

particular meeting room will be posted by the hotel the day of the meeting.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mike Khayata, OPS, (404) 832-1155 or Rita Freeman-Kelly, OPS (202) 366-5443 about the subject matter in this notice.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Integrity Management Program**

The nation's existing pipeline infrastructure requires regular safety and environmental reviews to ensure its reliability and safety. To further strengthen safety of the pipeline infrastructure and following pipeline ruptures in Bellingham, Washington, and Carlsbad, New Mexico, OPS developed the integrity management program (IMP) requirements. OPS amended 49 CFR part 195 to require operators of pipelines transporting hazardous liquid pipeline facilities to ensure the integrity of pipeline segments that, in the event of a leak or rupture, could impact High Consequence Areas (HCAs), which are populated areas, areas unusually sensitive to environmental damage, and commercially navigable waterways. As part of the IMP requirements operators must (1) identify HCAs relevant to their pipelines; (2) systematically identify risks to those segments of pipelines that could affect HCAs; and (3) address those risks through specified methods.

While OPS was developing the gas IMP requirements, Congress passed the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (PSIA), (Pub. L. 107-355; codified at 49 U.S.C. 60101 *et seq.*). The PSIA mandated that PHMSA (formerly the Research and Special Programs Administration) adopt regulations for gas integrity management. The regulations addressing gas integrity management programs are addressed in 49 CFR part 192, subpart O.

Both the liquid and gas IMP requirements establish a timetable for the initial inspection and periodic re-inspection of pipelines. Pipeline defects are categorized according to detailed IMP criteria, with specific repair actions and timeframes for each, depending on the severity of the defect. OPS designed its approach to achieve greater safety by establishing performance-based requirements that allow operators to determine the most appropriate inspection processes and technologies to use in their integrity management programs.

Operators now have some experience with IMP and have expressed concerns to OPS about their ability to make repairs within the required timeframes.

**Permit Streamlining**

Section 16 of the PSIA directed Federal agencies with responsibility over pipeline repairs to participate in an Interagency Committee (IAC) and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to provide a coordinated and expedited pipeline repair permit review process. In 2003, the IAC was established to implement a coordinated environmental review and permitting process that allows pipeline repairs to be completed within the timeframes specified in 49 CFR parts 192 and 195.

The IAC, organized by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) (which oversees and assists all IAC member Federal agencies with their efforts to expedite their review of permits), includes representatives of Federal agencies with responsibilities for pipeline repair projects. In June 2004, participating Federal agencies signed the MOU on "Coordination of Environmental Reviews for Pipeline Repair Projects." The MOU identifies the roles and responsibilities of each party, thereby improving the permitting process coordination. In signing this MOU, the IAC intends to expedite the environmental permit process while maintaining safety, public health, and environmental protections. The IAC therefore recognizes that early planning, notice, and consultation among pipeline operators and various Federal agencies can result in timely decisions enabling critical repair actions to move forward within the context of resource conservation.

During the June 2004 Oversight Hearing on Pipeline Safety, CEQ Chairman James Connaughton identified four initiatives that the IAC would explore to improve the permit streamlining process: (1) Early consultation and coordination to minimize impacts on energy supply and price; (2) consolidation of existing permitting processes; and (3) adoption of best practices for repairs and consideration of categorical exclusions under the National Environmental Policy Act; and (4) identification of instances where permit delays, specific issues, and additional authorizations prevent time-sensitive repairs under current regulations. Improving the process will help ensure that timely decisions are made to enable pipeline repairs to occur within the time periods specified by 49 CFR Parts 192 and 195, while ensuring the environmental review and permitting responsibilities of participating Federal agencies are achieved.

During the meeting, OPS would like participants to discuss the repair

process, repair criteria, and the agency permitting process. During the discussion on the repair process, and in exploring ways to streamline the permit process, OPS would like participants to share the type of experience they have had with the repair process, *e.g.*, pipeline assessment, excavations, and nature of repairs. For the repair criteria, OPS would like participants to describe their experience with factors that allow them to meet or prevent them from meeting the repair criteria defined in the gas or hazardous liquid IMP regulations. OPS would also like participants to share their experience with the Federal permitting process, such as the type of permits requested, and the average time it takes to obtain permits.

The agenda for this meeting will include a discussion on:

- Repair Process
- Repair Criteria
- Agency Permitting Process

OPS plans to establish a docket and place the record of the meeting in the docket (<http://www.dms.gov>). Interested persons may also submit their views to the docket following the meeting.

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 60102 and 60133.

Issued in Washington, DC on April 6, 2005.

**Theodore L. Willke,**

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.*

[FR Doc. 05-7267 Filed 4-6-05; 3:46 pm]

**BILLING CODE 4910-60-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY**

**Fiscal Service**

**Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds: Companion Property and Casualty Insurance Company**

**AGENCY:** Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is Supplement No. 10 to the Treasury Department Circular 570; 2004 Revision, published July 1, 2004, at 69 FR 40224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874-6850.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds is hereby issued to the following Company under 31 U.S.C. 9304 to 9308. Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular 570, 2004 Revision, on page 40233 to reflect this addition: *Company Name:* Companion Property and Casualty Insurance Company. *Business Address:*

P.O. Box 100165, Columbia, South Carolina 29202. *Phone:* (803) 735-0672. *Underwriting Limitation b/:* \$8,614,000. *Surety Licenses c/:* AR, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, MD, MS, NJ, NC, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WI. *Incorporated In:* South Carolina.

Certificates of Authority expire on June 30 each year, unless revoked prior to that date. The Certificates are subject to subsequent annual renewal as long as the companies remain qualified (31 CFR part 223). A list of qualified companies is published annually as of July 1 in Treasury Department Circular 570, with details as to underwriting limitations, areas in which licensed to transact surety business and other information.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet at <http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570>. A hard copy may be purchased from the Government Printing Office (GPO) Subscription Service, Washington, DC, Telephone (202) 512-1800. When ordering the Circular from GPO, use the following stock number: 769-004-04926-1.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F07, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Dated: April 1, 2005.

**Vivian L. Cooper,**

*Director, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Financial Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 05-7169 Filed 4-8-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-35-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### **Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds: Endurance Reinsurance Corporation of America**

**AGENCY:** Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is Supplement No. 9 to the Treasury Department Circular 570; 2004 Revision, published July 1, 2004, at 69 FR 40224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874-6915.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds is hereby issued to the following Company under 31 U.S.C. 9304 to 9308. Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular

570, 2004 Revision, on page 40235 to reflect this addition: *Company Name:* Endurance Reinsurance Corporation of America. *Business Address:* 333 Westchester Avenue, White Plains, New York 10604. *Phone:* (914) 468-8000.

*Underwriting Limitation b/:* \$50,446,000. *Surety Licenses c/:* IN, KS, NE, NM, NY, ND, OH, OR, PA, SC, TX, UT, WV. *Incorporated in:* New York.

Certificates of Authority expire on June 30 each year, unless revoked prior to that date. The Certificates are subject to subsequent annual renewal as long as the companies remain qualified (31 CFR part 223). A list of qualified companies is published annually as of July 1 in Treasury Department Circular 570, with details as to underwriting limitations, areas in which licensed to transact surety business and other information.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the internet at <http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570>. A hard copy may be purchased from the Government Printing Office (GPO) Subscription Service, Washington, DC, Telephone (202) 512-1800. When ordering the Circular from GPO, use the following stock number: 769-004-04643-2.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F07, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Dated: April 1, 2005.

**Vivian L. Cooper,**

*Director, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Financial Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 05-7170 Filed 4-8-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-35-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### **Surety Company Acceptable on Federal Bonds: First Founders Assurance Company**

**AGENCY:** Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is Supplement No. 8 to the Treasury Department Circular 570; 2004 Revision, published July 1, 2004, at 69 FR 40224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874-6850.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds is hereby issued to the following Company under

31 U.S.C. 9304 to 9308. Federal bond-approving officers should annotate their reference copies of the Treasury Circular 570, 2004 Revision, on page 40238 to reflect this addition: First Founders Assurance Company. *Business Address:* 720 Palisades Avenue, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632. *Phone:* (201) 568-2810. *Underwriting limitation b/:* \$231,000. *Surety Licenses c/:* NJ. *Incorporated In:* New Jersey.

Certificates of Authority expire on June 30 each year, unless revoked prior to that date. The Certificates are subject to subsequent annual renewal as long as the companies remain qualified (31 CFR part 223). A list of qualified companies are published annually as of July 1 in Treasury Department Circular 570, with details as to underwriting limitations, areas in which licensed to transact surety business and other information.

The Circular may be viewed and downloaded through the Internet at <http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570>. A hard copy may be purchased from the Government Printing Office (GPO) Subscription Service, Washington, DC, Telephone (202) 512-1800. When ordering the Circular from GPO, use the following stock number: 769-004-04926-1.

Questions concerning this Notice may be directed to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Surety Bond Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 6F07, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Dated: March 25, 2005.

**Vivian L. Cooper,**

*Director, Financial Accounting and Services Division, Financial Management Service.*

[FR Doc. 05-7171 Filed 4-8-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-35-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Fiscal Service

#### **Surety Companies Acceptable on Federal Bonds: Stonebridge Casualty Insurance Company**

**AGENCY:** Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Department of the Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This is Supplement No. 7 to the Treasury Department Circular 570; 2004 Revision, published July 1, 2004, at 69 FR 40224.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Surety Bond Branch at (202) 874-6915.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A Certificate of Authority as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds is hereby