Email from Karen Mcdonough 25/1/2012

Update on the proposed amendments to the Pipelines Safety Regulations (PSR) 1996 - Following from further stakeholder consultation and research

I would like to inform stakeholders that a paper detailing the final recommendations for taking forward the PSR project will be discussed by the HSE Board on Wednesday 25th January 2012.

As you are aware in December 2010 the HSE Board agreed to postpone the proposed amendments to allow further consultation with stakeholders and research to be undertaken. This work has now been completed and as a result HSE is now recommending:

a) Not to proceed with the original proposal to include gasoline as a named dangerous fluid under PSR, as the existing regulatory regime is sufficient to cover gasoline pipelines.
b) Postponing any further work to allow HSE to consider emerging issues (principally the need to review Regulation 13A relating to the gas iron mains replacement programme) and to take account of potential new European initiatives.
c) Keep developments in Carbon Capture and Storage under review, to ensure the most appropriate regulatory model is developed.

The full paper detailing the reasons behind the recommendations will be available to access on the HSE website from today.

I will send a further e-mail once the HSE Board have discussed the paper and have made a decision.

On behalf of HSE I would like to thank everyone for their support and input in the development of the proposed amendments to PSR.

If you require any further information, please let me know.

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