Panel 2: Valve Considerations for Natural Gas Pipelines

Understanding the Application of Automatic/Remote Control Valves

High Level Agenda for Panel 2

- PHMSA National Perspective for Natural Gas (NG) Systems
- *Placeholder:* 2nd Regulatory Perspective
- Natural Gas Pipelines National Perspective
- Individual NG Operator Perspective #1
- Individual NG Operator Perspective #2

What Will Presentation Content Reflect?

Regulatory Perspectives – Will set the regulatory expectations based on the current requirements. Data will be presented illustrating the recent record of the industry and will identify areas where improvements can be made. The presentations will also identify the recent direction provided by Congress and how this event will assist in addressing a wide range of goals.

National NG Industry Perspective – The National Perspective will provide a broad overview of the industry's position for utilizing Automatically, Remotely or Manually Controlled Valves. This should briefly discuss the issues identified in the considerations shown below.

1. Do you know how many ACVs, RCVs or MCVs are in use Nationwide? #s or %? Can you identify areas where these would be commonly utilized?
2. What has been the experience since implementing the Gas IMP rule requirements? Identify any notable considerations.
3. What are the CAPEX/OPEX costs with installing/maintaining (ACV/RCV/MCV) valves on existing vs. new pipelines?
4. How do external environmental and internal operating conditions impact valve (ACV/RCV/MCV) performance?
5. Do valves leak? Does installing more valves create additional leak paths or improve blow down times?
6. Is there a concern for increased risk of valve installation/facility security or equipment tampering?
7. Is there a concern from inadvertent operation of automatic valves? What has been the frequency for inadvertent closure?

Individual Company Perspectives – Should specifically address the presentation considerations shown below.

1. What has been the experience since implementing the Gas IMP rule requirements? Identify any notable considerations.
2. Can you paint some scenarios for the audience? These need to be supported by facts.
    a. Why and where do you install valves along a NG Transmission pipeline?

b. How do you decide if you should use SCADA along with your valve choice?
c. How does actuate time (any valve type) impact your choice of valve?
d. How should transportation congestion impact your strategy for valve actuation times over time? Do you reevaluate?
e. What are the CAPEX/OPEX costs with installing/maintaining (ACV/RCV/MCV) valves on existing vs. new pipelines?
f. How do environmental and operating conditions impact valve (ACV/RCV/MCV) performance?
g. How do human factor issues impact valve performance?
h. How do actuate times affect operator and emergency response operations? Identify pros/cons based on valve choice.
i. Is there a concern from inadvertent operation of automatic valves?