

*Emergency response grants.*—The agreement directs PHMSA to consider expanding emergency response grants to rural communities, to the extent permissible under law, and to work with relevant authorizing committees to consider expanding grant eligibility to non-profit organizations providing emergency response training and to areas outside of high consequence areas.

*Aboveground storage tanks.*—The agreement directs PHMSA to conduct a review of current and new corrosion control techniques that may be used to improve leak prevention of regulated aboveground storage tanks. PHMSA is directed to submit a report within 1 year of enactment of this Act to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation detailing the findings on supplementary or alternative techniques to cathodic protection systems and the application of such techniques to aboveground storage tanks.

#### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY

The bill provides \$62,000,000 for PHMSA's hazardous materials safety functions, of which \$14,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2023. Funds made available until September 30, 2023, are for long-term research and development contracts, grants, and, in more limited scope, contract safety programs.

The agreement provides \$1,000,000 for the community safety grant program. The agreement provides up to \$2,500,000 for a state program for hazardous materials safety inspection and enforcement training to support training state inspectors, reimbursing shipper inspection costs, and developing a certification for state hazardous materials packaging and shipping inspection programs.

#### PIPELINE SAFETY (PIPELINE SAFETY FUND) (OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND)

The bill provides \$168,000,000 for PHMSA’s pipeline safety program, to remain available until September 30, 2023. Of that amount, \$23,000,000 is derived from the oil spill liability trust fund, \$137,000,000 is derived from the pipeline safety fund, and \$8,000,000 is derived from fees collected under 49 U.S.C. 60302 and deposited in the underground natural gas storage facility safety account.

The agreement provides the following levels for specific activities within this account:

Research and development.....	\$12,000,000
State pipeline safety grants.....	58,000,000
Underground natural gas storage facilities safety grants.....	6,000,000
One-Call state grants.....	1,058,000
State damage prevention grants.....	1,500,000

The agreement provides that not less than \$2,000,000 of the funds provided for research and development shall be used for the pipeline safety research competitive academic agreement program to focus on near-term solutions in order to improve the safety and reliability of the nation’s pipeline transportation system.

*Interstate pipeline safety.*—The agreement encourages PHMSA to work with state and Federal regulators and industry stakeholders to improve information sharing between entities during investigations into natural gas pipeline emergency incidents and supply disruptions, and to increase system-wide risk analyses in order to enhance emergency responses and the reliability of interstate pipeline systems.

*Research, development, and testing facilities.*—The agreement notes with concern PHMSA’s recent actions to move forward with the planning and development of a research and development facility at the transportation technology center, and its change to the identification and selection of research projects, which was not included in its most recent annual modal research plan or biennial plan and executed without the appropriate level of budget request detail and notification. As such, the agreement directs PHMSA to submit an updated research plan to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, and as part of this plan PHMSA shall: conduct an assessment of the causes of pipeline failure and pipeline safety risks; identify specific short-term and long-term research and development objectives that address pipeline safety risks and vulnerabilities; identify specific research activities and how they relate to DOT research

goals, agency objectives, and research programs; define the roles and responsibilities of PHMSA, industry, academia and other Federal partners in advancing technological solutions that improve the overall safety and integrity of the nation's pipeline system through the execution of the proposed research and development activities; report on the implementation and execution of the prior year proposed annual research activities compared to the annual research plan and how such activities were co-funded with industry and/or academia consistent with subparagraph (b) of section 22 of Public Law 114-183.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANTS  
(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)  
(EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND)

The bill provides an obligation limitation of \$28,318,000 for emergency preparedness grants, to remain available until September 30, 2023.

*Energy products training.*—The agreement directs PHMSA to continue to enhance its training curriculum for local emergency responders, including response activities for crude oil, ethanol, and other flammable liquids transported by rail, loading and unloading at LNG facilities, and the transportation of LNG in rail tank cars.

The agreement encourages PHMSA to train public sector emergency response personnel in communities on or near rail lines that transport high volumes of hazardous materials.

*Assistance for local emergency response training (ALERT) grants.*—The agreement continues to provide PHMSA the authority to use prior year carryover and recaptures for the development of web-based, off-the-shelf training materials that can be used by emergency responders across the country. In addition, section 180 of this Act provides \$1,000,000 from the general fund for ALERT grants. The agreement urges PHMSA to prioritize ALERT grants for training in rural areas.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION