

IV. Rule Requirements

Paragraph S6.4 of FMVSS No. 119, includes the requirements relevant to this petition:

- Except as specified, each tire shall have at least six treadwear indicators spaced approximately equally around the circumference of the tire that enable a person inspecting the tire to determine visually whether the tire has worn to a tread depth of 1.6 mm (one-sixteenth of an inch). Tires with a rim diameter code of 12 or smaller shall have at least three such treadwear indicators. Motorcycle tires shall have at least three such indicators which permit visual determination that the tire has worn to a tread depth of 0.8 mm (one-thirty-second of an inch).

V. Summary of Petition

MNA described the subject noncompliance and stated its belief that the noncompliance is inconsequential as it relates to motor vehicle safety.

In support of its petition, MNA submitted the following arguments:

1. *Functionality:* Truck tires normally have 6 treadwear indicators spaced equally around the circumference of the tire. The function of these indicators is to enable a person inspecting the tire to determine visually whether the tire has worn to a tread depth of 1.6 mm (1/16 in). In the case where tires have 6 treadwear indicators spaced equally around the tire, the indicators would appear at 60 degree intervals around the circumference of the tread. In the case of the subject tires, the 4 treadwear indicators are equally spaced; thus, appearing at 90 degree intervals around the circumference of the tread area of the tire. When normally loaded, approximately 10 percent of the tread band is in contact with the road surface. In most truck applications, the remaining 90 percent of the tread band is accessible for inspection. In the event that a vehicle is parked with one of the treadwear indicators positioned in the ground contact patch area, three other treadwear indicators would be accessible around the circumference of the tire.

In addition, MNA tires have a molded "Bib" symbol on the tread shoulder to indicate the location of the treadwear indicator. These molded symbols aid the person inspecting the tire to visually locate the treadwear indicator and determine if the tire has worn to the extent that the tread depth is 1.6 mm (1/16 in) or less.

2. *NHTSA's Prior Decisions:* NHTSA has previously granted Petitions for Determination of Inconsequential Noncompliance in similar cases related

to 49 CFR 571.119 S6.4 treadwear indicators.

On August 19, 2014, NHTSA issued a Grant of Petition to Cooper Tire and Rubber Company with the following comments: "*NHTSA Analysis: The purpose for tire treadwear indicators is to serve as a means for a person to visually inspect a tire's tread depth and readily determine if a tire has worn to the extent that tread depth is 1.6 mm (one-sixteenth of an inch) or less.*"

Cooper stated that while the subject tires were molded with only five treadwear indicators that it believes that those indicators still provide ample coverage over the surface of the tire. NHTSA agrees with Cooper that in this case the subject noncompliance will have no significant effect on the safety of the vehicles on which the subject tires are mounted. The subject tires have five indicators; 4 indicators spaced at 60 degrees and one indicator spaced at 120 degrees. NHTSA believes that in this case, the absence of a single indicator does not significantly affect a person's ability to visually inspect a tire and readily recognize when a significant portion of the tire's tread is worn to the point that a tire should be replaced."

In the Cooper decision it is relevant to note:

(a) While the Cooper Mickey Thompson Baja MTZ tires had only one missing treadwear indicator, the maximum circumferential space between the two most distant treadwear indicators was 120 degrees. NHTSA determined that this confirmation of treadwear indicators does not significantly affect a person's ability to inspect a tire. In MNA's case, the maximum circumferential space between the two most distant treadwear indicators is less, at 90 degrees.

(b) The Cooper petition cites a Grant of Petition issued to Motor Bikes Imports, Inc. in 1987 which included a 49 CFR 571.119 S6.4 noncompliance related to motor bike tires with only 1 treadwear indicator. NHTSA's decision stated a "relatively small number of tires which remain in use nevertheless bear one treadwear indicator" concluding the existence of only a single treadwear indicator combined with the relatively low volume of tires in the market were inconsequential as they relate to motor vehicle safety.

3. *Product Performance & Monitoring:* Product Performance & Monitoring MNA has no indication through our customer care network, fleet contacts or field engineers, of any issues related to monitoring and measuring of treadwear on the 16.00R20 XZL tires. The lack of two treadwear indicators on the tire was detected in the manufacturing process.

We have no customer complaints or warranty claims related to the reduced number of treadwear indicators. The reduced number of treadwear indicators has no impact on product performance. Product performance and customer satisfaction of the subject tires is equivalent to tires produced with 6 treadwear indicators. The tires comply with all safety standards and tire marking requirements of 49 CFR 571.119.

MNA's complete petition and all supporting documents are available by logging onto the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) website at: <https://www.regulations.gov> and by following the online search instructions to locate the docket number as listed in the title of this notice.

NHTSA notes that the statutory provisions (49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and 30120(h)) that permit manufacturers to file petitions for a determination of inconsequentiality allow NHTSA to exempt manufacturers only from the duties found in sections 30118 and 30120, respectively, to notify owners, purchasers, and dealers of a defect or noncompliance and to remedy the defect or noncompliance. Therefore, any decision on this petition only applies to the subject tires that MNA no longer controlled at the time it determined that the noncompliance existed. However, any decision on this petition does not relieve equipment distributors and dealers of the prohibitions on the sale, offer for sale, or introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of the noncompliant tires under their control after MNA notified them that the subject noncompliance existed.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 30118, 30120; delegations of authority at 49 CFR 1.95 and 501.8.

Claudia W. Covell,
Acting Director, Office of Vehicle Safety Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2018-26511 Filed 12-4-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-59-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

[Docket No. PHMSA-2018-0099]

Pipeline Safety: Request for Special Permit; Gulf South Pipeline Company, LP

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA); DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: PHMSA is publishing this notice to seek public comments on a request for a special permit, seeking relief from compliance with certain requirements in the federal pipeline safety regulations. At the conclusion of the 30-day comment period, PHMSA will review the comments received from this notice as part of its evaluation to grant or deny the special permit request.

DATES: Submit any comments regarding this special permit request by January 4, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Comments should reference the docket number for the specific special permit request and may be submitted in the following ways:

- *E-Gov website:* <http://www.Regulations.gov>. This site allows the public to enter comments on any **Federal Register** notice issued by any agency.

- *Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.
- *Mail:* Docket Management System: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

- *Hand Delivery:* Docket Management System: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: You should identify the docket number for the special permit request you are commenting on at the beginning of your comments. If you submit your comments by mail, please submit two copies. To receive confirmation that PHMSA has received your comments, please include a self-addressed stamped postcard. Internet users may submit comments at <http://www.Regulations.gov>.

Note: Privacy Act Statement: There is a privacy statement published at <http://www.Regulations.gov>. Comments, including any personal information provided, are posted without changes or edits to <http://www.Regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

General: Ms. Kay McIver by telephone at 202-366-0113, or email at kay.mciver@dot.gov.

Technical: Mr. Steve Nanney by telephone at 713-628-7479, or email at Steve.Nanney@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: PHMSA received a special permit request from Gulf South Pipeline Company, LP, (“GSPC”) to deviate from the pipeline safety regulations in 49 CFR 192.611, for four segments totaling 4.65 miles, of 30-inch diameter Index 130 pipeline,

located in Ascension and Livingston Parishes, Louisiana, where the class location has changed from a Class 1 to Class 3 location. In lieu of pipe replacement, GSPC seeks permission to perform alternative risk control activities based on integrity management program principles and requirements. Due to class location changes from a Class 1 to Class 3 in the 1990s, GSPC lowered the maximum allowable operating pressure as required by § 192.611, from 936 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) to 780 psig. However, GSPC now seeks to update the line to restore the previous MAOP, using Subpart K of § 192.555.

The special permit request provided by the operator includes a draft environmental assessment, (EA), proposed special permit conditions, and location map. These documents are filed at <http://www.Regulations.gov>, in Docket No. PHMSA-2018-0099. We invite interested persons to participate by reviewing the special permit documents and draft EA at <http://www.Regulations.gov>, and by submitting written comments, data or other views. Please include any comments on potential safety and environmental impacts that may result if the special permit is granted.

Before issuing a decision on the special permit request, PHMSA will evaluate all comments received on or before the comment closing date. Comments received after the comment closing date will be evaluated if it is possible to do so without incurring additional expense or delay. PHMSA will consider each relevant comment we receive in making our decision to grant or deny a request.

Issued in Washington, DC on November 29, 2018, under authority delegated in 49 CFR 1.97.

Linda Daugherty,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Field Operations.

[FR Doc. 2018-26380 Filed 12-4-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-60-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Agency Information Collection Activities: Information Collection Renewal; Comment Request; Annual Stress Test Rule

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Treasury (OCC).

ACTION: Notice and request for comment.

SUMMARY: The OCC, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the renewal of this information collection as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA).

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a respondent is not required to respond to, an information collection unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

Currently, the OCC is soliciting comment concerning the renewal of its information collection titled “Annual Stress Test Rule.”

DATES: Comments must be received by February 4, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Commenters are encouraged to submit comments by email, if possible. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* prainfo@occ.treas.gov.
- *Mail:* Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Attention: 1557-0311, 400 7th Street SW, Suite 3E-218, Washington, DC 20219.
- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* 400 7th Street SW, Suite 3E-218, Washington, DC 20219.
- *Fax:* (571) 465-4326.

Instructions: You must include “OCC” as the agency name and “1557-0311” in your comment. In general, the OCC will publish comments on www.reginfo.gov without change, including any business or personal information provided, such as name and address information, email addresses, or phone numbers. Comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Do not include any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure.

You may review comments and other related materials that pertain to this information collection beginning on the date of publication of the second notice for this collection¹ by any of the following methods:

- **Viewing Comments Electronically:** Go to www.reginfo.gov. Click on the “Information Collection Review” tab. Underneath the “Currently under Review” section heading, from the drop-down menu, select “Department of Treasury” and then click “submit.” This

¹ Following the close of the 60-day comment period for this notice, the OCC will publish a notice for 30 days of comment for this collection.