



U.S. Department of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials  
Safety Administration**

1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

On July 1, 2014, a large propane cylinder on a mobile food truck in Philadelphia, PA, ruptured catastrophically. The ensuing fire resulted in two deaths and 11 injuries. In light of this serious incident, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is taking actions to address the hazards associated with compressed gas cylinders.

Both propane (Class 2.1, Flammable Gas) and the cylinder to which it is stored are regulated by the Hazardous Material Regulations (HMR). We have a shared responsibility in this area. State and local fire codes also place requirements on low pressure cylinders of flammable gas. Fire marshals and code enforcement personnel play an important role in their respective jurisdictions regarding the safe use and condition of pressure vessels, including propane cylinders. Education and awareness are critical to help achieve public safety and PHMSA asks for your support in this effort.

Often code enforcement personnel may not understand how to tell if a low pressure cylinder is in proper condition for continued use. To raise awareness, PHMSA will host two 30 minute informational webinars on Thursday, **October 9, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. (EST) or 2:00 p.m. (EST)**. These sessions will focus on:

1. The basics of how inspect a cylinder for serviceability;
2. How to identify an out-of-test cylinder; and
3. What to do in case a cylinder is found to be in poor condition or out-of-test.

To register for either of the two webinars, please click on the link, below. If you have questions or issues on how to register, please contact me at (202) 366-1109.

<https://www.livemeeting.com/lrs/1100004049/Registration.aspx?pageName=2n8kd4cx2936r85v>

Together we can raise public awareness regarding this important safety issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William Schoonover".

William Schoonover  
Deputy Associate Administrator for Field Operations  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration