

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

**Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods**

25 September 2017

Geneva, 19–29 September 2017

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Harmonization with the United Nations

recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

**Further information related to paper
ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2017/34**

Transmitted by the Government of the United States

1. With respect to document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2017/14 and related INF.40 considered during the Joint Meeting's present session, this is to provide an update on progress within the United States to further facilitate the safe transport to and from the United States of gases in pressure receptacles conforming to RID/ADR.
 2. On February 21, 2017, the Compressed Gas Association (CGA) submitted a "petition for rulemaking" (P-1701, see <https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=PHMSA-2017-0026>) to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration requesting that the U.S. Hazardous Materials Regulations be revised to permit the import of filled "pi marked" foreign pressure receptacles for intermediate storage, transport to point of use, discharge, and export without further filling as well as the import of certain pi marked foreign pressure receptacles for the purpose of filling, intermediate storage, and export.
 3. The petition for rulemaking has been assessed and based on a positive initial safety and economic evaluation, has been accepted for consideration in a future rulemaking (see attached acceptance letter). The Joint Meeting will be informed as this issue is progressed.
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U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

SEP 21 2017

Richard Craig
Technical Director
Compressed Gas Association, Inc.
14501 George Carter Way, Suite 103
Chantilly, VA 20151

Dear Mr. Craig:

This letter responds to your February 21, 2017, petition for rulemaking (P-1701) requesting changes to the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180) applicable to pi-marked foreign pressure vessels. Specifically, you have petitioned the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to revise §§ 171.23, 173.302, and 173.304 to permit the import of filled pi-marked foreign pressure receptacles for intermediate storage, transport to point of use, discharge, and export without further filling, as well as the import of certain pi-marked foreign pressure receptacles for the purpose of filling, intermediate storage, and export.

In accordance with § 106.105, PHMSA has assessed your petition and determined that your request merits consideration in a future rulemaking. All correspondence pertaining to this petition will be transferred to the petition docket (Docket No. PHMSA-2017-0026). You may comment on the petition in accordance with the procedures specified in Part 106, Subpart B.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Steven Andrews in the Standards and Rulemaking Division at (202) 366-8553.

Sincerely,

Shane Kelly
Acting Director,
Standards and Rulemaking Division
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards