

an owner or operator of a pipeline facility that exceeds the build-up allowed for operation of pressure-limiting or control devices, the owner or operator shall report the exceedance to the Secretary and appropriate State authorities on or before the 5th day following the date on which the exceedance occurs.

(c) DETERMINATION OF MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE OPERATING PRESSURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a transmission line of an owner or operator of a pipeline facility identified under subsection (b)(1), the Secretary shall—

(A) require the owner or operator to reconfirm a maximum allowable operating pressure as expeditiously as economically feasible; and

(B) determine what actions are appropriate for the pipeline owner or operator to take to maintain safety until a maximum allowable operating pressure is confirmed.

(2) INTERIM ACTIONS.—In determining the actions for an owner or operator of a pipeline facility to take under paragraph (1)(B), the Secretary shall take into account potential consequences to public safety and the environment, potential impacts on pipeline system reliability and deliverability, and other factors, as appropriate.

(d) TESTING REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall issue regulations for conducting tests to confirm the material strength of previously untested natural gas transmission pipelines located in high-consequence areas and operating at a pressure greater than 30 percent of specified minimum yield strength.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the regulations, the Secretary shall consider safety testing methodologies, including, at a minimum—

(A) pressure testing; and

(B) other alternative methods, including in-line inspections, determined by the Secretary to be of equal or greater effectiveness.

(3) COMPLETION OF TESTING.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and State regulators, as appropriate, shall establish timeframes for the completion of such testing that take into account potential consequences to public safety and the environment and that minimize costs and service disruptions.

(e) HIGH-CONSEQUENCE AREA DEFINED.—In this section, the term “high-consequence area” means an area described in section 60109(a).

(Added Pub. L. 112–90, §23(a), Jan. 3, 2012, 125 Stat. 1918.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this section, referred to in subsecs. (a)(1), (b)(1), and (d)(1), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 112–90, which was approved Jan. 3, 2012.

§ 60140. Cover over buried pipelines

(a) HAZARDOUS LIQUID PIPELINE INCIDENTS INVOLVING BURIED PIPELINES.—

(1) STUDY.—The Secretary of Transportation shall conduct a study of hazardous liquid pipeline incidents at crossings of inland bodies of water with a width of at least 100 feet from high water mark to high water mark to determine if the depth of cover over the buried pipeline was a factor in any accidental release of hazardous liquids.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall transmit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the results of the study.

(b) ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT REQUIREMENTS FOR DEPTH OF COVER OVER BURIED PIPELINES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If, following completion of the study under subsection (a), the Secretary finds that the depth of cover over buried pipelines is a contributing factor in the accidental release of hazardous liquids from the pipelines, the Secretary, not later than 1 year after the date of completion of the study, shall review and determine the sufficiency of current requirements for the depth of cover over buried pipelines.

(2) LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS.—

(A) DEVELOPMENT.—If the Secretary determines under paragraph (1) that the current requirements for the depth of cover over buried pipelines are insufficient, the Secretary shall develop legislative recommendations for improving the safety of buried pipelines at crossings of inland bodies of water with a width of at least 100 feet from high water mark to high water mark.

(B) CONSIDERATION OF FACTORS.—In developing legislative recommendations under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall consider the factors specified in section 60102(b)(2).

(C) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—If the Secretary develops legislative recommendations under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall submit to the committees referred to in subsection (a)(2) a report containing the legislative recommendations.

(Added Pub. L. 112–90, §28(a), Jan. 3, 2012, 125 Stat. 1920.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this section, referred to in subsec. (a)(2), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 112–90, which was approved Jan. 3, 2012.

CHAPTER 603—USER FEES

Sec.
60301. User fees.

§ 60301. User fees

(a) SCHEDULE OF FEES.—The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe a schedule of fees for all natural gas and hazardous liquids transported by pipelines subject to chapter 601 of this title. The fees shall be based on usage (in reasonable relationship to volume-miles, miles, revenues, or a combination of volume-miles,

miles, and revenues) of the pipelines. The Secretary shall consider the allocation of resources of the Department of Transportation when establishing the schedule.

(b) IMPOSITION AND TIME OF COLLECTION.—A fee shall be imposed on each person operating a gas pipeline transmission facility, a liquefied natural gas pipeline facility, or a hazardous liquid pipeline facility to which chapter 601 of this title applies. The fee shall be collected before the end of the fiscal year to which it applies.

(c) MEANS OF COLLECTION.—The Secretary shall prescribe procedures to collect fees under this section. The Secretary may use a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government or of a State or local government to collect the fee and may reimburse the department, agency, or instrumentality a reasonable amount for its services.

(d) USE OF FEES.—A fee collected under this section—

(1)(A) related to a gas pipeline facility may be used only for an activity related to gas under chapter 601 of this title; and

(B) related to a hazardous liquid pipeline facility may be used only for an activity related to hazardous liquid under chapter 601 of this title; and

(2) may be used only to the extent provided in advance in an appropriation law.

(e) LIMITATIONS.—Fees prescribed under subsection (a) of this section shall be sufficient to pay for the costs of activities described in subsection (d) of this section. However, the total amount collected for a fiscal year may not be more than 105 percent of the total amount of the appropriations made for the fiscal year for activities to be financed by the fees.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1328.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
60301(a)	49 App.:1682a(a)(1), (d) (words after "subsection (a) of this section" and before "shall be sufficient").	Apr. 7, 1986, Pub. L. 99-272, §7005, 100 Stat. 140.
60301(b)	49 App.:1682a(a)(3), (b).	
60301(c)	49 App.:1682a(a)(2).	
60301(d)	49 App.:1682a(c).	
60301(e)	49 App.:1682a(d) (less words after "subsection (a) of this section" and before "shall be sufficient").	

In this section, the word "prescribe" is substituted for "establish" for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code.

In subsection (a), the words "(hereafter in this section referred to as the 'Secretary')" and "appropriate" are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b), the words "after September 30, 1985" are omitted as obsolete. The words "imposed on each person" are substituted for "assessed to the persons" for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the Code. The words "the jurisdiction of" and "assess and" are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (c), the words "the services of" are omitted as surplus. The words "department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government" are substituted for "Federal . . . agency or instrumental-

ity" for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the Code.

In subsection (e), the words "by the Secretary" are omitted as surplus. The words "beginning on October 1, 1985" are omitted as executed.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of duties, powers, and authority of Research and Special Programs Administration under this chapter to the Administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, see section 2(b) of Pub. L. 108-426, set out as a note under section 108 of this title.

STUDY AND REPORT ON USER FEE ASSESSMENT FACTORS

Pub. L. 104-304, §17, Oct. 12, 1996, 110 Stat. 3803, provided that:

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 12, 1996], the Secretary of Transportation shall transmit to the Congress a report analyzing the present assessment of pipeline safety user fees solely on the basis of mileage to determine whether—

"(1) that measure of the resources of the Department of Transportation is the most appropriate measure of the resources used by the Department of Transportation in the regulation of pipeline transportation; or

"(2) another basis of assessment would be a more appropriate measure of those resources.

"(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making the report, the Secretary shall consider a wide range of assessment factors and suggestions and comments from the public."

CHAPTER 605—INTERSTATE COMMERCE REGULATION

Sec. 60501.	Secretary of Energy.
60502.	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
60503.	Effect of enactment.

§ 60501. Secretary of Energy

Except as provided in section 60502 of this title, the Secretary of Energy has the duties and powers related to the transportation of oil by pipeline that were vested on October 1, 1977, in the Interstate Commerce Commission or the chairman or a member of the Commission.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1329.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
60501	42:7155. 49:101 (note prec.).	Aug. 4, 1977, Pub. L. 95-91, §306, 91 Stat. 581. Oct. 17, 1978, Pub. L. 95-473, §4(c)(1)(A), (2) (related to §306 of Department of Energy Organization Act), 92 Stat. 1470.

The words "duties and powers . . . that were vested . . . in" are coextensive with, and substituted for, "transferred . . . such functions set forth in the Interstate Commerce Act and vested by law in" for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words. The words "on October 1, 1977" are added to reflect the effective date of the transfer of the duties and powers to the Secretary of Energy.

ABOLITION OF INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION AND TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Interstate Commerce Commission abolished and functions of Commission transferred, except as otherwise provided in Pub. L. 104-88, to Surface Transportation