NOTIFICATION

Addendum

The following communication, dated 15 October 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the United States of America.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Title:** Pipeline Safety: Class Location Change Requirements

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Reason for Addendum:** | |
| [  ] | Comment period changed - date: |
| [  ] | Notified measure adopted - date: |
| [  ] | Notified measure published - date: |
| [  ] | Notified measure enters into force - date: |
| [  ] | Text of final measure available from[[1]](#footnote-1): |
| [  ] | Notified measure withdrawn or revoked - date:  Relevant symbol if measure re-notified: |
| [  ] | Content or scope of notified measure changed  New deadline for comments (if applicable): |
| [  ] | Interpretive guidance issued and text available from1: |
| [X] | Other: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-10-14/html/2020-19872.htm>  <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-10-14/pdf/2020-19872.pdf>  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2020/TBT/USA/20_6163_00_e.pdf> |

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

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM)

SUMMARY: In response to public input received as part of the rulemaking process, PHMSA is proposing to revise the Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations to amend the requirements for gas transmission pipeline segments that experience a change in class location. Under the existing regulations, pipeline segments located in areas where the population density has significantly increased must perform one of the following actions: Reduce the pressure of the pipeline segment, pressure test the pipeline segment to higher standards, or replace the pipeline segment. This proposed rule would add an alternative set of requirements operators could use, based on implementing integrity management principles and pipe eligibility criteria, to manage certain pipeline segments where the class location has changed from a Class 1 location to a Class 3 location. Through required periodic assessments, repair criteria, and other extra preventive and mitigative measures, PHMSA expects this alternative approach would provide long-term safety benefits consistent with the current natural gas pipeline safety rules while also providing cost savings for pipeline operators.

DATES: Persons interested in submitting written comments on this proposed rule must do so by 14 December 2020. Late-filed comments will be considered to the extent practicable.

This notice of proposed rulemaking and the advanced notice of proposed rulemaking notified as [G/TBT/N/USA/1387](http://tbtims.wto.org/en/Notifications/Search?ProductsCoveredHSCodes=&ProductsCoveredICSCodes=&DoSearch=True&ExpandSearchMoreFields=False&NotifyingMember=&DocumentSymbol=usa%2F1387&DistributionDateFrom=&DistributionDateTo=&SearchTerm=&ProductsCovered=&DescriptionOfContent=&CommentPeriod=&FinalDateForCommentsFrom=&FinalDateForCommentsTo=&ProposedDateOfAdoptionFrom=&ProposedDateOfAdoptionTo=&ProposedDateOfEntryIntoForceFrom=&ProposedDateOfEntryIntoForceTo=) are identified by Docket Number PHMSA-2017-0151. The Docket Folder is available at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=PHMSA-2017-0151> and provides access to primary and supporting documents as well as comments received. Documents are also accessible from [Regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) by searching the Docket Number. WTO Members and their stakeholders are asked to submit comments to the [USA TBT Enquiry Point](mailto:usatbtep@nist.gov). Comments received by the USA TBT Enquiry Point from WTO Members and their stakeholders will be shared with the regulator and will also be submitted to the [Docket](https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=PHMSA-2017-0151) on [Regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) if received within the comment period.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. This information can be provided by including a website address, a pdf attachment, or other information on where the text of the final measure and/or interpretive guidance can be obtained. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)