

Arguments that only a small number of vehicles or pieces of motor vehicle equipment are affected generally will not justify granting a petition. But, more importantly, the key issue is whether the noncompliance is likely to increase the safety risk to occupants. *Cosco, Inc.; Denial of Application for Inconsequential Noncompliance*, 64 FR 29408 (June 1, 1999). In this instance, we conclude that the noncompliance is likely to increase a safety risk to users of the restraint system.

In consideration of the foregoing, it is hereby found that the applicant has failed to meet its burden of persuasion that the noncompliance herein described is inconsequential to safety, and its application is denied.

(49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.50 and 49 CFR 501.8)

Issued on: August 13, 2001.

**Stephen R. Kratzke,**

*Associate Administrator for Safety Performance Standards.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-59-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA)

[Docket No. RSPA-98-4470]

#### Pipeline Safety: Meeting of Gas Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Office of Pipeline Safety, Research and Special Programs Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of technical pipeline safety standards advisory committee meeting (TPSSC).

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 5 U.S.C. App. 1) notice is given of a public meeting of the Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee (TPSSC) to be conducted by the Research and Special Programs Administration's (RSPA), Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS). The meeting will be held on Thursday, September 13, 2001 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The TPSSC is a statutorily mandated advisory committee that advises RSPA on proposed safety standards for gas pipelines. The committee consists of 15 members—five each representing government, industry, and the public.

On July 27, 2001, RSPA issued a notice of request for comments, "Pipeline Safety: Integrity Management in High Consequence Areas (Gas Transmission Pipelines)," (66 FR 34318). RSPA sought further information and clarification, and

invited further public comment about integrity management concepts as they relate to gas pipelines. A copy of the notice and comments received in docket number RSPA 00-7666 are available over the Internet from the DOT Dockets Management System <http://dms.dot.gov>. To prepare the TPSSC for future consideration of proposed rules on integrity management programs for gas pipelines, RSPA will brief the Committee on integrity management concepts for gas pipelines and on the comments received in response to the notice.

Discussions will be focused on a summary of comments on the seven elements described in the notice:

1. Defining high consequence areas.
2. Identifying and evaluating threats to pipeline integrity.
3. Selecting the assessment technologies.
4. Determining time frames to conduct a baseline integrity assessment and to make repairs.
5. Identifying and implementing additional preventive and mitigative measures.
6. Continually evaluating and reassessing pipeline segments.
7. Monitoring the effectiveness of the management process.

In addition, the TPSSC will be briefed on the progress of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers' B31.8 Committee on the Integrity Management Standard. This new standard will outline the technical guidance for implementation of an operator's integrity management plan, including data management, quality control, management of change and communication.

#### *Information on Services for Individuals With Disabilities*

For information on facilities or services for individuals with disabilities or to request special assistance at the meeting, contact Juan Carlos Martinez at (202) 366-1933.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cheryl Whetsel, OPS, (202) 366-4431 or Richard Huriaux, OPS, (202) 366-4565, regarding the subject matter of this notice.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Members of the public may attend the meeting in person at Dulles Airport Marriott, 45020 Aviation Drive, Dulles, VA 20166; phone (703) 471-9500. Due to limited space, anyone wishing to attend or participate should notify Juan Carlos Martinez, at (202) 366-1933, not later than August 30, 2001.

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 60102, 60115.

Issued in Washington, DC on August 10, 2001.

**Stacey L. Gerard,**

*Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.*

[FR Doc. 01-20634 Filed 8-15-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 34078]

#### **Carrizo Gorge Railway Inc.-Operation Exemption-Line of San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway Company and San Diego & Imperial Valley Railroad Company, Inc**

Carrizo Gorge Railway Inc. (CZRY), a noncarrier, has filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to operate approximately 6.2 miles of rail line currently owned by San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway Company (SD&AE) and controlled through management by San Diego & Imperial Valley Railroad Company, Inc. (SDIY). The rail line extends between the International Border between the United States and Mexico, milepost 59.60 at Division, CA, and milepost 65.80 at Campo, CA (subject line).<sup>1</sup>

CZRY states that, for 17 years until July 1, 2001, pursuant to an operation and management agreement with SD&AE, SDIY provided freight service over a rail line that extends a distance of approximately 130 miles between San Diego, CA, and a point near Plaster City, CA (the San Diego-Plaster City line), including the Tijuana and Tecate Railroad (T&T), with approximately 45 miles of that line located in Mexico.<sup>2</sup> See *San Diego & Imperial Valley R. Co., Inc.—Exemption*, 1 I.C.C.2d 941 (1985). CZRY further states that, effective July 1, 2001, a unit of the Mexican government awarded it the right to operate the T&T.

CZRY indicates that it and SDIY have entered into an Interchange Agreement (Agreement), as of June 28, 2001, whereby CZRY is authorized to operate the subject line for the purpose of interchanging traffic that originated or will terminate in Mexico with SDIY.

<sup>1</sup> SD&AE is owned by the San Diego Metropolitan Transit Development Board, a noncarrier public agency which operates light rail passenger transit service over a portion of the San Diego-Plaster City line between San Diego, CA, and the International Border between the United States and Mexico at San Ysidro, CA/Tijuana, MX.

<sup>2</sup> See *San Diego & Imperial Valley Railroad Company, Inc.—Exemption From 49 U.S.C. 10901 and 11301*, Finance Docket No. 30457 (ICC served Aug. 17, 1984).

<sup>3</sup> The Board has no jurisdiction over track located in Mexico. *Id.* at n.3.