



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous  
Materials Safety  
Administration**

MAY 07 2018

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Mr. Robert E. Fronczak, P.E.  
Assistant Vice President Environment and Hazmat  
Association of American Railroads  
425 Third Street, S.W.  
Suite 1000  
Washington, D.C. 20024


Dear Mr. Fronczak:

This letter responds to your January 13, 2017, petition for rulemaking (P-1697) requesting changes to the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180) applicable to the transportation of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) by rail. Specifically, your petition asks the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to revise § 173.319 to include specific requirements for U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) 113 rail cars to allow for the transportation of LNG.

In accordance with § 106.105, PHMSA has assessed your petition and determined that your request merits consideration in a future rulemaking. All correspondence pertaining to this petition will be transferred to the petition docket (Docket No. PHMSA-2017-0020). You may comment on the petition in accordance with the procedures specified in Part 106, Subpart B.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Steven Andrews in the Standards and Rulemaking Division at (202) 366-8553.

Sincerely,

  
Shane C. Kelley  
Director,  
Standards and Rulemaking Division  
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards