

INFORMATION ON EMPLOYEES

Counting Veterans. Some veterans will fall into more than one of the qualified covered veteran categories. For example, a veteran may be both a disabled veteran and an other protected veteran. In such cases the veteran must be counted in each category.

Number of Employees. Select any payroll period ending between July 1 and August 31 of the current year. Provide all data for regular full-time and part-time employees who were disabled veterans, other protected veterans, armed forces service medal veterans, or recently separated veterans employed as of the ending date of the selected payroll period. Do not include employees specifically excluded as indicated in 41 CFR 61-300.2(b)(2). Employees must be counted by qualified covered veteran status for each of the nine occupational categories (Lines 1-9) in columns L, M, N, and O. Column P must count all employees, including qualified covered veterans, in each of the nine occupational categories (Lines 1-9). Blank spaces will be considered zeros.

New Hires. Report the number of regular full-time and part-time employees who were hired, both veterans and non-veterans, as well as those who were hired by veteran category, and who were included in the payroll for the first time during the 12-month reporting period ending between July 1 and August 31 of the current year. The total line in columns Q, R, S, T, and U (Line 10) is required. Enter all applicable numbers, including zeros.

Maximum/Minimum Employees. Report the maximum and minimum number of regular employees on board during the period covered as indicated by 41 CFR 61-300.10(a)(3).

DEFINITIONS:

'Hiring location' means an establishment as defined at 41 CFR 61-300.2(b)(1).

'Job Categories' means any of the following: Officials and managers, professionals, technicians, sales workers, office and clerical, craft workers (skilled), operatives (semi-skilled), laborers (unskilled), and service workers, and are defined in 41 CFR 61-300.2(b)(3).

'Disabled Veteran' means a veteran who: (i) is entitled to compensation (or who but for the receipt of military retired pay would be entitled to compensation) under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or (ii) was discharged or released from active duty because of a service-connected disability.

'Other Protected Veteran' means a veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. military, ground, naval, or air service during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized. For those with Internet access, the information required to make this determination is available at <http://www.opm.gov/veterans/html/vgmedal2.htm>. A replica of that list is enclosed with the annual VETS-100A mailing. A copy of the list also may be obtained by sending an e-mail to OtherVets@vets100.com or by calling (703) 461-2460 and requesting that a copy be mailed to you.

'Armed Forces Service Medal Veteran' means a veteran who, while serving on active duty in the U.S. military, ground, naval or air service, participated in a United States military operation for which an Armed Forces service medal was awarded pursuant to Executive Order 12985 (61 Fed. Reg. 1209) at <http://www.opm.gov/veterans/html/vgmedal2.asp>

'Recently Separated Veteran' means a veteran, who served on active duty in the U.S. military, ground, naval or air service, during the three-year period beginning on the date of such veteran's discharge or release from active duty.

'Covered Veteran' means a veteran as defined in the four veteran categories above.

A copy of 41 CFR part 61-300 can be found at http://www.doi.gov/doi/allcfr/vets/Title_41/Chapter_61.htm.

Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated to average 60 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data source, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden to the Department of Labor, Office of Information Management, Room N-1301, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington D.C. 20210 or electronically transmitted to www.vets100.cudenver.edu. All completed VETS-100A Reports should be sent to the address indicated on the front of the form.

[FR Doc. 06-6759 Filed 8-7-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration****49 CFR Parts 110 and 178**

[Docket No. PHMSA-06-24304 (Notice No. 06-01)]

Regulatory Flexibility Act Section 610 and Plain Language Reviews

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

ACTION: Notice of regulatory review; request for comments.

SUMMARY: PHMSA requests comments on the economic impact of its regulations on small entities. As required by the Regulatory Flexibility Act and as published in DOT's Semi-Annual Regulatory Agenda, we are analyzing the Hazardous Materials

Regulations applicable to specifications for non-bulk packagings and training and planning grants. We are also analyzing the Pipeline Safety Regulations applicable to oil pipeline response plans and the hazardous liquid reporting requirements. The purpose of these analyses is to identify requirements that may have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. We also request comments on ways to make these regulations easier to read and understand.

DATES: Comments must be received by November 6, 2006.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by the docket number PHMSA-06-24304 (Notice No. 06-01) by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Web site: <http://dms.dot.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the DOT electronic docket site.
- Fax: 1-202-493-2251.

- Mail: Docket Management System; U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, Room PL-401, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- Hand Delivery: To the Docket Management System; Room PL-401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You must include the agency name and docket number PHMSA-06-24304 (Notice No. 06-01) at the beginning of your comment. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to <http://dms.dot.gov> including any personal information provided. Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the document (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register**

published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477) or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Docket: You may view the public docket through the Internet at <http://dms.dot.gov> or in person at the Docket Management System office at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kevin A. Leary, Office of Hazardous Materials Standards, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, telephone (202) 366-8553 (for the Hazardous Materials Regulations); Piyali Talukdar, U.S. Department of Transportation, telephone (617) 494-2999 (for the Pipeline Safety Regulations).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Section 610 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act

A. Background and Purpose

Section 610 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 (Pub. L. 96-354), as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-121), requires agencies to conduct periodic reviews of rules that have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small business entities. The purpose of the review is to determine whether such rules should be continued without

change, amended, or rescinded, consistent with the objectives of applicable statutes, to minimize any significant economic impact of the rules on a substantial number of such small entities.

B. Review Schedule

The Department of Transportation (DOT) published its Semiannual Regulatory Agenda on October 31, 2005 (70 FR 64940), listing in Appendix D (70 FR 64954) those regulations that each operating administration will review under section 610 during the following 12 months. Appendix D also contains DOT's 10-year review plan for all of its existing regulations.

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA, we) has divided its Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR parts 171-180) and its Pipeline Safety Regulations (49 CFR parts 190-199) into 10 groups by subject area. Each group will be reviewed once every 10 years, undergoing a two-stage process (an Analysis Year and Section 610 Review Year. For purposes of the review announced in this notice, the Analysis year began in October 2005, coincident with the fall 2005 publication of the Semiannual Regulatory Agenda.

During the Analysis Year, we will analyze each of the rules in a given year's group to determine whether any

rule has a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities and, thus, requires review in accordance with section 610 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. In each fall's Regulatory Agenda, we will publish the results of the analyses we completed during the previous year. For rules that have a negative finding, we will provide a short explanation. For parts, subparts, or other discrete sections of rules that do have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities, we will announce that we will be conducting a formal section 610 review during the following 12 months.

The section 610 review will determine whether a specific rule should be revised or revoked to lessen its impact on small entities. We will consider: (1) The continued need for the rule; (2) the nature of complaints or comments received from the public; (3) the complexity of the rule; (4) the extent to which the rule overlaps, duplicates, or conflicts with other federal rules or with state or local government rules; and (5) the length of time since the rule has been evaluated or the degree to which technology, economic conditions, or other factors have changed in the area affected by the rule. At the end of the Review Year, we will publish the results of our review.

The following table shows the 10-year analysis and review schedule:

PHMSA SECTION 610 REVIEW PLAN 1999-2009

Title	Regulation	Analysis year	Review year
Incident reports	§§ 171.15 and 171.16	1998	N/A
Hazmat safety procedures	Parts 106 and 107	1999	N/A
General Information, Regulations, and Definitions	Part 171.		
Pipeline Safety Procedures	Part 190.		
Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Corrosion Control	Part 195.		
Carriage by Rail and Highway	Parts 174 and 177	2000	N/A
Gas Pipeline Transportation Reports	Part 191.		
Gas Pipeline Corrosion Control	Part 192.		
Carriage by Vessel	Part 176	2001	N/A
Pipeline Employee Drug and Alcohol Testing	Part 199.		
Radioactive Materials	Parts 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178.	2002	N/A
Explosives	Parts 172, 173, 174, 176, 177	2003	N/A
Cylinders	Parts 172, 173, 174, 176, 177, 178, 180.		
Liquefied Natural Gas Facilities	Part 193.		
Shippers—General Requirements for Shipments and Packagings	Part 173	2004	N/A
Onshore Oil Pipeline Response Plans	Part 194.		
Specifications for Non-bulk Packagings	Part 178	2005/2006	2007
Training and Planning Grants	Part 110.		
Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Transportation	Part 195.		
Specifications for Bulk Packagings	Parts 178, 179, 180	2006	2007
State Pipeline Safety Grants	Part 198.		
Hazardous Materials Table, Special Provisions, Hazardous Materials Communications, Emergency Response Information, and Training Requirements.	Part 172	2007	2008
Carriage by Aircraft	Part 175.		

C. Regulations Under Analysis

During Year 8 (2006–2007), the Analysis Year, we will conduct a preliminary assessment of the rules in 49 CFR part 178 applicable to specifications for non-bulk packages. The review will include the following subparts:

PART 178

Subpart	Title
Subpart B	Specifications for Inside Containers and Linings.
Subpart L	Non-bulk Performance Oriented Packaging Standards.
Subpart M	Testing of Non-bulk Packagings and Packages.

In addition, we will conduct a preliminary assessment of the rules in 49 CFR part 110 establishing procedures for the Hazardous Materials Public Sector Training and Planning Grants. These regulations include eligibility requirements, grant application procedures, disbursement of Federal funds, grant monitoring, and after-grant requirements.

The oil pipeline response plan regulations in Part 194 and the hazardous liquid pipeline safety regulations in Subpart B of Part 195 are also scheduled for review this year. The Part 194 regulations contain requirements for oil spill response plans to reduce the environmental impact of oil discharged from onshore oil pipelines. Part 195, Subpart B, addresses hazardous liquid reporting requirements, including annual reporting, accident reporting, and reporting of safety related conditions.

We are seeking comments on whether any requirements for training and planning grants in Part 110, specifications for non-bulk packagings in Part 178, oil response plans in Part 194, or hazardous liquid pipeline reporting requirements in Part 195 have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. "Small entities" include small businesses, not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields, and governmental jurisdictions with populations under 50,000. If your business or organization is a small entity and if any of the above described regulatory requirements has a significant economic impact on your business or organization, please submit a comment explaining how and to what degree these rules affect you, the extent of the economic impact on your business or organization, and why you

believe the economic impact is significant.

II. Plain Language

A. Background and Purpose

Plain language helps readers find requirements quickly and understand them easily. Examples of plain language techniques include:

(1) Undesignated center headings to cluster related sections within subparts.

(2) Short words, sentences, paragraphs, and sections to speed up reading and enhance understanding.

(3) Sections as questions and answers to provide focus.

(4) Personal pronouns to reduce passive voice and draw readers into the writing.

(5) Tables to display complex information in a simple, easy-to-read format.

For an example of a rule drafted in plain language, you can refer to our final rule entitled "Revised and Clarified Hazardous Materials Safety Rulemaking and Program Procedures," which was published June 25, 2002 (67 FR 42948). This final rule revised and clarified the hazardous materials safety rulemaking and program procedures by rewriting 49 CFR Part 106 and Subpart A of Part 107 in plain language and creating a new Part 105 that contains definitions and general procedures.

B. Review Schedule

In conjunction with our section 610 reviews, we will be performing plain language reviews of the HMR and pipeline safety regulations over a 10-year period on a schedule consistent with the section 610 review schedule. Thus, our review of requirements in Part 110 applicable to training and planning grants, part 178 applicable to specifications for non-bulk packagings, Part 194 applicable to oil response plans, and Part 195 applicable to hazardous liquid pipeline reporting will also include a plain language review to determine if the regulations can be reorganized and/or rewritten to make them easier to read, understand, and use. We encourage interested persons to submit draft regulatory language that clearly and simply communicates regulatory requirements, and other recommendations, such as putting information in tables or consolidating regulatory requirements, that may make the regulations easier to use.

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 2, 2006.

Robert A. McGuire,

Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

49 CFR Part 601

[Docket FTA–2006–22428]

RIN 2132–AA89

Emergency Procedures for Public Transportation Systems

AGENCY: Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This rulemaking proposes to establish a new subpart in 601 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, to establish emergency relief procedures for granting relief from Federal transit policy statements, circulars, guidance documents, and regulations in times of national or regional emergencies.

DATES: *Comment Closing Date:* Comments should be submitted by October 10, 2006. Late-filed comments will be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by the docket number [FTA–2006–22428] by any of the following methods:

Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

Web site: <http://dms.dot.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments on the DOT electronic docket site.

Fax: 202–493–2251.

Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Nassif Building, PL–401, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

Hand Delivery: Room PL–401 on the plaza level of the Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You must include the agency name (Federal Transit Administration) and Docket number (FTA–2006–22428) or the Regulatory Identification Number (RIN) for this rulemaking at the beginning of your comments. You should submit two copies of your comments if you submit