




Pipeline Safety Trust - Comments

This is a Comment on the **Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) Notice: Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: Pipeline Safety**

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Comment Period Closes

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Comment

The Pipeline Safety Trust (PST) has reviewed Docket No. PHMSA-2013-0137 and submits the following comments related to information collection activities specific to the National Pipeline Mapping Program/System. PST supports the National Pipeline Mapping System as it is a valuable resource for the public. There are ways this information can be improved, however, and PST asks the following suggestions be considered. The accuracy of the data is not high enough to adequately assist local communities who are planning or preparing for potential emergencies; PST asks that PHMSA require rather than suggest (use the word "must" rather than the word "should") the information to be updated annually by pipeline companies. Currently, not all High Consequence Areas are viewable on the maps (e.g. those designated near hazardous liquid pipelines due to environmental considerations); this is also problematic and needs to be changed, with information and data gathered from pipeline companies that allows the public to view pipelines including their location within any HCA with a much higher level of accuracy. Lastly, NTSB (P-11-1) recommends to PHMSA that pipeline operators share "...system-specific information, including pipe diameter, operating pressure, product transported, and potential impact radius, about their pipeline systems..."; PST believes that doing so through data requested for the National Pipeline Mapping System - and subsequently including the information on that system - would be a very good way to make this important data accessible to those who need it most - the emergency management and planning professionals in the local communities through which pipelines run.

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