amending the definition of "maintain" to include repair as a remedial measure.

We believe AGA's recommendation has merit. Operators may indeed choose to repair some unsafe conditions on customer piping without shutting off the gas or advising the customer of the problem. Such repair would be wholly consistent with the purpose of § 192.16—to promote the safety of customer piping—and would exceed the required minimum level of maintenance. Thus, operator repair should not be the basis for a charge of noncompliance with the rule. To preclude this possibility and clarify the rule, we have amended § 192.16(a) as AGA recommends in the second part of its petition.

Regulatory Analyses and Notices Executive Order 12866 and DOT

Policies and Procedures

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) does not consider this final rule to be a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866. Therefore, OMB did not review this final rule. Also, DOT does not consider this final rule to be significant under its regulatory policies and procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979). Because this final rule merely clarifies an existing rule, the economic impact is too minimal to warrant an evaluation of costs and benefits. However, an evaluation of the costs and benefits of the rule revised by this regulatory action is available for review in the docket.

## Executive Order 12612

We analyzed this final rule under the principles and criteria in Executive Order 12612 ("Federalism"). The final rule does not have sufficient federalism impacts to warrant preparation of a federalism assessment.

#### Regulatory Flexibility Act

I certify, under Section 605 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, that this final rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. As explained in Amendment 192-74 (60 FR 41828, August 14, 1995), most small entities do not come under the rule revised by this regulatory action, and those small entities that do may exercise very low cost means of compliance.

List of Subjects in 49 CFR Part 192

Natural gas, Pipeline safety, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

RSPA amends 49 CFR part 192 as follows:

## PART 192—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 192 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 5103, 60102, 60104, 60108, 60109, 60110, 60113, and 60118; 49 CFR 1.53.

2. Section 192.16(a) is revised to read as follows:

#### §192.16 Customer notification.

(a) This section applies to each operator of a service line who does not maintain the customer's buried piping up to entry of the first building downstream, or, if the customer's buried piping does not enter a building, up to the principal gas utilization equipment or the first fence (or wall) that surrounds that equipment. For the purpose of this section, "customer's buried piping" does not include branch lines that serve yard lanterns, pool heaters, or other types of secondary equipment. Also, "maintain" means monitor for corrosion according to § 192.465 if the customer's buried piping is metallic, survey for leaks according to § 192.723, and if an unsafe condition is found, shut off the flow of gas, advise the customer of the need to repair the unsafe condition, or repair the unsafe condition.

Issued in Washington, DC, on December 4,

Ana Sol Gutiérrez,

Deputy Administrator.

[FR Doc. 95-30032 Filed 12-8-95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4910-60-P

# **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric** Administration

# 50 CFR Part 675

[Docket No. 951128281-5281-01; I.D. 112795A]

## Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area, Trawl Closure To Protect Red King Crab

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Inseason adjustment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS has determined that an interim closure to all trawling is necessary in a portion of the Bristol Bay area of the Bering Sea. The number of female red king crab in Bristol Bay has declined to a level that presents a serious conservation problem for this stock. To prevent excessive bycatch

rates of Bristol Bay area red king crab, NMFS is implementing an interim closure in an area of Bristol Bay to vessels using trawl gear. This management measure is intended to accomplish the objectives of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council with respect to fishery management in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI).

DATES: Effective January 20, 1996, through March 31, 1996. Comments must be submitted by January 10, 1996. **ADDRESSES:** Comments may be sent to Ronald J. Berg, Chief, Fisheries Management Division, Alaska Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802, Attention: Lori Gravel. The Environmental Assessment/Regulatory Impact Review/Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (EA/RIR/IRFA) prepared for proposed Amendment 37 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area addresses the action implemented under this inseason adjustment. Copies of the EA/RIR/IRFA may be obtained from the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave. Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kaja Brix, 907-586-7228.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Fishing for groundfish by U.S. vessels in the exclusive economic zone of the BSAI is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (FMP). The FMP was prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801, et seq.) (Magnuson Act), and is implemented by regulations governing the U.S. groundfish fisheries at 50 CFR parts 675 and 676. General regulations that also pertain to U.S. fisheries are codified at 50 CFR part 620.

High prohibited species bycatch rates may warrant inseason adjustment to close an area to fishing for groundfish. Authority for interim closures of a specific area is outlined under regulations at § 675.20(e). This inseason adjustment prohibits fishing for groundfish by operators of vessels using trawl gear in that portion of the Bering Sea that is bounded by a straight line connecting the following coordinates in the order listed below from January 20 through March 31, 1996:

56°00' N.: 162°00' W.: