut, provide greater angler opportunity where available, and protect overfished groundfish species from being incidentally caught in the halibut fisheries.

DATES: Comments on the proposed changes to the Plan and on the proposed domestic Area 2A halibut management measures must be received no later than 5 p.m., local time on February 21, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by NOAA-NMFS-2011-0292, by any of the following methods:

• **Electronic Submissions:** Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>

• **Fax:** (206) 526-6736, Attn: Sarah Williams

• **Mail:** William W. Stelle, Jr., Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., Seattle, WA 98115-0070, Attn: Sarah Williams.

Instructions: All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> without change. All personal identifying information (for example, name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive or protected information. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will accept anonymous comments (enter N/A in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous). Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF file formats only. Information relevant to this proposed rule, which includes a regulatory impact review (RIR), and an initial regulatory flexibility analysis (IRFA) are available for public review during business hours at the National Marine Fisheries Service Northwest Regional Office, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., Seattle, WA 98115.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sarah Williams, phone: (206) 526-4646, fax: (206) 526-6736, or email: sarah.williams@noaa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access

This rule is accessible via the Internet at the Office of the Federal Register Web site at http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html. Background information and documents are available at the NMFS Northwest Region Web site at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/Groundfish-Halibut/Groundfish-Fishery-Management/index.cfm> and at the Council's Web site at <http://www.pcouncil.org>.

Background

The Northern Pacific Halibut Act (Halibut Act) of 1982, 16 U.S.C. 773-773K, gives the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) general responsibility for implementing the provisions of the Halibut Convention between the United States and Canada (Halibut Convention) (16 U.S.C. 773c). It requires the