

Gas Pipeline Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 27 – December 1, 2023

Mr. Alan Mayberry, Associate Administrator for the Office of Pipeline Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), U.S. Department of Transportation, serves as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) of the Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee also known as the Gas Pipeline Advisory Committee (GPAC).

Mr. Mayberry started the gas pipeline advisory committee (GPAC) meeting on November 27, 2023, at 8:35 am ET by introducing the Chairperson, the Honorable David Danner, who is the Chair of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.

The meeting was held in-person at the Westin Crystal City Reagan National Airport, 1800 Richmond Highway, Arlington, Virginia and was open to the public.

I. DFO Opening Remarks

The DFO opened the meeting at 8:35 am ET by introducing the Chairperson, Mr. David Danner. The DFO discussed administrative issues, described his role as presiding official of the meeting, provided audience participation instructions, introduced new GPAC members, and introduced Tristan Brown, Deputy Administrator of PHMSA.

II. Call to Order

Chairman David Danner called to order the meeting of the GPAC on November 27, 2023.

III. Attendees

A list of the individuals who were present at the meeting, including advisory committee members, PHMSA staff and members of the public who registered for the meeting is summarized below.

A roll call of the GPAC members was conducted by Cameron Satterthwaite, PHMSA. A quorum was present.

The following GPAC committee members were in attendance:

HON. DIANE BURMAN, New York State Public Service Commission

HON. DAVID W. DANNER, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

SAMUEL T. ARIARATNAM, Arizona State University

PETER E. CHACE, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

ALEX DEWAR, Boston Consulting Group

J. ANDREW DRAKE, Enbridge Gas Transmission and Midstream

WILLIAM "CHAD" GILBERT, United Association International

SARA ROLLET GOSMAN, University of Arkansas School of Law

SARA W. LONGAN, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

ERIN MURPHY, Environmental Defense Fund

ARVIND P. RAVIKUMAR, University of Texas at Austin

TERRY L. TURPIN, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

BRIAN R. WEISKER, Duke Energy Natural Gas Business Unit

CHAD J. ZAMARIN, The Williams Companies, Inc., and

STEVE SQUIBB, Director, Natural Gas Operations City Utilities of Springfield
Missouri

In addition, many PHMSA staff were in attendance and 274 members of the public registered for the meeting.

IV. Opening Remarks

The DFO introduced PHMSA's Deputy Administrator, Tristan Brown, who provided opening remarks. Afterward, the DFO recognized the PHMSA staff and the GPAC members for their hard work, addressed the diverse backgrounds of the committee membership, and highlighted the important work expected to be carried out at the meeting.

V. Agenda Adoption

Chairperson Danner and the DFO reviewed the agenda for the day. The GPAC agenda was to discuss first the leak detection and repair proposed rule and next the class location proposed rule. The meeting transcript is publicly available at the meeting webpage (<https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/meetings/MtgHome.mtg?mtg=167>) and at <http://www.regulations.gov/> in docket number PHMSA-2023-0061.

VI. Committee Discussion and Voting

November 27, 2023

On November 27, 2023, PHMSA staff provided an overview of the leak detection and repair criteria proposed rule, and divided the proposed rule into the following sections for discussion and voting:

1. Operations, Maintenance, and Venting
2. Leak Surveys and Patrols
3. Advanced Leak Detection Program
4. Leak Grading and Repair
5. Gathering Line Requirements

1. Operations, Maintenance, and Venting

Mr. Steve Nanny provided a slide presentation of the proposed operations, maintenance, and venting section of the rule. After Mr. Nanny's presentation, Chairman Danner opened the meeting for public comment.

The public commenters for this section were: Mr. Ben Kochman, INGAA; Mr. Eric Taylor, BHE GT&S on behalf of INGAA; Ms. Christina Sames, AGA; Mr. Jason Lambert, Williams Companies; Mr. Patrick Carey, Kinder Morgan on behalf of INGAA; Ms. Corinne Byrnes, National Grid; Mr. David Murk, API; Mr. Mark Hereth, Blacksmith Group representing INGAA; Mr. Matthew Hite, GPA Midstream Association; Ms. Erin Kurilla, APGA; and Mr. Keith Coyle, Babst Calland representing GPA Midstream and API.

After the public comments, Chairman Danner opened the discussion to the members. After committee discussion, the committee divided their recommended changes with regard to blowdown mitigation (Sec. 192.770) into five sections, but later tabled one of these sections - reporting emissions for each blowdown to be discussed in Section 6.

The committee voted on each section with recommended changes separately. The first motion passed unanimously, and the second motion passed with 14 to 1.

The committee took a short break and when they returned, Chairman Danner allowed public comment from individuals who indicated that they were unable to stay for the duration of the meeting. These public commenters were Ms. Laurie Anderson, from Broomfield, Colorado, a Colorado field organizer for Moms Clean Air Force; Ms. Patricia Nelson, Colorado Fossil Fuel Just Transition Advocate for Green Latinos Colorado; Ms. Lois Epstein, a licensed professional engineer in Alaska and President of LNE Engineering and Policy, a consulting firm.

After the public comments, the committee continued its discussion, and voted on the third and fourth motions with regard to blowdown mitigation, which passed unanimously. Following these votes, the committee ended its meeting for the day.

November 28, 2023

On November 28, 2023, the committee continued its discussion on Operations, Maintenance, and Venting. The committee voted on their pressure relief devices recommendation and the motion passed with 14 to 1.

2. Leak Surveys and Patrols

Mr. Rodrick Seeley provided a slide presentation of the proposed leak surveys and patrols section. After Mr. Seeley's presentation, Chairman Danner opened the meeting for public comment.

The public commenters for this section were: Mr. Eric Taylor, BHE GT&S on behalf of INGAA; Mr. Jason Lambert, Williams Companies; Mr. Steven Glass, National Fuel Gas; Ms. Lauren Toczykowski, Con Edison; Mr. Kevin Lang, Southwest Gas Corporation; Mr. Asa Carre-Burritt, Bridger Photonics; Mr. Paul Wolven, Consumers Energy Company; Mr. Saadat Khan, National Grid; Mr. John Bozarth, Ameren Illinois; Mr. Isaac Brown, Center for Methane Emissions Solutions; Mr. Bill DeFoor, Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia; Ms. Johnnetta Johnson, ONE Gas; Ms. Joan Porter, Rhode Island Energy; Mr. Matthew Hite, GPA Midstream Association; Mr. Richard Lonn, Southern Company Gas; Mr. David Geck, Northern Natural Gas; Mr. Michael McGrath, Enbridge representing INGAA; Mr. David Murk, API; Ms. Annette Saxman, National Grid; Mr. Bill Caram, Pipeline Safety Trust; Mr. Ben Kochman, INGAA; and Ms. Mary Friend, the Public Service Commission of West Virginia representing NAPSRS;

After the public comments, Chairman Danner opened the discussion to the members. After committee discussion, the committee voted:

- On the gas transmission patrols with recommended changes and the motion passed unanimously.
- To support PHMSA's proposed rule on gas transmission pipeline leak survey and the motion passed unanimously.
- With recommended changes, on gas distribution pipelines frequency of leakage surveys and the motion passed unanimously.
- With recommended changes, on the frequency of gas distribution pipeline leakage surveys outside of business districts. This motion passed unanimously.

3. Advanced Leak Detection Program

Mr. Saylor Palabrica provided a slide presentation of the proposed advanced leak detection program section. After Mr. Palabrica's presentation, Chairman Danner opened the meeting for public comment.

The public commenters for this section were: Mr. Robert Tremberger, Con Edison; Mr. Ryan Streams, Kairos Aerospace; Ms. Erin Kurilla, APGA; Ms. Stephanie Pearce, Consumers Energy; Mr. Asa Carre-Burritt, Bridger Photonics; Mr. Scott Yager, INGAA; Mr. Saadat Khan, National Grid; Mr. Bill DeFoor, Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia; Ms. Joan Porter, Rhode Island Energy; Ms. Corinne Byrnes, National Grid; Ms. Elizabeth Makrides, Bascom-Turner Instruments; Ms. Lauren Toczylowski, Con Edison; Mr. Peter Seydewitz, Enbridge on behalf of INGAA; Mr. Chris Williams, Cheniere Energy, inc., representing INGAA; Mr. Matthew Hite, GPA Midstream Association; Mr. Brett Eugene Adamcik, CenterPoint Energy; Mr. David Murk, API; Mr. Keith Coyle, Babst Calland representing GPA Midstream and API; Mr. Shrikant Shah, Pacific Gas and Electric; Mr. David Geck, Northern Natural Gas; Mr. Eric Taylor, BHE GT&S on behalf of INGAA; Mr. Ben Kochman, INGAA; and Mr. Scott Currier, TC Energy on behalf of INGAA.

After the public comments concluded, the meeting ended for the day.

November 29, 2023

On November 29, 2023, Chairman Danner opened the discussion on the proposed advanced leak detection program section of the rule to the GPAC members. After discussion, the committee voted:

- In support of the proposed advanced leak detection program with recommended principles raised in the proceedings. The motion passed 14 to 1.
- With recommended changes, on advanced leak detection program applicable performance standards for gas transmission and gathering pipelines. The motion passed unanimously.
- With recommended changes, on advanced leak detection program applicable performance standard for gas distribution pipelines. The motion passed 14 to 1.
- With recommended consideration, on advanced leak detection program elements. The motion passed unanimously.
- With recommended changes, on the use of human senses and the alternative performance standard within the advanced leak detection program. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Leak Grading and Repair

Mr. Joseph Klesin and Mr. David York provided a slide presentation of the proposed leak grading and repair section. After their presentation, Chairman Danner opened the meeting for public comment. Chairman Danner asked Commissioner Burman to preside over the meeting while he stepped out for a short time. He returned to the meeting before the end of the public comments.

The public commenters for this section were: Mr. Jason Lambert, Williams Companies; Ms. Erin Kurilla, APGA; Ms. Annette Saxman, National Grid; Mr. Robert Tremberger, Con Edison; Mr. Asa Carre-Burritt, Bridger Photonics; Mr. Kevin Lang, Southwest Gas Corporation; Ms. Lauren Toczylowski, Con Edison; Ms. Corinne Byrnes, National Grid; Mr. Matthew Hite, GPA Midstream Association; Ms. Joan Porter, Rhode Island Energy; Mr. Brett Eugene Adamecik, CenterPoint Energy; Mr. Keith Coyle, Babst Calland representing GPA Midstream and API; Mr. Michael McGrath, Enbridge representing INGAA; Mr. Alan Chichester, AGA; Mr. Richard Lonn, Southern Company Gas; Ms. Mary Friend, the Public Service Commission of West Virginia representing NAPSR; Mr. Maury Johnson private citizen, Protected Water Heritage Rice Coalition - Preserve Monroe - WV Rivers; Mr. David Murk, API; Mr. Eric Taylor, BHE GT&S on behalf of INGAA; Mr. Ben Kochman, INGAA; and Ms. Christina Sames, AGA.

After the public comments and committee discussion concerning the next day, the meeting ended for the day.

November 30, 2023

On November 30, 2023, Chairman Danner opened the discussion on leak grading and repair to the GPAC members. After discussion, the committee voted:

- With recommended changes, on leak grading and repair requirements for Grade 1 criteria. The motion passed unanimously.
- With recommended changes, on leak grading and repair requirements for Grade 2 criteria. The motion passed unanimously.
- With recommended changes, on leak grading and repair requirements for Grade 2 criteria repair timeline. The motion passed 14 to 1.
- With recommended changes, on leak grading and repair requirements on proposed Section 192.760(c)(4). The motion passed unanimously.
- With recommended changes, on leak grading and repair requirements reevaluation frequency for Grade 2 criteria. The motion passed unanimously.

- With recommended changes, on leak grading and repair requirements for Grad 3 criteria and repair timelines. The motion passed 13 to 2.

After the vote, Chairman David Danner adjourned the meeting for the day.

December 1, 2023

On December 1, 2023, Chairman Danner opened the meeting. After an announcement by Mr. Alan Mayberry, the DFO, about the need for another GPAC meeting for the members to complete their work on both proposed rules, the committee began its discussion on leak grading and repair.

After discussion the committee voted:

- With recommended changes, on leak grading and repair requirements for post-repair checks of gas distribution pipelines proposed in Section 192.760(e). The motion passed unanimously.
- With recommended changes, on leak grading and repair requirements investigations or repairs of leaks following environmental changes. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Gathering Line Requirements

Mr. Saylor Palabrica provided a slide presentation of the proposed gathering line requirements. After Mr. Palabrica's presentation, Chairman Danner opened the meeting for public comment.

The public commenters for this section were: Mr. Matthew Hite, GPA Midstream Association; Mr. Keith Coyle, Babst Calland representing GPA Midstream and API; Mr. Jason Lambert, Williams Companies; Mr. Patrick Carey, Kinder Morgan; Mr. Jeff Morton; Enterprise Products representing GPA Midstream; Ms. Erin Kurilla, APGA; Mr. Keith Coyle again, Babst Calland representing GPA Midstream and API; Mr. Maury Johnson private citizen, Protected Water Heritage Rice Coalition - Preserve Monroe - WV Rivers; Ms. Lindsay Sander, Sander Resources; Mr. David Murk, API; Mr. Keith Coyle the third time, Babst Calland; and Mr. Bill Caram, Pipeline Safety Trust.

After the public comments, Chairman Danner opened the discussion to the members. The members discussed the gas gathering pipeline proposed requirements but did not vote on any recommendations related to this portion of the rule.

VII. Adjournment

Chairman David Danner recessed the meeting, until the committee resumes its discussion of the leak detection and repair proposed rule in a future meeting, on December 1, 2023, at 5:56 pm ET.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.



Recoverable Signature

X

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Danner". The signature is written in a cursive style.

David Danner
Chairman, GPAC
Signed by: Danner, Dave (UTC)