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ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
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March 22, 2016

The Honorable Marie Therese Dominguez
Administrator
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Dominguez:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Energy and Power on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, to testify at the hearing entitled "Legislative Hearing to Examine Pipeline Safety Reauthorization."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions and requests with a transmittal letter by the close of business on April 5, 2016. Your responses should be mailed to Will Batson, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Will.Batson@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Ed Whitfield
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Power

cc: The Honorable Bobby Rush, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Power

Attachment

Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Lois Capps

1. Administrator Dominguez, please elaborate on the various mechanisms that PHMSA currently has to mandate increased frequency (e.g., more frequent than once per five year in a high consequence area) of inspections for individual pipelines?
 - A. Are there specific triggers, such as a history of increasing anomalies that automatically result in increased inspection frequencies?
 - B. How many times has PHMSA required increased inspection frequency in the last ten years and can you please provide several examples?
2. Please provide examples of the type of incidents that would warrant issuing an Emergency Order if PHMSA were granted this authority. For example, could the understanding that insulated pipes are more prone to corrosion be addressed using an Emergency Order?
3. Are operators required to provide interim confirmation that spill response plans are up to date between required update intervals?
4. Can you tell me both the number of pipelines and the total mileage of pipelines in coastal areas?
 - A. Are any of these coastal pipelines not in designated high consequence areas?
5. Can you please elaborate on what records are available in the public database and on how the public can gain access to these documents?
 - A. Are In-Line Inspection reports available in the PHMSA Public Database, including anomaly reports, corrective action requirements, and confirmation that anomalies are addressed?
 - B. Are any additional steps taken to ensure the information is easily accessible and understandable such as a summary?
 - C. Can you provide statistics on the use of this database or a sense of the ease of accessing this repository?