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December 8, 2017

TO: Missouri Natural Gas Operators

FROM: Kathleen McNelis, Pipeline Safety Program Manager

SUBJECT: **1) PHMSA Increased the Random Drug Testing Rate for Calendar Year 2018**
2) PHMSA Final Rule – Amendment to Drug Testing Programs 49 CFR Part 40

Note: Copies are not sent to all operator personnel. Please forward to the appropriate person(s).

1) PHMSA Increased the Random Drug Testing Rate for Calendar Year 2018

Summary from Federal Register: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-12-08/pdf/2017-26484.pdf>

PHMSA has determined that the minimum random drug testing rate for all covered employees will be 50 percent during calendar year 2018. Operators are reminded that drug and alcohol testing information must be submitted for contractors performing or ready to perform covered functions. For calendar year 2017 reporting, PHMSA will not attempt to mail the “user name” and “password” for the Drug and Alcohol Management Information System (DAMIS) to operators, but will make the user name and password available in the PHMSA Portal (<https://portal.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline>).

DATES: Effective January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018.

2) PHMSA Final Rule – Amendment to Drug Testing Programs, 49 CFR Part 40

Note – this was also provided as item 9 in the November 22, 2017 All Operators Letter.

Summary from Federal Register: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-11-13/pdf/2017-24397.pdf>

The Department of Transportation is amending its drug-testing program regulation to add hydrocodone, hydromorphone, oxymorphone, and oxycodone to its drug-testing panel; add methylenedioxyamphetamine as an initial test analyte; and remove methylenedioxyethylamphetamine as a confirmatory test analyte. The revision of the drug-testing panel harmonizes DOT regulations with the revised HHS Mandatory Guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for Federal drug-testing programs for urine testing. This final rule clarifies certain existing drug-testing program provisions and definitions, makes technical amendments, and removes the requirement for employers and Consortium/Third Party Administrators to submit blind specimens.

DATES: This rule is effective on January 1, 2018.