

NEW EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS—Continued

Application No.	Applicant	Reasons for delay	Estimated date of completion
11927-N	Alaska Marine Lines, Inc., Seattle, WA	4	12/31/1998
11934-N	UtiliCorp United, Inc., Omaha, NE	4	12/31/1998
11938-N	Steel Shipping Container Institute, Washington, DC	4	12/31/1998
11947-N	Patts Fabrication & Services, Odessa, TX	4	01/29/1999
11954-N	Republic Environmental System (PA), Inc., Hatfield, PA	4	12/31/1998
11983-N	Degussa Corporation, Ridgefield Park, NJ	4	01/29/1999
12001-N	Albemarle Corporation, Baton Rouge, LA	4	01/29/1999
12003-N	Degussa Corporation, Ridgefield Park, NJ	4	01/29/1999
12020-N	Rhone-Poulenc, Inc., Shelton, CT	4	01/29/1999
12029-N	NACO Technologies, Lombard, IL	4	01/29/1999
12032-N	Physical Acoustics Quality Services Lawrenceville, NJ	4	01/29/1999
12033-N	PPG Industries, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA	4	01/29/1999
12051-N	General American Transportation Corporation, Chicago, IL	4	01/29/1999
12052-N	Engineered Carbons, Inc., Borger, TX	4	01/29/1999
12063-N	The Hydrocarbon Flow Specialist, Inc., Morgan City, LA	4	12/31/1999
12064-N	Occident Chemical Corp., Webster, TX	4	01/29/1999
12071-N	Pennwalt India Limited, Worli, Mumbai, IN	4	01/29/1999
12072-N	Consani Engineering (PTY) Limited, Cape Province, RA	4	01/29/1999
12073-N	Patriotic Fireworks, North East, MD	4	12/15/1998

MODIFICATION TO EXEMPTIONS

Application No.	Applicant	Reason for delay	Estimated date of completion
4354-M	PPG Industries, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA	1	12/31/1998
7887-M	Kosdon Enterprises Ventura, CA	4	12/31/1998
9266-M	ERMEWA, Inc., Houston, TX	4	12/31/1998
9419-M	FIBA Technologies, Inc., Westboro, MA	4	12/31/1998
9421-M	Taylor-Wharton Co., Harrisburgh, PA	4	12/31/1998
9706-M	Taylor-Wharton Co., Harrisburgh, PA	4	12/31/1998
9819-M	Halliburton Energy Services, Inc., Duncan, OK	4	12/31/1998
10047-M	Taylor-Wharton Co., Harrisburgh, PA	4	12/31/1998
10138-M	Betz Dearborn, Inc., Trevose, PA	4	12/31/1998
10458-M	Marsulex, Inc., Sudbury, Ontario, CN	4	12/31/1998
10996-M	Kosdon Enterprises, Ventura, CA	4	12/31/1998
11270-M	The Specialty Chemicals Div. of B.F. Goodrich Co., Cleveland, OH	4	12/31/1998
11483-M	Autoliv, Autoflator AB, Vargarda, SW	4	12/31/1998

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

Advisory Bulletin

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration, (RSPA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice; issuance of advisory bulletin.

SUMMARY: We are issuing this advisory bulletin to owners and operators of Hazardous Liquid and Natural Gas Pipelines located on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The bulletin reminds operators of the September 15th, 1998, deadline to mark the point on their OCS pipeline facilities where operating responsibility transfers from a

production operator to a transportation operator.

ADDRESSES: This document can be viewed on our home page at: <http://ops.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda Daugherty, (202) 366-4577.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

We published a direct final rule amending the DOT pipeline safety regulations in 49 CFR parts 191, 192, and 195 consistent with an MOU (62 FR 61692; November 19, 1997) establishing the boundaries that will be used to delineate the locations over which the Department of Transportation and the Department of the Interior will exercise their respective regulatory authority over pipelines located on the OCS. The direct final rule excluded from DOT regulations OCS pipelines upstream from the point where operating

responsibility transfers from a producing operator to a transporting operator. Also, the rule required operators to durably mark the specific points at which operating responsibility transfers or, if it is not practicable to durably mark a transfer point, to depict the transfer point on a schematic maintained near the transfer point. The requirement applies only to OCS pipelines on which there is a transfer of operating responsibility from a producing operator to a transporting operator. Producer-operated OCS pipelines on which there is no transfer of operating responsibility on the OCS have not been affected.

II. Advisory Bulletin (ADB-98-4)

To: Owners and Operators of Hazardous Liquid and Natural Gas Pipelines.

Subject: September 15, 1998, deadline to mark OCS pipeline facilities where operating responsibility transfers from a

production operator to a transportation operator.

Purpose: We remind all operators of natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines located on the Outer Continental Shelf of the September 15, 1998, deadline to durably mark the specific points at which operating responsibility transfers from a producing operator to a transporting operator, or, if it is not practicable to durably mark this transfer point, to depict the transfer point on a schematic maintained near the transfer point.

Operators must meet all of the following criteria to be affected by this rule:

(1) Operating responsibility must transfer from a producer to a transporter;

(2) The transfer must take place on the Outer Continental Shelf; and

(3) The producer must be upstream from the transporter.

Pipelines that do not meet these criteria continue to be subject to the provisions of 49 CFR Parts 192.1(b)(1) and 195.1(b)(5) that state these Parts do not apply upstream from the outlet flange of each facility where hydrocarbons are produced or where produced hydrocarbons are first separated, dehydrated, or otherwise processed, whichever facility is farther downstream. Any proposed amendments to these regulations will be initially announced through publication of the Department of Transportation Semi-Annual Regulatory Agenda in the **Federal Register** and afforded full public participation through subsequent publication in the **Federal Register** of a notice of proposed rulemaking and request for comments.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on November 24, 1998.

Richard B. Felder,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 98-31780 Filed 11-27-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

[Docket RSPA-98-4799]

Pipeline Safety User Fees

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the fiscal year 1999 user fee assessments for pipeline facilities. The assessments will be mailed to pipeline operators on or about December 15, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Kokoszka, OPS, (202) 366-4554, regarding the subject matter of this notice.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The fees to be assessed for natural gas transmission, hazardous liquid and liquefied natural gas (LNG) are as indicated below:

Natural gas transmission pipelines: \$70.47 per mile (based on 288,205 miles of pipeline).

Hazardous liquid pipelines: \$57.88 per mile (based on 156,828 miles of pipeline).

LNG is based on the number of plants and total storage capacity:

Total Storage Capacity BBLS	Assessment/ Plant
<10,000	\$1,250
10,000-100,000	2,500
100,000-250,000	3,750
250,000-500,000	5,000
>500,000	7,500

Section 60301 of Title 49, United States Code, authorizes the assessment and collection of pipeline user fees to fund the pipeline safety activities conducted under 49 U.S.C. 60101 *et seq.* RSPA assesses each operator of regulated interstate and intrastate natural gas transmission pipelines (as defined in 49 CFR part 192), and hazardous liquid pipelines carrying petroleum, petroleum products, anhydrous ammonia and carbon dioxide (as defined in 49 CFR part 195) a share of the total Federal pipeline safety program costs in proportion to the number of miles of pipeline each operator has. Onshore pipelines excluded from regulation by 49 CFR part 195, are not included. Operators of LNG facilities are assessed based on total storage capacity (as defined in 49 CFR part 193).

In accordance with the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 60301, Departmental resources were taken into consideration for determining total program costs. The apportionment ratio between gas and liquid, as shown below, increased in recent years with our environmental protection activities in the hazardous liquid program area:

Year(s)	General program costs (gas)	General program costs (liquid)
1986-1990 (percent)	80	20
1991-1992 (percent)	75	25
1993 (percent)	175	125
Do	260	240
1994 (percent)	60	40
1995 (percent)	75	25
1996 (percent)	65	35

Year(s)	General program costs (gas)	General program costs (liquid)
1997-1999 (percent)	55	45
1 3/4 yr. 2 1/4 yr.		

In accordance with the regulations of the Department of the Treasury, user fees will be due 30 days after the date of the assessment. Interest, penalties, and administrative charges will be assessed on delinquent debts in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3717.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 60301.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 24, 1998.

Richard B. Felder,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 98-31781 Filed 11-27-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33681]

Fort Worth & Western Railroad Company—Acquisition Exemption—South Orient Railroad Company, Ltd.

Fort Worth & Western Railroad Company (FWWR), a Class III rail carrier, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to acquire by lease and to operate approximately 176 miles of rail line of the South Orient Railroad Company, Ltd. (SORC).¹

The lines to be leased are: (1) Centex Rural Rail Transportation District's (a) Fort Worth-Ricker Line, between approximately milepost 1 + 1,541 feet near Fort Worth, TX, and approximately milepost 134 + 2,171 feet near Ricker, TX, and (b) Cresson-Cleburne Line, between approximately milepost 18 + 133 feet near Cresson, TX, and approximately milepost 0 + 1,167.1 feet near Cleburne, TX; and (2) Texas Central Railroad Company's line of railroad between approximately milepost 104.6 at Dublin, TX, and approximately milepost 129.5 at Gorman, TX.² In addition, FWWR will acquire from SORC by assignment incidental overhead trackage rights over the following lines: (1) The Burlington

¹ See *Cen-Tex Rail Link, Ltd.—Merger Exemption—South Orient Railroad Company, Ltd.*, STB Finance Docket No. 32951 (STB served Aug. 2, 1996).

² See *Cen-Tex Rail Link, Ltd.—Trackage Rights Exemption—Texas Central Railroad Company*, Finance Docket No. 32521 (ICC served Aug. 18, 1994) and *Cen-Tex Rail Link, Ltd.—Lease and Operation Exemption—Texas Central Railroad Company*, Finance Docket No. 32596 (ICC served June 18, 1995).