

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bianca Carr, U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W23-453, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone 202-366-9309, Email Bianca.Carr@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As described by the applicant the intended service of the vessel CROSSFIRE is:

Intended Commercial Use of Vessel: "Vessel will be used as a sail training vessel, to each students safety at sea, navigation skills and standard procedures for sailing inshore and offshore."

Geographic Region: Washington State and Hawaii.

The complete application is given in DOT docket MARAD-2016-0017 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Interested parties may comment on the effect this action may have on U.S. vessel builders or businesses in the U.S. that use U.S.-flag vessels. If MARAD determines, in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 12121 and MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388, that the issuance of the waiver will have an unduly adverse effect on a U.S.-vessel builder or a business that uses U.S.-flag vessels in that business, a waiver will not be granted. Comments should refer to the docket number of this notice and the vessel name in order for MARAD to properly consider the comments. Comments should also state the commenter's interest in the waiver application, and address the waiver criteria given in § 388.4 of MARAD's regulations at 46 CFR part 388.

Privacy Act

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, 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 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477-78).

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.
Dated: February 11, 2016.

Gabriel Chavez,

Acting Secretary, Maritime Administration.
[FR Doc. 2016-03796 Filed 2-22-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration**

[Docket Nos. PHMSA-2016-0004 **Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (TGP)**; PHMSA-2016-0006 **Southern Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. (SNG)**; PHMSA-2016-0007 **El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. (EPNG)**; PHMSA-2016-0008 **Colorado Interstate Gas Company, L.L.C. (CIG)**; PHMSA-2016-0009 **NEXUS Gas Transmission, L.L.C. (NEXUS)**]

Pipeline Safety: Request for Special Permit

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal pipeline safety laws, PHMSA is publishing this notice of special permit requests we have received from several natural gas pipeline operators, seeking relief from compliance with certain requirements in the Federal pipeline safety regulations. This notice seeks public comments on these requests, including comments on any safety or environmental impacts. At the conclusion of the 30-day comment period, PHMSA will evaluate the requests and determine whether to grant or deny a special permit.

DATES: Submit any comments regarding these special permit requests by March 24, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Comments should reference the docket numbers for the specific special permit request and may be submitted in the following ways:

- *E-Gov Web site:* <http://www.Regulations.gov>. This site allows the public to enter comments on any **Federal Register** notice issued by any agency.
- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Management System: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.
- *Hand Delivery:* DOT Docket Management System: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.,

Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You should identify the docket number for the special permit request you are commenting on at the beginning of your comments. If you submit your comments by mail, please submit two copies. To receive confirmation that PHMSA has received your comments, please include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Internet users may submit comments at <http://www.Regulations.gov>.

Note: Comments are posted without changes or edits to <http://www.Regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. There is a privacy statement published on <http://www.Regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

General: Kay McIver by telephone at (202) 366-0113; or, email at kay.mciver@dot.gov.

Technical: Steve Nanney by telephone at (713) 272-2855; or, email at steve.nanney@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: PHMSA has received requests for special permits from pipeline operators who seek relief from compliance with certain pipeline safety regulations. Each request includes a technical analysis and a Draft Environment Assessment (EA) provided by the respective operator. Each request is filed in the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) and has been assigned a separate docket number in the FDMS. We invite interested persons to participate by reviewing these special permit requests, their supporting EA, and any proposed special permit conditions to maintain pipeline integrity and safety, at <http://www.Regulations.gov>; and by submitting written comments, data or other views. Please include any comments on potential safety or environmental impacts that may result if these special permits are granted.

Before acting on these special permit requests, PHMSA will evaluate all comments received on or before the comments closing date. Comments will be evaluated after this date if it is possible to do so without incurring additional expense or delay. PHMSA will consider each relevant comment we receive in making our decision to grant or deny the request.

PHMSA has received the following special permit request(s):

Docket No.	Requester	Regulation(s)	Nature of special permit
PHMSA-2016-0004	Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (TGP).	49 CFR 192.611(a) and (d), 192.619(a) and 192.5.	To authorize TGP Company relief from certain Federal regulations found in 49 CFR 192.611(a) and (d), 192.619(a) and 192.5, for pipeline segments where the class location of the segments had been changed in accordance with § 192.5(c) "cluster rule". TGP found that their procedure methodology for the determination of class location boundaries using the clustering and sliding mile criteria in 49 CFR 192.5(c) was incorrect and has updated operating procedures for usage of this cluster rule, and the sliding mile for confirmation of maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP). The change in clustering methodology resulted in a number of new class location units, and more specifically Class 3 locations, for which pressure testing or pipe replacements are now required. TGP proposes to replace all pipeline segments that are in areas with over 10 dwellings for human occupancy within 5 years, and to implement enhanced integrity management (IM) activities over all described pipeline segments. These proposed IM activities can be reviewed on docket # PHMSA-2016-0004 at http://www.Regulations.gov. This change impacts 48.02 miles of TGP mainline pipelines. The special permit request covers multiple TGP interstate pipeline segments located in the states of Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas and West Virginia.
PHMSA-2016-0006	Southern Natural Gas, Company, L.L.C. (SNG).	49 CFR 192.611(a) and (d), 192.619(a) and 192.5.	To authorize SNG Company relief from certain Federal regulations found in 49 CFR 192.611(a) and (d), 192.619(a) and 192.5, for pipeline segments where the class location of the segments had been changed in accordance with § 192.5(c) "cluster rule". SNG found that their procedure methodology for the determination of class location boundaries using the clustering and sliding mile criteria in 49 CFR 192.5(c) was incorrect and has updated operating procedures for usage of this cluster rule, and the sliding mile for confirmation of maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP). The change in clustering methodology resulted in a number of new class location units, and more specifically Class 3 locations, for which pressure testing or pipe replacements are now required. SNG proposes to replace all pipeline segments that are in areas with over 10 dwellings for human occupancy within 5 years, and to implement enhanced integrity management (IM) activities over all described pipeline segments. These proposed IM activities can be reviewed on docket # PHMSA-2016-0006 at http://www.Regulations.gov. This change impacts 5.75 miles of SNG mainline pipelines. The special permit request covers multiple SNG interstate pipeline segments located in the states of Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi.
PHMSA-2016-0007	El Paso Natural Gas Company, L.L.C. (EPNG).	49 CFR 192.611(a) and (d), 192.619(a) and 192.5.	To authorize EPNG Company relief from certain Federal regulations found in 49 CFR 192.611(a) and (d), 192.619(a) and 192.5, for pipeline segments where the class location of the segments had been changed in accordance with § 192.5(c) "cluster rule".

Docket No.	Requester	Regulation(s)	Nature of special permit
PHMSA–2016–0008	Colorado Interstate Gas Company, L.L.C. (CIG).	49 CFR 192.611(a) and (d), 192.619(a) and 192.5.	EPNG found that their procedure methodology for the determination of class location boundaries using the clustering and sliding mile criteria in 49 CFR 192.5(c) was incorrect and has updated operating procedures for usage of this cluster rule, and the sliding mile for confirmation of maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP). The change in clustering methodology resulted in a number of new class location units, and more specifically Class 3 locations, for which pressure testing or pipe replacements are now required. EPNG proposes to replace all pipeline segments that are in areas with over 10 dwellings for human occupancy within 5 years, and to implement enhanced integrity management (IM) activities over all described pipeline segments. These proposed IM activities can be reviewed on docket # PHMSA–2016–0007 at http://www.Regulations.gov. This change impacts 7.25 miles of EPNG mainline pipelines. The special permit request covers multiple EPNG interstate pipeline segments located in the states of Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. To authorize CIG Company relief from certain Federal regulations found in 49 CFR 192.611(a) and (d), 192.619(a) and 192.5, for pipeline segments where the class location of the segments had been changed in accordance with § 192.5(c) “cluster rule”. CIG found that their procedure methodology for the determination of class location boundaries using the clustering and sliding mile criteria in 49 CFR 192.5(c) was incorrect and has updated operating procedures for usage of this cluster rule, and the sliding mile for confirmation of maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP). The change in clustering methodology resulted in a number of new class location units, and more specifically Class 3 locations, for which pressure testing or pipe replacements are now required. CIG proposes to replace all pipeline segments that are in areas with over 10 dwellings for human occupancy within 5 years, and to implement enhanced integrity management (IM) activities over all described pipeline segments. These proposed IM activities can be reviewed on docket # PHMSA–2016–0008 at http://www.Regulations.gov.
PHMSA–2016–0009	NEXUS Gas Transmission, L.L.C. (NEXUS).	49 CFR 192.625	This change impacts 3.47 miles of CIG mainline pipelines. The special permit request covers multiple CIG interstate pipeline segments located in the states of Colorado and Wyoming. To authorize NEXUS Gas Transmission, L.L.C., in the waiving of certain Federal odorization requirements found in 49 CFR 192.625, for its proposed pipeline system in Michigan. The proposed NEXUS system will consist of approximately 255 miles of new 36-inch pipeline, four (4) new compressor stations, and six (6) new meter stations with a design capacity of 1.5 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d). The construction and operation of the NEXUS Pipeline will be done by Spectra Energy Partners, L.P. (SEP), in partnership with DTE Energy Company. The NEXUS pipeline route primarily passes through Class 1 areas for the first 248 miles. However, approximately 55% (~4.0) miles of the last 7.3 miles leading up to the terminus of the NEXUS pipeline and the interconnect with DTE Gas Company, will pass through Class 3 areas. As a result of the Class 3 percentage, 49 CFR 192.625 requires odorization of the pipeline in the Class 3 areas of the last 7.3 miles of the NEXUS pipeline.

Docket No.	Requester	Regulation(s)	Nature of special permit
			NEXUS proposed to implement additional design, materials, construction, operations and maintenance requirements described in Sections 4.2 through 4.5, below, that would be specified conditions in their proposed special permit. These proposed conditions can be reviewed on docket # PHMSA-2016-0009 at http://www.Regulations.gov .

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 60118 (c)(1) and 49 CFR 1.97

Alan K. Mayberry,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy and Programs.

[FR Doc. 2016-03659 Filed 2-22-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-60-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Port Performance Freight Statistics Working Group

AGENCY: Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology, U.S. Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice of Establishment of Port Performance Freight Statistics Working Group and Solicitation of Nominations for Membership.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 6314 of title 49, United States Code, as codified by section 6018 of the *Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act* (Pub. L. 114-94; 129 Stat. 1312) and section 9(a)(1) of the *Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA)*, and following consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration, notice is hereby given that the Port Performance Freight Statistics Working Group (hereafter, "Working Group") will be established and make its recommendations on or before December 4, 2016. Further, this notice serves as a request for nominations for representatives to the Working Group.

The establishment of the Working Group is necessary for the Department to carry out its mission and in the best interest of the public. The Working Group will operate in accordance with the provisions of the FACA and the rules and regulations issued in implementation of that Act.

DATES: The deadline for nominations for Working Group representatives must be received on or before March 24, 2016.

ADDRESSES: All nomination material should be emailed to the BTS Director Patricia Hu at: portstatistics@dot.gov or mailed to Office of the Assistant

Secretary for Research and Technology, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Attn: Port Performance Freight Statistics Working Group, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room # E34-429, Washington, DC 20590. Any person requiring accessibility accommodations should contact the Bureau of Transportation Statistics at (202) 366-1270; or email BTS Director Patricia Hu at: portstatistics@dot.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Attn: Port Performance Freight Statistics Working Group, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room # E34-429, Washington, DC 20590; phone: (202) 366-1270; or email: portstatistics@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As part of meeting the requirement under 49 U.S.C. 6314(c), the BTS Director is establishing the Working Group to receive recommendations on matters related to port performance measures, including:

- (a) Identifying a generally accepted industry standard for port data collection and reporting.
- (b) Specifying standards for collecting data and reporting nationally consistent port performance measures.
- (c) Making recommendations for statistics measuring on U.S. port capacity and throughput.
- (d) Developing a process for the U.S. Department of Transportation (hereafter, "Department") to collect timely and consistent data, including identifying safeguards to protect proprietary information.

The Department is hereby soliciting nominations for Working Group representatives. The BTS Director on behalf of the Secretary of Transportation will appoint the Working Group members. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 6314(c), the Working Group shall be comprised of representatives from a number of Federal agencies, organizations, and industries. The Department is seeking nominations to fill the following positions on the Working Group:

- 1 representative from the rail industry;
 - 1 representative from the trucking industry;
 - 1 representative from the maritime shipping industry;
 - 1 representative from a labor organization for each industry [rail, trucking, and maritime shipping];
 - 1 representative from the International Longshoremen's Association;
 - 1 representative from the International Longshore and Warehouse Union;
 - 1 representative from a port authority;
 - 1 representative from a terminal operator; and
 - representatives of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.
- In establishing the Working Group, the Department shall establish a Chair and Vice Chair of the Working Group from among those selected representatives, and the Working Group is expected to meet as necessary to fulfill the purpose for which it was established. Working Group representatives shall serve without compensation and those who are not Government employees shall be appointed as Special Government Employees, subject to certain ethics restrictions, and required to submit certain information in connection with the appointment process.

The Working Group may seek subject matter experts (SMEs) from organizations which are not represented on the Working Group to serve on subcommittees. These SMEs who are called upon solely for their expertise may also be appointed as Special Government Employees and will be subject to certain ethics restrictions, and such subcommittee members will be required to submit certain information in connection with the appointment process.

Process and Deadline for Submitting Nominations: Qualified individuals may self-nominate or be nominated by any individual or organization. To be considered for the Port Performance Freight Statistics Working Group,