

# Plastic Pipe Rulemaking NPRM Brief

August 26, 2015

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# NPRM Publication

- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published May 21, 2015 (80 FR 29263)
  - Comment Period Closed Friday, July 31, 2015
- Comments received from 39 entities
  - 15 Operators
  - 8 Trade Associations
  - 6 Manufacturers
  - 5 Private Citizens
  - 3 Consultants
  - 2 Gov't Entities
  - 1 Citizen Group
  - 1 Pipeline Service Company



# Focus of Rulemaking/ Rationale

- Gas (Part 192)
  - Transmission, Distribution, Gathering lines
  - Plastic Pipe
- Rationale for Rule
  - Staff Recommendations
  - Petitions
    - AGA/GPTC (PE),
    - Evonik-Degussa/UBE (PA-12)
    - Arkema (PA-11)
    - NAPSIR Petition (50 year marking)



# Issues

- A. Tracking and Traceability
- B. Design Factor for PE
- C. Expanded use of PA11
- D. Incorporation of PA12
- E. Risers
- F. Fittings
- G. Plastic Pipe Installation
- H. Repairs
- I. General Provisions



# A. Tracking and Traceability

**Summary:** Require operators to incorporate tracking and traceability mechanism. Incorporate new standard for tracking and traceability. This will require operators to maintain information from the standard (relative to the pipe and components) and the person who installed the pipe. These revisions will address permanent markings.

**Impacted Entities:** All operators (new/repairs/replacements)



# B. Design Factor for PE

**Summary:** This provision will allow for an increased design factor from 0.32 to 0.4. The result of this provision will allow for the use of either thinner wall pipe or higher volume in the same size pipe, potentially resulting in lower costs due to an allowance for less material in the manufacturing process.

**Impacted Entities:** All operators (new/replaced pipe)



## C. Expanded use of PA11

**Summary:** This provision will revise regs to allow use of PA11 at higher pressures (with 0.4 Design Factor (no change), not to exceed 250 psig while the current limit is 200 psig) and sizes (up to 6” pipe while the current limit is 4”).

**Impacted Entities:** All operators (new/replaced pipe)



# D. Incorporate use of PA12

**Summary:** This provision will revise regs to allow PA12 to allow use at pressures (w/ 0.4 Design Factor, not to exceed 250 psig) and sizes (not to exceed 6" pipe).

**Impacted Entities:** All operators (new/replaced pipe)





# E. Risers

**Summary:** Incorporate requirements regarding design, installation and support for risers. (new § 192.204 for risers used for transmission/mains at regulator stations and farm taps; and a new § 192.380 for service lines.)

**Impacted Entities:** Primarily Distribution Operators

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# F. Fittings (Category 1)

**Summary:** Require use of fittings that are designed/tested to provide seal and resist pullout. (Category 1 fittings per ASTM standards).

**Impacted Entities:** All operators (new/replaced/repair pipelines)



# G. Plastic Pipe Installation

**Summary:** Revise plastic pipe installation requirements (§ 192.321) to include; adding protection requirements for encased plastic pipe; requirements for trenchless excavations; forbidding mechanical joints on bridge installations, and adding backfill requirements to limit size of rocks and incorporate certain compacting requirements.

**Impacted Entities:** All operators (new/replaced/repair pipelines)



# H. Repairs

**Summary:** Revise plastic pipe repair requirements (§ 192.311) to include replacement requirement for pipe w/ scratches/gouges that exceed 10% of wall thickness and prohibit permanent use of leak repair clamps.

**Impacted Entities:** All operators (new/replaced/repair pipelines)



# I. General Provisions

**Summary:** Contains some basic provisions such as listing all of the standards that are being proposed for incorporation by reference including specifications for components. This area also contains proposed revisions relative to plastic pipe material provisions, storage & handling, gathering lines, and testing requirements.

**Impacted Entities:** All operators (new/replaced/repair pipelines)



# Next Steps

- **Continue Summarizing Comments**
- **Advisory Committee Meeting (vote)**
- **Draft Final Rule**
- **Publish Final Rule**



# Questions?

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