

Pipeline Safety Regulations and the Effects on Operator Qualification Programs

March 28, 2017



U.S. Department of Transportation
**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration**

"To protect people and the environment by advancing the safe transportation of energy
and other hazardous materials that are essential to our daily lives."





Community Assistance and Technical Services (CATS)

Name Change



Community Liaison (CL)

Effective: January 1, 2017

Why?

- More appropriately aligns with current roles and responsibilities
- Better articulates role to various stakeholders
- Stakeholders can more clearly interface with the agency staff
- CATS acronym was too long and difficult to explain





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Community Liaison Services



PHMSA
Your Safety
Our Mission

HEADQUARTERS	
Karen Lynch, Program Manager	
EASTERN REGION	
Karen Gentile <i>Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont</i>	Ian Woods <i>Delaware, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington DC, West Virginia</i>
SOUTHWEST REGION	
James 'Jay' Prothro <i>Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas (North)</i>	Bill Lowry <i>Louisiana, New Mexico, Texas (South)</i>
SOUTHERN REGION	
Artie Buff <i>Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Puerto Rico</i>	James Kelly <i>Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi</i>
CENTRAL REGION	
Angela Pickett <i>Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota</i>	Sean Quinlan <i>North Dakota, South Dakota, Indiana, Nebraska, Wisconsin</i>
WESTERN REGION	
Dave Mulligan <i>Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah</i>	Tom Finch <i>Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming</i>



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To Protect People and the Environment From the Risks of
Hazardous Materials Transportation



Community Liaison Services



Mission

To advance PHMSA's pipeline safety mission by proactively engaging with pipeline stakeholders, providing technical expertise, and leveraging technology, data, and information to reduce pipeline risks and influence change through program and policy development.

Vision

To serve as "trusted" and "credible" stewards of public safety and environmental protection by raising awareness and influencing change to continuously improve pipeline safety.





PHMSA REGIONAL OFFICES



Operator Qualifications 49 CFR 192.801, Subpart N

This subpart prescribes the minimum requirements for operator qualification of individuals performing covered tasks on a pipeline facility.



5 Challenges in Existing Operator Qualification regulations



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(1) There is a gap between the operator's procedures and a generic contractor consortium qualification

192.805(b)



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(2) The operator does not have records showing which contractor individual performed a covered task on a maintenance project.

192.807





(3) The operator did not review the qualified individual's job performance when an abnormal operating condition occurred.

192.803/192.805(e)



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(4) The operator did not conduct a thorough review of a consortium and the requirements of their OQ program

192.805



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(5) The operator has not identified all covered tasks.

192.805(a)



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On January 23, 2017, The FEDERAL REGISTER posted the *Final Rule*, Pipeline Safety: Operator Qualification, Cost Recovery, Accident and Incident Notification, and Other Pipeline Safety.

The Rule is effective on March 24, 2017.



PHMSA addressed the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) recommendation to clarify the training requirements for control room personnel

<https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/PAR1101.pdf>
<https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/PAR1201.pdf>





Operator Qualification requirements are extended to control room staff involved in pipeline operational decisions and team training of control center staff involved in pipeline operations similar to other transportation modes.



PHMSA Website Locations for Regulatory Status

Interpretations (Search by date or regulation)
<http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline/regs/interps>

Special Permits and State Waivers
<http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline/regs/special-permits>

Rulemakings (tabular with links to detail)
<http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline/regs/rulemaking>

Advisory Bulletins (tabular with links to detail)
<http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline/regs/advisory-bulletin>





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Current Rulemakings Underway

There is currently a moratorium on Federal regulations. PHMSA is currently assessing this impact.



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