

this action in view of service line accidents. By advising customers of the need to maintain their buried gas piping, the notices may reduce the risk of further accidents.

In addition, each operator must make the following records available for inspection by RSPA or a State agency participating under 49 U.S.C. 60105 or 60106: (1) A copy of the notice currently in use; and (2) evidence that notices have been sent to customers within the previous 3 years.

As used in this notice, the terms 'information collection' and 'paperwork collection' are synonymous, and include all work related to preparing and disseminating information related to this customer notification requirement including completing paperwork, gathering information and conducting telephone calls.

Estimate of Burden: Minimal.

Respondents: Gas transmission and distribution operators.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,590,

Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 350.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 9,137 hours.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 20, 2002.

Stacey L. Gerard,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 02-4480 Filed 3-4-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket: RSPA-98-4957]

Request for Public Comments and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Approval of an Existing Information Collection

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice seeks comments from the public regarding the need for RSPA to collect paperwork information from state agencies that maintain programs to regulate pipelines. The purpose of the paperwork requested from the state agencies is to ensure that these states are properly monitoring the operations of pipeline operators in their states, and to determine Federal grant amounts for these states. This notice is published (pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995) to measure the need for the paperwork collection from

these state agencies, ways to minimize the burden on states that must respond, ways to enhance the quality of information collected, and to verify the accuracy of the RSPA's estimate of the burden (measured in work hours) on states. The RSPA published a notice on October 12, 2001 requesting public comment. No comments were received. This notice also seeks approval from the Office of Management and Budget to renew the existing approval of this paperwork collection.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by April 4, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments should identify the docket number of this notice, RSPA-98-4957. Comments can be mailed directly to Office of Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 726 Jackson Place, NW., Washington, DC 20503, ATTN: Desk Officer for DOT.

Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden estimated or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following subjects: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marvin Fell, Office of Pipeline Safety, RSPA, DOT, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590 (202) 366-6205 or by e-mail at marvin.fell@rspa.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Chapter 601, Title 49, United States Code (49 U.S.C.) authorizes DOT to regulate pipeline transportation. While DOT is primarily responsible for developing, issuing, and enforcing minimum pipeline safety regulations, Chapter 601, 49 U.S.C., provides for state assumption of all or part of the regulatory and enforcement responsibility for intrastate pipelines.

Section 60105 of 49 U.S.C. set forth specific requirements a state must meet to qualify for *certification* status to assume regulatory and enforcement responsibility for intrastate pipelines, *i.e.*, state adoption of minimum federal safety standards, state inspection of pipeline operators to determine compliance with the standards, and state provision for enforcement sanctions substantially the same as those authorized by Chapter 601, 49 U.S.C. A participating state must

annually submit a section 60105(a) Gas Pipeline Safety Program Certification and/or a Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Program Certification to the Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) signifying compliance with the terms of the certification.

As used in this notice, 'information collection' and 'paperwork collection' are synonymous, and include all work related to preparing and disseminating information related to this recordkeeping requirement including completing paperwork, gathering information and conducting telephone calls.

Type of Information Collection

Request: Renewal of Existing Collection.

Title of Information Collection:

Certification and Agreement Forms for the Gas and Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Program.

OMB Approval Number: 2137-0584.

Frequency: Annually.

Use: This collection is used by RSPA to ensure that State agencies attesting they have regulatory jurisdiction over pipeline safety have adopted and are complying with minimum Federal safety standards. This information is used to calculate grants to States.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 61.

Respondents: State Agencies.

Total Annual Hours Requested: 3,649.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 20, 2002.

Stacey L. Gerard,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket RSPA-98-4957]

Submission for Office of Management and Budget Approval and Public Comment Request

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Request for public comments and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval of an existing information collection.

SUMMARY: This notice seeks comments from the public regarding the need for RSPA to collect paperwork information from liquefied natural gas operators to ensure that these operators are properly operating and maintaining their facilities. This notice is published (pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction

Act of 1995) to measure the need for the proposed paperwork collection, ways to minimize the burden on operators who must respond, ways to enhance the quality of information collected, and to verify the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (measured in work hours) on pipeline operators. The RSPA published a notice on October 12, 2001, requesting public comment. No comments were received. This notice also seeks approval from the Office of Management and Budget to renew the existing approval of this paperwork collection.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by April 4, 2002 to assure consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments should identify the docket number of this notice, RSPA-98-4957. Comments can be mailed directly to the Office of Regulatory Affairs, OMB, 726 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, DC 20503, ATTN: Desk Officer for the Department of Transportation.

Interested persons are invited to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including any of the following: (1) The necessity and utility of the proposed information collection for the proper performance of the agency's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology to minimize the information collection burden.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marvin Fell, Office of Pipeline Safety, RSPA, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590, (202) 366-6205 or by e-mail at marvin.fell@rspa.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 49 U.S.C. 60103 titled "Standards for Liquefied Natural Gas Pipeline Facilities" delegates the responsibility for ensuring safe operation of LNG facilities to the Secretary of Transportation. Regulations for enforcing this legislation are found in 49 CFR part 193 "Liquefied Natural Gas Facilities: Federal Safety Standards." These regulations include recordkeeping requirements that allow Federal and State inspectors to ensure that these facilities are operated and maintained in a safe manner.

Type of Information Request: Renewal of an existing information collection.

Title of Information Collection: Recordkeeping for Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) Facilities.

OMB Approval Number: 2137-0048.

Frequency: On occasion.

Use: This collection is used by RSPA to ensure that LNG facilities are being operated in a safe manner.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 150.

Respondents: LNG facility operators.

Total Annual Hours Requested: 18,000 hours.

As used in this notice, the terms "information collection" and "paperwork collection" are synonymous, and include all work related to preparing and disseminating information related to this recordkeeping requirement including completing paperwork, gathering information and conducting telephone calls.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 20, 2002.

Stacey L. Gerard,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket Number RSPA-98-4957]

Request for Public Comments and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Approval of Existing Information Collection

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice seeks comments from the public regarding the need for RSPA to collect paperwork information from gas pipeline operators. The purpose of the paperwork requested from gas operators is to ensure that these operators are properly operating and maintaining their pipelines. This notice is published (pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995) to measure the need for the paperwork collection from gas operators, ways to minimize the burden on operators who must respond, ways to enhance the quality of information collected, and to verify the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (measured in work hours) on pipeline operators. The RSPA published a notice on October 12, 2001, requesting public comment. No comments were received. This notice also seeks approval from the Office of Management and Budget to renew the existing approval of this paperwork collection.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by April 4, 2002 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Comments should identify the docket number of this notice, RSPA-98-4957. Comments can be mailed directly to Office of Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 726 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, DC 20503, Attn: Desk Officer for the Department of Transportation (DOT).

Comments are invited on: (a) The need for the proposed collection of information for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marvin Fell, OPS, RSPA, DOT, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590, (202) 366-6205, or by e-mail at marvin.fell@rspa.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Title of Information Collection:* Recordkeeping for Gas Pipeline Operators.

OMB Number: 2137-0049.

Type of Request: Renewal of a currently approved information collection.

Abstract: 49 U.S.C. 60117 explains that, in order to enable the Secretary of Transportation to decide whether a person transporting gas is complying with Federal safety standards, this statute requires the maintenance of records and reports and that these and other requested information be provided to DOT upon request. These records help ascertain compliance and provide information for incident investigation.

Estimate of Burden: The average burden hours per operator is 41.5.

Respondents: Gas Pipeline operators.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 22,700.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 940,991.

As used in this notice, 'information collection' and 'paperwork collection' are synonymous, and include all work related to preparing and disseminating information related to this recordkeeping requirement including completing paperwork, gathering information and conducting telephone calls.