

Office of Pipeline Safety

[49 CFR Part 192]

[Notices 70-1A, 70-2A; Docket Nos. OPS 3A, 3B]

MINIMUM FEDERAL SAFETY STANDARDS FOR GAS PIPELINES

Extension of Comment Period

The Department of Transportation has issued a series of eight notices of proposed rulemaking which together propose the comprehensive minimum Federal safety standards for gas pipeline facilities and for the transportation of gas required by section 3(b) of the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968.

Each notice, with the exception of the first, contains a date for submission of comments. When these comment periods were established, a period of overlap was provided in order that all the proposals would be available for review before the first comments were due.

The last notice of the series is being issued today. Since comments on Notice 70-1 are due on April 13, 1970, and comments on Notice 70-2 are due April 20, 1970, it appears that the period of overlap will not be adequate. Therefore the comment periods for these two notices are being extended until April 27, 1970.

For the convenience of commenters the following is a list of the entire series of notices with the applicable closing date for comments.

Notice	Docket	Title	FEDERAL REGISTER publication	Comments due by—
69-3	OPS-3	Minimum Federal Safety Standards	34FR18556	Nov. 21, 1969
70-1	OPS-3A	Welding and Other Joining of Pipe Components	35FR1112	Apr. 27, 1970
70-2	OPS-3B	General Construction Requirements	35FR3237	Apr. 27, 1970
70-3	OPS-3C	Customers Meters, Service Regulators and Service Lines	35FR4526	May 6, 1970
70-4	OPS-3D	Class Location	35FR5012	May 11, 1970
70-5	OPS-3E	Operation and Maintenance	35FR5482	May 18, 1970
70-6	OPS-3F	Testing and Upgrading	35FR	May 25, 1970
70-7	OPS-3G	Pipe and Component Design	35FR	May 25, 1970

This notice is issued under the authority of the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act of 1968 (49 U.S.C. section 1671 et seq.), Part 1 of the Regulations of the Office of the Secretary of Transportation (49 CFR Part 1), and the delegation of authority to the Director, Office of Pipeline Safety, dated November 6, 1968 (33 F.R. 16468).

Issued in Washington, D.C., on April 30, 1970.

W. C. JENNINGS,
Acting Director,
Office of Pipeline Safety.

[F.R. Doc. 70-4343; Filed, Apr. 8, 1970; 8:50 a.m.]

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[47 CFR Part 64]

[Docket No. 16979; FCC 70-338]

INTERDEPENDENCE OF COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Notice of Proposed Rule Making

In the matter of regulatory and policy problems presented by the interdependence of computer and communication services and facilities.

1. Notice of proposed rule making in the above-entitled matter is hereby given.

2. The purpose of this notice is to afford interested persons an opportunity to comment on the tentative decision of the Commission (Appendix A hereto) in the Computer Inquiry, Docket No. 16979, and on proposed rules to implement the policies set forth therein.

3. In the tentative decision the Commission is proposing to establish a policy that communications common carriers, subject to our jurisdiction, should not engage directly in the sale of data processing services, but that such carriers, other than the Bell System companies, may indirectly engage in such services through separate corporate entities subject to certain requirements and safeguards. An exemption would be provided, however, for smaller companies.

4. We propose to amend Part 64 of our rules to add a new section 64.702 which will serve as an initial step toward implementing the recommended policy in this area. Specifically, the proposed new section 64.702 would prohibit common carriers, subject to our jurisdiction, from engaging directly or indirectly in data processing services, except that carriers other than the Bell System companies may do so through separate corporate entities maintaining separate books, operating personnel, and facilities. The rule also would require each carrier to file all contracts, agreements or arrangements that it has with such separate data processing corporations. It is contemplated that the rule would be effective 6 months after promulgation.

5. This proposed addition to our rules is issued pursuant to authority contained in sections 4 (i) and (j), 201(b), 202(a), 203(c), 211(b), 218, 219(b), 313(a) and 403 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

6. Pursuant to applicable procedures set forth in § 1.415 of the Commission's rules, interested persons may file comments on the attached tentative decision of the Commission (Appendix A) and on the proposed rules set forth in Appendix B on or before May 13, 1970. Oral argument on the proposed rules and tentative decision will be scheduled by

further order of the Commission. All relevant and timely comments will be considered by the Commission before final action is taken in this proceeding. In reaching its decision in this proceeding, the Commission may also take into account other relevant information before it, in addition to the specific comments invited by this Notice.

7. In accordance with the provisions of § 1.419 of the Commission's rules, an original and 14 copies of all statements, briefs or comments filed shall be furnished the Commission.

Adopted: April 1, 1970.

Released: April 3, 1970.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION,¹

[SEAL] BEN F. WAPLE,
Secretary.

APPENDIX A

[Docket No. 16979]

TENTATIVE DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Introduction. 1. This inquiry was initiated November 10, 1968, to provide a public forum for the examination, discussion and resolution of a number of regulatory and policy questions that appeared to be emerging from the growing interdependence of computers and communications services and facilities.

2. We addressed ourselves initially to the development of information regarding actual and potential computer uses of communication facilities and services. We sought also to develop views and recommendations as to whether there is any need for new or improved common carrier service offerings, or for revised rates, regulations, and practices of carriers to meet the emerging communications requirements for the processing of data; whether, and under what circumstances, the rendition of data processing and other computer services involving the use of communications facilities should be free from, or subject to, Government regulation; whether, and under what conditions, the entry into the provision of such computer services by common carriers and others requires regulatory control; and whether any measures are required to be taken by the computer industry, communications common carriers, or the Government to protect the privacy of data stored in computers and transmitted over communications facilities. Attachment A hereto sets forth the full text of the items of inquiry contained in our initial notice.

3. In response to our initial notice of inquiry, we received approximately 3,000 pages of comments from 60 parties representing a broad cross-section of interests in both the computer and communications fields. Attachment B lists these respondents. Following the submission of these initial responses, on March 5, 1969, we contracted with Stanford Research Institute (SRI) for an independent evaluation of the responses and the submission of recommendations to the Commission with respect to the issues specified in the notice of inquiry. SRI delivered its results to us in March 1969, in a series of seven reports which were published and made available to all those who filed initial responses to our inquiry.

4. On May 1, 1969, we adopted a report and further notice of inquiry, 17 FCC 2d 587 (hereinafter referred to as "First Report"). On July 24, 1969, our record herein

¹ Commissioner Johnson concurring in the result; Commissioner H. Rex Lee absent.