PHMSA Update

2013 API – AGA Joint Committee
Oil & Gas Pipeline Welding Practices

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2011 Pipeline Safety Act

- Drafted by Congress and signed into law by the President on January 3, 2012
- Reauthorizes Pipeline Safety Program for next 4 years with 32 sections including:
  - Stronger enforcement tools
  - Increases civil penalties

http://thomas.loc.gov/home/gpoxmlc112/h2845_enr.xml
Leak Detection (Sec. 8)

- March 27, 2012: Public Meeting “Improving Pipeline Leak Detection System Effectiveness”
- October 5, 2012: Web-Based Briefing on draft reports
- January 3, 2013: Leak Detection Study - Report to Congress
Automatic/Remote Valves (Sec. 4)

- March 28, 2012 Public Meeting: Understanding the Application of Pipeline Automatic/Remote Control Valves
  http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/meetings/MtgHome.mtg?mtg=75

- October 5, 2012 Web-Based Briefing on draft reports

- January 3, 2013 Valve Study - Report to Congress
Documents Incorporated by Reference (Sec. 24)

• “Beginning 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Secretary may not issue guidance or a regulation pursuant to this chapter that incorporates by reference any documents or portions thereof unless the documents or portions thereof are made available to the public, free of charge, on an Internet Web site.”

• Pipeline Safety references 65 Standards by 12 SDOs.

• July 13, 2011: Public Workshop “Implementing New Requirements for Incorporation by Reference”
Recent PHMSA Public Meetings

- Government/Industry Pipeline R&D Forum (July 18-19, 2012)
- Data and Data Integrity Public Meeting (January 7-8, 2013)
NTSB Investigation: Sissonville, WV

- Dec 11, 2012: Rupture of 1967 20” X60 gas transmission line, closing Interstate 77

http://www.ntsb.gov/investigations/2012/sissonville_wva/sissonville_wva.html
Pipeline Safety Hearing: Jan 28

**Hearings**

**Pipeline Safety: An On-The-Ground Look At Safeguarding the Public**

*Democratic Press Office - (202) 224-3374*

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Robert C. Byrd United States Courthouse, Charleston, WV

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Chairman John D. (Jay) Rockefeller IV announced that the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation will hold a field hearing on "Pipeline Safety: An On-the-Ground Look at Safeguarding the Public." This hearing will examine the state of the nation’s pipeline infrastructure in the wake of the Sissonville, WV, explosion and evaluate the Department of Transportation's implementation of the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011 (H.R. 2845), which became law last January and was largely based on legislation Rockefeller cosponsored. This forum will also provide an opportunity to review the findings of a Government Accountability Office study, expected on January 25, about the ability of transmission pipeline facility operators to respond to a hazardous liquid or gas release.

Low Strength X70 & X80 Linepipe

- Advisory Bulletin (PHMSA 2009-1048)
- Hydrostatic test failures
Low Strength Bends & Fittings

Hydrotest failure at 80% of test pressure
Misalignment at Segmented Bend
Weld Inspection

- Visual Inspection (VT)
- Non-destructive Testing (NDT)
Crack Detection with Radiographic Testing (RT)

Gamma Ray

X-Ray
Proposed Rulemaking

- PHMSA issued Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Nov 29, 2011
- Docket PHMSA-2010-0026 in www.regulations.gov
- Proposal intends to address inconsistencies and clarify the existing regulations
- Comments are still welcome on the docket
- See docket for all proposals and comments. Some proposals include...
§192.3 Definitions

Proposed change:

Welder means a person who performs manual or semi-automatic welding.

Welding Operator means a person who operates machine or automatic welding equipment.
§192.225(a)

Proposed change:

Welding must be performed by a qualified welder or welding operator in accordance with welding procedures qualified under section 5 of in accordance with API 1104 (incorporated by reference, see § 192.7) or section IX of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code ‘‘Welding and Brazing Qualifications’’ (incorporated by reference, see § 192.7) to produce welds which meet the requirements of this subpart...
§192.227(a)

Proposed change:

Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, each welder or welding operator must be qualified in accordance with section 6, 12, or 13 of API 1104 (incorporated by reference, see § 192.7) or section IX of the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (incorporated by reference, see § 192.7).
§192.229

Proposed change:

(a) No welder or welding operator whose qualification is based on nondestructive testing may weld compressor station pipe and components.

(b) A welder or welding operator may not weld with a particular welding process unless, within the preceding 6 calendar months, the welder or welding operator has engaged in welding with that process.

(c) A welder or welding operator qualified under §192.227(a)—…
§192.241(c)

Proposed change to clarify Appendix A use:

The acceptability of a weld that is nondestructively tested or visually inspected is determined according to the standards in Section 9 or Appendix A of API Standard 1104 (incorporated by reference, see §192.7). However, if a girth weld is unacceptable under those standards for a reason other than a crack, and if Appendix A to API 1104 applies to the weld, the acceptability of the weld may be further determined under that appendix.
Comments received

- Code should also allow extension of welder qualification for Appendix A production welds, in addition to Section 9 workmanship welds.

- For welding operators, only reference Section 12, not Section 13.

- Appendix B should be referenced for in-service welding (will be considered for future rulemaking)
PHMSA – links

http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/ptr.htm

- Alternative MAOP
- Cased Crossings & Guided Wave Ultrasonics (GWUT)
- Class Location Special Permits
- Control Room Management (CRM)
- Gas Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP)
- Gas Transmission Integrity Management (GT IM)
- Hazardous Liquid Integrity Management (HL IM)
- High Volume Excess Flow Valves (EFV)
- Low Strength Pipe
- Operator Qualification (OQ)
- Pipeline Construction
- Research & Development (R&D)
- Public Meetings
Thank you

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