

## **FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION**

Field Operations has available a full range of enforcement tools to ensure that the hazardous material transportation industry takes appropriate and timely corrective actions for violations, respond appropriately to incidents, and that they take preventive measures to preclude future failures or non-compliant operation.

Field Operations may issue Warning Letters and Tickets for less serious violations. However, the program refers matters which are believed to compromise safety to PHMSA's Office of Chief Counsel for appropriate sanction which includes Notices of Probable Violation and Corrective Action and Compliance Orders.

Field Operations possesses jurisdictional enforcement authority over all modal hazardous materials transportation activities under the hazardous materials regulations (HMR). Field Operations primarily focuses its enforcement and oversight on non-bulk, intermediate bulk, compressed gas cylinder, special permit and approval holder, hazardous materials shippers and carriers.

### **Mission Statement**

Field Operations primary mission under the Federal Hazmat Transportation Law is to protect the nation adequately against the risks to life, property and the environment which are inherent in the transportation of hazardous materials in commerce [49 U.S. C. 5101]. Field Operations ensures and promotes the safety, security and performance of the nation's hazardous materials transportation system through its nationwide program. Operational activities include compliance, incident and accident inspections and investigations; safety, performance and regulatory adequacy and fitness determinations; outreach, education and training activities; and reporting feedback, information and intelligence through its oversight of hazardous materials shippers, carriers and the manufacture, requalification, recondition, maintenance and use of hazardous materials packaging. In addition, Field Operations mission is also to determine the adequacy and clarity of the regulations for which the hazardous material transportation activities are based.