**GAWDA MEMBER ALERT**

**PHMSA Adopts 96 Special Permits into HMRs.** The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration has published a final rule to incorporate 96 widely-used or long-standing special permits into the Hazardous Materials Regulations. [81 Fed. Reg. 3635](https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-01-21/pdf/2016-00780.pdf) (January 21, 2016). This means that all entities (whether or not they participated in the special permit before) will be able to use the processes or products identified in the special permits without having to apply for new or renewed party status.

A list of the special permits relating to cylinders and other matters that were approved for adoption is on page 3642 at the link above. A discussion of the cylinder special eprmits begins on page 3651.

Congress had mandated that PHMSA must evaluate all of the special permits of broad applicability and in effect for more than ten years to determine if they would be appropriate to incorporate into the regulations. Although 96 SPs will be adopted into the HMRs, some 1,070 other SPs were not proposed for adoption.

By law, every year PHMSA must review its special permits more than ten years old each year to determine if they are appropriate for inclusion in the HMRs. GAWDA members are encouraged to petition PHMSA for incorporation of any other special permits that member companies think will meet the criteria for adoption into the regulations.

**FMCSA Plans Webinars on ELDs.** The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration will hold a webinars for industry on the requirements of the agency’s final rule on Electronic Logging Devices for driver hours of service compliance. The new rule is mandatory as of December 2017.

* Electronic Logging Device (ELD) Phase I: Transition and Awareness  
  **Thursday, February 11, 2016 from 2:00–3:30 p.m. Eastern Time**

This webinar will provide attendees with information about the first phase of the ELD Rule Implementation Plan. The Awareness and Transition Phase starts on February 16, 2016 and ends December 18, 2017. During this phase, motor carriers have the option of using registered Electronic Logging Devices. This webinar will provide guidance to the motor carrier industry on how the ELD rule will be enforced during the Awareness and Transition phase at the roadside and during investigations.

To register, go to the following Web page:

<https://connectdot.connectsolutions.com/admin/show-event-catalog?folder-id=1132823300>.