



July 21, 2015

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Cameron Satterthwaite
Transportation Specialist
U.S. Department of Transportation
Docket Operations, M-30, Room W12-140,
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Re: Docket No. PHMSA-2014-0098: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Pipeline Safety: Plastic Pipe Rule; Federal Register Vol. 80, No. 98 (Thursday, May 21, 2015) RIN 2137-AE93

GPA has served the U.S. energy industry since 1921 as an incorporated non-profit trade association. GPA is composed of 122 corporate members of all sizes that are engaged in the gathering and processing of natural gas into merchantable pipeline gas, commonly referred to in the industry as “midstream activities.” Such processing includes the removal of impurities from the raw gas stream produced at the wellhead, as well as the extraction for sale of natural gas liquid products (NGLs) such as ethane, propane, butane and natural gasoline. GPA members account for more than 90 percent of the NGLs produced in the United States from natural gas processing. Our members also operate hundreds of thousands of miles of domestic gas gathering lines and are involved with storing, transporting, and marketing natural gas and NGLs.

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is proposing a package of nine provisions which will change portions of the plastic pipe regulations. The proposed changes to 49 CFR Part 192 are designed to update the pipeline safety regulations (PSR) as they relate to plastic pipe. GPA members could be substantially impacted by this proposal. The proposal creates a number of technical scenarios for that we are still evaluating.

GPA respectfully requests that the comment period be extended by at least 30 days in order to fully and accurately evaluate its impact on our members. The additional time will allow GPA to accurately report the proposed rules’ impact on

the natural gas midstream sector and more specifically it's' impact on gathering systems.

Thank you for your consideration of our request to extend the comment period by 30 days. If you have any questions, I can be reached at (202)279-1664 or mhite@gpaglobal.org.

Sincerely,

Matthew Hite
Vice President of Government Affairs
Gas Processors Association