

“(1) DOT SAFETY REVIEW.—Within 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 24, 1992], the Secretary of Transportation shall conduct a review of Department of Transportation and State rules, policies, procedures, and other measures with respect to the safety of customer-owned natural gas service lines, including the effectiveness of such rules, policies, procedures, and other measures. The Secretary of Transportation shall include in the review an evaluation of the extent to which lack of maintenance of customer-owned natural gas service lines raises safety concerns and shall make recommendations regarding maintenance of such lines, including the need for any legislative changes or regulatory action. In conducting the review and developing the recommendations, the Secretary of Transportation shall consider the following factors: State and local law, including law governing private property and rights, and including State pipeline safety regulation of distribution operators; the views of State and local regulatory authorities; the extent of operator compliance with the program for advising customers regarding maintenance of such lines required under section 18(b) of the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968 [see subsec. (a) of this section]; available accident information; the recommendations of the National Transportation Safety Board; costs; the civil liability implications of distribution operators taking responsibility for customer-owned service lines; and whether the service line maintenance information program required under such section 18(b) sufficiently addresses safety risks and concerns involving customer-owned service lines.

“(2) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY.—Within 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 24, 1992], the Secretary of Transportation shall conduct, with the participation of the operators of natural gas distribution facilities, a survey of owners of customer-owned service lines to determine the views of such owners regarding whether distribution companies should assume responsibility for the operation and maintenance of customer-owned service lines. In conducting the survey, the Secretary of Transportation shall ensure that such customers are aware of any potential safety benefits, any potential implementation issues (including any property rights or cost issues), the recommendations of the National Transportation Safety Board, and accidents that have occurred, related to customer-owned service lines.

“(3) APPLICABILITY.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (relating to coordination of Federal information policy) shall not apply to the conduct of the review or survey under this subsection.

“(4) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 24, 1992], the Secretary of Transportation shall transmit to Congress a report on the results of the review and survey conducted under this subsection, together with any recommendations (including legislative recommendations) regarding maintenance of customer-owned natural gas service lines.”

§ 60114. One-call notification systems

(a) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe regulations providing minimum requirements for establishing and operating a one-call notification system for a State to adopt that will notify an operator of a pipeline facility of activity in the vicinity of the facility that could threaten the safety of the facility. The regulations shall include the following:

(1) a requirement that the system apply to all areas of the State containing underground pipeline facilities.

(2) a requirement that a person, including a government employee or contractor, intending to engage in an activity the Secretary decides

could cause physical damage to an underground facility must contact the appropriate system to establish if there are underground facilities present in the area of the intended activity.

(3) a requirement that all operators of underground pipeline facilities participate in an appropriate one-call notification system.

(4) qualifications for an operator of a facility, a private contractor, or a State or local authority to operate a system.

(5) procedures for advertisement and notice of the availability of a system.

(6) a requirement about the information to be provided by a person contacting the system under clause (2) of this subsection.

(7) a requirement for the response of the operator of the system and of the facility after they are contacted by an individual under this subsection.

(8) a requirement that each State decide whether the system will be toll free.

(9) a requirement for sanctions substantially the same as provided under sections 60120 and 60122 of this title.

(b) MARKING FACILITIES.—On notification by an operator of a damage prevention program or by a person planning to carry out demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction in the vicinity of a pipeline facility, the operator of the facility shall mark accurately, in a reasonable and timely way, the location of the pipeline facilities in the vicinity of the demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction.

(c) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—This section and regulations prescribed under this section do not affect the liability established under a law of the United States or a State for damage caused by an activity described in subsection (a)(2) of this section.

(d) PROHIBITION APPLICABLE TO EXCAVATORS.—A person who engages in demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction—

(1) may not engage in a demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction activity in a State that has adopted a one-call notification system without first using that system to establish the location of underground facilities in the demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction area;

(2) may not engage in such demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction activity in disregard of location information or markings established by a pipeline facility operator pursuant to subsection (b); and

(3) and who causes damage to a pipeline facility that may endanger life or cause serious bodily harm or damage to property—

(A) may not fail to promptly report the damage to the owner or operator of the facility; and

(B) if the damage results in the escape of any flammable, toxic, or corrosive gas or liquid, may not fail to promptly report to other appropriate authorities by calling the 911 emergency telephone number.

(e) PROHIBITION APPLICABLE TO UNDERGROUND PIPELINE FACILITY OWNERS AND OPERATORS.—Any owner or operator of a pipeline facility who fails to respond to a location request in order to

prevent damage to the pipeline facility or who fails to take reasonable steps, in response to such a request, to ensure accurate marking of the location of the pipeline facility in order to prevent damage to the pipeline facility shall be subject to a civil action under section 60120 or assessment of a civil penalty under section 60122.

(f) **LIMITATION.**—The Secretary may not conduct an enforcement proceeding under subsection (d) for a violation within the boundaries of a State that has the authority to impose penalties described in section 60134(b)(7) against persons who violate that State's damage prevention laws, unless the Secretary has determined that the State's enforcement is inadequate to protect safety, consistent with this chapter, and until the Secretary issues, through a rule-making proceeding, the procedures for determining inadequate State enforcement of penalties.

(g) **TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.**—The Secretary may make grants to any organization or entity (not including for-profit entities) for the development of technologies that will facilitate the prevention of pipeline damage caused by demolition, excavation, tunneling, or construction activities, with emphasis on wireless and global positioning technologies having potential for use in connection with notification systems and underground facility locating and marking services. Funds provided under this subsection may not be used for lobbying or in direct support of litigation. The Secretary may also support such technology development through cooperative agreements with trade associations, academic institutions, and other organizations.

(Pub. L. 103–272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1318; Pub. L. 104–287, §5(91), Oct. 11, 1996, 110 Stat. 3398; Pub. L. 104–304, §20(d), Oct. 12, 1996, 110 Stat. 3804; Pub. L. 107–355, §§3(b), 21(2), Dec. 17, 2002, 116 Stat. 2986, 3010; Pub. L. 109–468, §2(a)(1), (e), Dec. 29, 2006, 120 Stat. 3486, 3489.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES
PUB. L. 103–272

| Revised Section | Source (U.S. Code) | Source (Statutes at Large) |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---|
| 60114(a) | 49 App.:1687(b), (e). | Aug. 12, 1968, Pub. L. 90–481, 82 Stat. 720, §20(a)–(e); added Oct. 31, 1988, Pub. L. 100–561, §303(a), 102 Stat. 2814. |
| 60114(b) | 49 App.:1687(c). | |
| 60114(c) | 49 App.:1687(h). | Aug. 12, 1968, Pub. L. 90–481, 82 Stat. 720, §20(h); added Oct. 24, 1992, Pub. L. 102–508, §304(a), 106 Stat. 3308. |
| 60114(d) | 49 App.:1687(a). | |
| 60114(e) | 49 App.:1687(d). | |

In subsection (a), before clause (1), the words “Not later than 18 months after October 31, 1988” are omitted as obsolete. The words “as described in subsection (a)” are omitted as surplus. In clause (1), the words “or systems” are omitted because of 1:1. In clause (8), the words “or not” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (b), the words “all of the requirements established under” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (c), the words “contractor, excavator, or other” are omitted as surplus.

In subsection (d), before clause (1), the words “When apportioning the amount appropriated to carry out” are substituted for “In making allocations under” for consistency with section 60107 of the revised title. In

clause (2), the words “shall withhold part of a payment under section 60107 of this title” are substituted for “such State may not receive the full reimbursement under such sections to which it would otherwise be entitled” for clarity and consistency.

PUB. L. 104–287

This amends 49:60114(a)(9) to clarify the restatement of 49 App.:1687(b) by section 1 of the Act of July 5, 1994 (Public Law 103–272, 108 Stat. 1319), because the requirement for substantially the same sanctions was not intended to include criminal penalties.

AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsecs. (d) to (g). Pub. L. 109–468 added subsecs. (d) to (g).

2002—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 107–355, §3(b), inserted “, including a government employee or contractor,” after “person”.

Subsecs. (c), (d). Pub. L. 107–355, §21(2), redesignated subsec. (d) as (c).

1996—Subsec. (a)(9). Pub. L. 104–287 and Pub. L. 104–304, §20(d)(1), amended par. (9) identically, substituting “60120 and 60122” for “60120, 60122, and 60123”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104–304, §20(d)(2), (3), redesignated subsec. (c) as (b) and struck out former subsec. (b) which read as follows:

“(b) **GRANTS.**—The Secretary may make a grant to a State under this section to develop and establish a one-call notification system consistent with subsection (a) of this section.”

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104–304, §20(d)(3), redesignated subsec. (c) as (b).

Subsecs. (d), (e). Pub. L. 104–304, §20(d)(2), (3), redesignated subsec. (e) as (d) and struck out former subsec. (d) which read as follows:

“(d) **APPORTIONMENT.**—When apportioning the amount appropriated to carry out section 60107 of this title among the States, the Secretary—

“(1) shall consider whether a State has adopted or is seeking adoption of a one-call notification system under this section; and

“(2) shall withhold part of a payment under section 60107 of this title when the Secretary decides a State has not adopted, or is not seeking adoption of, a one-call notification system.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104–287 effective July 5, 1994, see section 8(1) of Pub. L. 104–287, set out as a note under section 5303 of this title.

NATIONWIDE TOLL-FREE NUMBER SYSTEM

Pub. L. 107–355, §17, Dec. 17, 2002, 116 Stat. 3008, provided that: “Within 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 17, 2002], the Secretary of Transportation shall, in conjunction with the Federal Communications Commission, facility operators, excavators, and one-call notification system operators, provide for the establishment of a 3-digit nationwide toll-free telephone number system to be used by State one-call notification systems.”

§ 60115. Technical safety standards committees

(a) **ORGANIZATION.**—The Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee and the Technical Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Standards Committee are committees in the Department of Transportation. The committees referred to in the preceding sentence shall serve as peer review committees for carrying out this chapter. Peer reviews conducted by the committees shall be treated for purposes of all Federal laws relating to risk assessment and peer review (including laws that take effect after the date of the enactment of the Accountable Pipeline Safety and Partnership Act of 1996) as meeting any peer review requirements of such laws.