reductions in costs, and also may help to reveal product mix and technology application trends during model years for which the agency is currently receiving actual corporate average fuel economy (CAFE) compliance data. Information regarding later model years helps the agency gain a better understanding of how manufacturers’ plans through MY 2025 relate to their longer-term expectations regarding Energy Independence and Security Act requirements, market trends and prospects for more advanced technologies.

NHTSA will also consider information from model years before and after MYs 2016–2025 when reviewing manufacturers’ planned schedules for redesigning and freshening their products in order to examine how manufacturers anticipate using technology introduction to product design schedules. In addition, the agency is requesting information regarding manufacturers’ estimates of the future vehicle population, and fuel economy improvements and incremental costs attributed to this notice.

Affected Public: Automobile manufacturers.

Number of Respondents: 30.
Number of Responses: 30.

Total Annual Burden Hours: Reports are requested from each of the thirty automotive manufacturers. For each manufacturer who supplies product plan reports, NHTSA has made available a product plan template, which can be found at: http://www.nhtsa.gov/Laws & Regulations/CAFE++Fuel+Economy/Current+and+past+product+plan+requests.

NHTSA currently has a clearance for 16,000 hours, based on reports being received from 22 manufacturers. Including reports from eight additional manufacturers, most of which produce approximately 500 vehicles per year, results in an additional reporting burden of 500 hours. Adding that burden to the existing burden of 16,000, results in a total reporting burden of 16,500 hours. The information requested in the templates may change from request to request as new fuel economy technologies are implemented, which may increase the amount of information requested, and as older technologies are phased out, which may decrease the amount of information requested. Therefore, the time needed to complete the templates may vary for each product plan request. Although the reporting burden may not be precisely 16,500 hours for each specific product plan request, NHTSA believes that, based on prior experience, that this burden is representative and accurate for the purposes of this clearance.

Frequency of Collection: Manufacturer product plans are requested each time that NHTSA initiates a rulemaking for light-duty fuel economy standards. These standards may be issued for a one to five year time frame; thus, manufacturers would be expected to provide these reports every one to five years. Recent NHTSA rulemakings have typically ranged between three and five years. NHTSA generally requests product plans prior to issuing a notice of proposed rulemaking and prior to the issuance of a final rule. Since the gap between the two rules generally is less than a year, manufacturers would be expected to provide two reports for each rulemaking cycle.

ADDRESS: Send comments regarding the burden estimate, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503. Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department’s estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.


Issued on: November 15, 2012.

Christopher J. Bonanti, Associate Administrator for Rulemaking.

[FR Doc. 2012–28305 Filed 11–20–12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

[Docket No. PHMSA–2012–0301; Notice No. 12–10]

Assessment of Hazardous Materials Incident Data Collection, Analysis, Reporting, and Use

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice is a request for comments and information to be used for an assessment to improve the collection, analysis, reporting, and use of data related to accidents and incidents involving the transportation of hazardous materials. This notice is being conducted in support of the “Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century” (MAP–21) Act.

DATES: Comments must be received by December 28, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by identification of the docket number (PHMSA–2012–12–10) by any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
  • Fax: 1–202–493–2251.
  • Hand Delivery: To Docket Operations, Room W12–140 on the ground floor of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: All submissions must include the agency name and docket number for this notice at the beginning of the comment. All comments received will be posted without change to the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS), including any personal information.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to http://www.regulations.gov or DOT’s Docket Operations Office (see ADDRESSES).

Privacy Act: 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 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477–78).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David Lehman or Ms. Yolanda Braxton, Office of Hazardous Materials Safety, Department of Transportation, Washington, DC 20590; (202) 366–1074.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

PHMSA, and its predecessor agency the Research and Special Programs
Administration (RSPA), have collected hazardous materials incident reports for over 40 years. The Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171–180) establish requirements for an immediate report (see §171.15) and a detailed incident report (Form DOT F5800.1; see §171.16). Over 500,000 detailed incident reports have been collected over time. The incident data and information is generally used by PHMSA to:

1. Evaluate regulatory effectiveness;
2. Determine the need for regulatory changes to address changing transportation safety problems;
3. Identify major problem or risk areas that should receive priority attention;
4. Chart trends;
5. Identify problems and training inadequacies;
6. Evaluate packages and packaging;
7. Assess ways to reduce releases;
8. Aid the targeting of enforcement activities; and
9. Assist in evaluating fitness for special permits and approvals.

II. Purpose of This Notice

Section 33006(a) of MAP–21 (Pub. L. 112–141 § 33006(a), 126 Stat. 835, July 6, 2012) requires the Department to conduct an assessment to improve the collection, analysis, reporting, and use of data related to accidents and incidents involving the transportation of hazardous materials. Section 33006(b) requires the Department to rely on the results of the assessment to develop an action plan and timeline for improving the collection, analysis, reporting, and use of data related to accidents and incidents involving the transportation of hazardous materials.

The provisions of MAP–21 set an expedited timeline, with the assessment due not later than six months after the date of enactment (§ 33006(a)) and the action plan due three months after (§33006(b)). Upon completion of the action plan and timeline the agency has fifteen days to submit them to Congress (§33006(c)). In this notice, PHMSA is soliciting information, comments, and inputs related to the required elements of the assessment contained in MAP–21. Specifically, please provide comments on your view of the methods used by PHMSA to collect, analyze, report, and use data. Also, please provide comments on the adequacy of and suggestions for improvement to:

1. Information requested on the accident and incident reporting forms required to be submitted to PHMSA;
2. Methods used by PHMSA to verify that the information provided on such forms is accurate and complete;
3. Accident and incident reporting requirements, including whether such requirements should be expanded to include shippers and consignees of hazardous materials;
4. Resources of PHMSA related to data collection, analysis, and reporting, including staff and information technology; and
5. The database used by PHMSA for recording and reporting such accidents and incidents, including the ability of users to adequately search the database and find information.


Magdy El-Sibaie,
Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

[FR Doc. 2012–28245 Filed 11–20–12; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910–60–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
[Docket No. PHMSA–2009–0126; Notice No. 12–12]

Advisory Notice: Notice of Intent To Provide Compliance Date Extension for Air-Passenger Notification of Hazardous Material Restrictions

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

ACTION: Advisory notice.

SUMMARY: PHMSA and the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) Office of Security and Hazardous Materials Safety hereby provide notification of our intent to extend the compliance date for certain provisions adopted in a January 19, 2011 final rule (PHMSA–2009–0126; 76 FR 3308) by no less than one year beyond the current January 1, 2013 compliance date in a future rulemaking action. This notice is intended to provide the widest dissemination of our planned future action to all potentially affected parties and to allow for development of a collaborative approach to implementing air-passenger notifications between interested government, commercial, and private entities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Stevens, Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Standards and Rulemaking Division (PHF–10), (202) 366–8553, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 175.25 of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171–180) prescribes the requirements for air-passenger notification of hazardous materials restrictions. One primary purpose for this regulation is to enhance public safety awareness regarding the carriage of hazardous materials onboard aircraft, either as carry-on items or in checked baggage. Improved public safety awareness facilitates passenger compliance with applicable regulatory requirements, thus enhancing overall aviation safety by reducing the likelihood of inappropriate items being transported onboard aircraft. On January 19, 2011, PHMSA amended 49 CFR 175.25 (PHMSA–2009–0126; 76 FR 3308). The amendments included requirements for passenger notification during ticket purchase and flight check-in, and are effective January 1, 2013. While PHMSA has the primary responsibility for issuing 49 CFR regulations, the FAA has primary responsibility for overseeing compliance with these regulations as they pertain to air transport. Since publication of the January 19, 2011 final rule, PHMSA and the FAA have received numerous inquiries regarding specific interpretations of the amended requirements and the acceptability of certain means of compliance with the revised regulations. This notice responds to administrative appeals that request up to a two-year extension of the compliance date of the adopted passenger notification provisions under §175.25 of the HMR.

II. Public Meeting

Subsequent to issuance of the January 19, 2011 final rule, PHMSA and the FAA received numerous written and oral comments requesting additional time for affected entities to implement the new provisions in a more effective and cooperative manner. As a result, a public meeting was held on August 16, 2012, in Washington, DC, to discuss issues and concerns of participants and regulators alike. Consequently, PHMSA and the FAA jointly announced that we seek further collaboration with the air-passenger transportation community in defining what constitutes compliance with the new provisions, to reduce or eliminate any ambiguities, and to bring more transparency to the process.

III. Conclusion

PHMSA and FAA agree that delaying the full compliance date of revised §175.25 is warranted, particularly if a