



## Pipeline Safety Auditing: Federal Compliance Guide

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### new and noteworthy

- **Gas Pipeline Correcting Amendments:** On July 23, 2020, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) published a final rule (85 FR 44477) correcting an error that inadvertently removed a pair of reporting requirements for natural gas pipeline operators. This rule corrects the final regulations at 49 CFR 191.22 and took effect on July 23, 2020. See <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-07-23/pdf/2020-15122.pdf>. The Rulebooks in Tabs A and B have been updated accordingly.
- **Advisory Bulletin for Overpressure Protection on Low-Pressure Natural Gas Distribution Systems:** On September 29, 2020, PHMSA issued an advisory bulletin (ADB-2020-02; 85 FR 61097) to remind owners and operators of low-pressure natural gas distribution pipelines of the possibility of failure due to over-pressurization. PHMSA is also reminding such owners and operators of existing federal integrity management regulations for gas distribution systems. For details, see <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-09-29/pdf/2020-21508.pdf>. Rulebook paragraphs in Tab A have been updated accordingly.
- **Advisory Bulletin for Inside Meters and Regulators:** On September 29, 2020, PHMSA issued an advisory bulletin to remind operators of the requirements for inside meters and regulators (ADB-2020-01; 85 FR 61101). PHMSA is also reminding operators of existing federal distribution integrity management program regulations to reduce the possibility of the failure of inside meter and regulator installations. To view the advisory bulletin, see <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-09-29/pdf/2020-21507.pdf>. Rulebook paragraphs in Tab A have been updated accordingly.

### highlights of this release

- **Tab A—Natural Gas Systems:**
  - Rulebook paragraph 1.12 has been updated to incorporate changes in PHMSA's correcting amendments.
  - Rulebook paragraphs 11.3, 15.7 and 17.24 have been updated to add important guidance from the PHMSA advisory bulletin regarding inside meters and regulators.
  - Rulebook paragraphs 14.1 and 17.24 have been updated to add guidance from the PHMSA advisory bulletin concerning low-pressure natural gas distribution systems.

# release notes

*please review*

- **Tab B—Liquefied Natural Gas Systems:**

- Rulebook paragraph 2.10 has been updated to incorporate changes in PHMSA's correcting amendments.

## did you know?

- **Class Location Change Requirements:** On October 14, 2020, PHMSA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the Federal Register (85 FR 65142). The NPRM seeks public comment on proposed revisions to safety regulations pertaining to class location requirements for natural gas transmission pipelines. The NPRM proposes to allow operators to perform integrity management measures on pipelines that experience class location changes following population growth as an equally safe, but less costly alternative to reducing pressure or replacing pipe. The NPRM would also exclude certain pipeline segments that are known to have certain risk factors from the new alternative, and would impose additional requirements beyond the integrity management measures that apply to pipeline segments in high-consequence areas. Comments will be accepted through December 14, 2020. For details, see <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-10-14/pdf/2020-19872.pdf>.



### related STP products

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- **U.S. Federal Mandatory Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting Audit Protocol** is a tool to be used to assess whether entities are sufficiently prepared to submit annual GHG emissions reports as mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) beginning in 2010. Its detailed questions cover rules EPA has codified in 40 CFR 98. Available formats: online and via risk management systems.

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