

from the AAR Tank Car Committee for a tank car to be used for a commodity other than those specified in part 173 and on the certificate of construction. This information is used to ascertain whether a commodity is suitable for transportation in a tank car. AAR approval is also required for an application for approval of designs, materials and construction, conversion or alteration of tank car tanks constructed to a specification in part 179, or an application for construction of tank cars to any new specification. This information is used to ensure that the design, construction, or modification of a tank car or the construction of a tank car to a new specification is performed in accordance with the applicable requirements.

(2) *Progress Reports*: Each owner of a tank car that is required to be modified to meet certain requirements specified in § 173.31 must submit a progress report to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). FRA uses this information to ensure that all affected tank cars are modified before the regulatory compliance date.

(3) *FRA Approvals*: An approval is required from FRA to transport a bulk packaging (such as a portable tank, IM portable tank, intermediate bulk container, cargo tank, or multi-unit tank car tank) containing a hazardous material in container-on-flat-car or trailer-on-flat-car service other than as authorized by § 174.63. FRA uses this information to ensure that the bulk package is properly secured using an adequate restraint system during transportation. An FRA approval is also required for the movement of any tank car that does not conform to the applicable requirements in the HMR. These latter movements are currently being reported under the information collection for special permit applications.

(4) *Manufacturer Reports and Certificate of Construction*: These documents are prepared by tank car manufacturers and used by owners, users, and FRA personnel to verify that rail tank cars conform to the applicable specification.

(5) *Quality Assurance Program*: Facilities that build, repair, and ensure the structural integrity of tank cars are required to develop and implement a quality assurance program. This information is used by the facility and DOT compliance personnel to ensure that each tank car is constructed or repaired in accordance with the applicable requirements.

(6) *Inspection Reports*: A written report must be prepared and retained for each tank car that is inspected and

tested in accordance with § 180.509 of the HMR. Rail carriers, users, and FRA use this information to ensure that rail tank cars are properly maintained and in safe condition for transporting hazardous materials.

*Affected Public*: Manufacturers, owners, and rail carriers of tank.

*Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden*:

*Number of Respondents*: 266.

*Total Annual Responses*: 17,685.

*Total Annual Burden Hours*: 2,834.

*Frequency of Collection*: Annually.

**William S. Schoonover,**

*Associate Administrator of Hazard Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2017-20796 Filed 9-27-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-60-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

**[Docket No. PHMSA-2017-0122; Notice No. 2017-10]**

#### Hazardous Materials: Emergency Waiver No. 4

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

**ACTION**: Notice of emergency waiver order.

**SUMMARY**: The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is issuing an emergency waiver order to persons conducting operations under the direction of Environmental Protection Agency Region 2 or United States Coast Guard 7th District within the Hurricane Maria emergency and disaster areas of Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands. This Waiver Order is effective September 22, 2017, and shall remain in effect for 30 days from the date of issuance.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Adam Horsley, Deputy Assistant Chief Counsel for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, telephone: (202) 366-4400.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**: In accordance with the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 5103(c), the Acting Administrator for the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), hereby declares that an emergency exists that warrants issuance of a Waiver of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR, 49 CFR parts 171-180) to persons conducting operations under the direction of Environmental

Protection Agency (EPA) Region 2 (290 Broadway, New York, NY 10007-1866) or United States Coast Guard (USCG) 7th District (Brickell Plaza Federal Building, 909 SE 1st Avenue, Miami, FL 33131-3050) within the Hurricane Maria emergency and disaster areas of Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands. The Waiver is granted to support EPA and USCG in taking appropriate actions to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a threat to public health, welfare, or the environment caused by actual or potential oil and hazardous materials incidents resulting from Hurricane Maria.

On September 18, 2017, the President issued an Emergency Declaration for Hurricane Maria for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (EM-3391) and the United States Virgin Islands (EM-3390). On September 20, 2017, the President issued a Major Disaster Declaration for the United States Virgin Islands (DR-4340).

This Waiver Order covers all areas identified in the declarations, as amended. Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 5103(c), PHMSA has authority delegated by the Secretary (49 CFR 1.97(b)(3)) to waive compliance with any part of the HMR provided that the grant of the waiver is: (1) In the public interest; (2) not inconsistent with the safety of transporting hazardous materials; and (3) necessary to facilitate the safe movement of hazardous materials into, from, and within an area of a major disaster or emergency that has been declared under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 *et seq.*).

Given the continuing impacts caused by Hurricane Maria, PHMSA's Acting Administrator has determined that regulatory relief is in the public interest and necessary to ensure the safe transportation in commerce of hazardous materials while EPA and USCG execute their recovery and cleanup efforts in Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands. Specifically, PHMSA's Acting Administrator finds that issuing this Waiver Order will allow EPA and USCG to conduct their emergency support function under the National Response Framework to safely remove, transport, and dispose of hazardous materials. By execution of this Waiver Order, persons conducting operations under the direction of EPA Region 2 or USCG 7th District within the Hurricane Maria emergency and disaster areas of Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands are authorized to offer and transport non-radioactive hazardous materials under alternative safety

requirements imposed by EPA Region 2 or USCG 7th District when compliance with the HMR is not practicable. Under this Waiver Order, non-radioactive hazardous materials may be transported to staging areas within 50 miles of the point of origin. Further transportation of the hazardous materials from staging areas must be in full compliance with the HMR.

This Waiver Order is effective September 22, 2017, and shall remain in effect for 30 days from the date of issuance.

Issued in Washington, DC.

**Drue Pearce,**

*Acting Administrator, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2017-20766 Filed 9-27-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-60-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

[Docket No. PHMSA-2017-0073 (Notice No. 2017-04)]

#### Hazardous Materials: Information Collection Activities

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

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, PHMSA invites comments on an information collection pertaining to hazardous materials transportation for which PHMSA intends to request renewal from the Office of Management and Budget.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before November 27, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. PHMSA-2017-0073 (Notice No. 2017-04), by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Management System; U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Routing Symbol M-30, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* To the Docket Management System; Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m.

and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**Instructions:** All submissions must include the agency name and Docket Number (PHMSA-2017-0073) for this notice at the beginning of the comment. To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. All comments received will be posted without change to the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) and will include any personal information provided.

Requests for a copy of an information collection should be directed to Steven Andrews or T. Glenn Foster, Standards and Rulemaking Division, (202) 366-8553, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

**Docket:** For access to the dockets to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> or DOT's Docket Operations Office (see **ADDRESSES**).

**Privacy Act:** In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at [www.dot.gov/privacy](http://www.dot.gov/privacy).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Steven Andrews or T. Glenn Foster, Standards and Rulemaking Division, (202) 366-8553, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 1320.8 (d), title 5, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) requires PHMSA to provide interested members of the public and affected agencies an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping requests. This notice identifies an information collection request that PHMSA will be submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for renewal and extension. This information collection is contained in 49 CFR 171.6 of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR parts 171-180). PHMSA has revised burden estimates, where appropriate, to reflect current reporting levels or adjustments based on changes in proposed or final rules published since the information collection was last approved. The following information is provided for this information collection: (1) Title of the information collection,

including former title if a change is being made; (2) OMB control number; (3) summary of the information collection activity; (4) description of affected public; (5) estimate of total annual reporting and recordkeeping burden; and (6) frequency of collection. PHMSA will request a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity and will publish a notice in the **Federal Register** upon OMB's approval.

PHMSA requests comments on the following information collection:

**Title:** Hazardous Materials Shipping Papers & Emergency Response Information.

**OMB Control Number:** 2137-0034.

**Summary:** This information collection is for the requirement to provide a shipping paper and emergency response information with shipments of hazardous materials. Shipping papers are a basic communication tool in the transportation of hazardous materials and, by definition (see 49 CFR 171.8), include a shipping order, bill of lading, manifest, or other shipping document serving a similar purpose and containing the information required by §§ 172.202, 172.203, and 172.204 of the HMR. A shipping paper with emergency response information must accompany most hazardous materials shipments and be readily available at all times during transportation.

Shipping papers serve as the principal source of information regarding the presence of hazardous materials, identification, quantity, and emergency response procedures. They inform on compliance with other requirements (*i.e.*, the placement of rail cars containing different hazardous materials in trains); prevent the loading of poisons with foodstuffs; maintain the separation of incompatible hazardous materials; and limit the amount of radioactive materials that may be transported in a vehicle or aircraft. Shipping papers and emergency response information also notify transport workers that hazardous materials are present and serve as a principal means of identifying hazardous materials during transportation emergencies. Firefighters, police, and other emergency response personnel are trained to obtain the DOT shipping papers and emergency response information when responding to hazardous materials transportation emergencies.

The availability of accurate information concerning hazardous materials being transported significantly improves response efforts in these types of emergencies.

**Affected Public:** Shippers and carriers of hazardous materials in commerce.