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Naval Petroleum Reserve in California

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Your March 22, 1993, memorandum inquires whether a 12" gas pipeline that is 2.5 miles long and originates, but is not located, on the Naval Petroleum Reserve in California is subject to the pipeline safety regulations. The line is owned 80 percent by the Department of Energy (DOE) and 20 percent by Chevron USA and operated by Bechtel Petroleum Operations, Inc.

The pipeline is not subject to the authority of RSPA if DOE is in operational control of the pipeline, because DOE is a Federal agency. However, if Bechtel is in operational control of the pipeline, the pipeline is subject to the authority of RSPA.

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