June 22, 2011

Greetings:

On behalf of the Citizen’s Committee on Pipeline Safety, I am honored to share this report on our 2010 activities.

One of the biggest accomplishments to come out of our work in 2010 was the Legislature’s passage of amendments to the Underground Damage Prevention Law (Chapter 263, Laws of 2011). The committee was deeply engaged in the process that leads to the passage of this legislation and appreciates work by the Legislature and Governor in seeing these amendments into law.

Another project that will pay big safety dividends in the future is our efforts to encourage local governments to incorporate federal guidelines for land use and planning around pipelines into their local ordinances.

In 2011 and 2012, the committee will continue its work in promoting land use policies that limit the risk and consequence of development near transmission pipelines and will monitor the implementation of the new requirements under the damage prevention law. We also will be following closely changes on the federal level that may affect pipeline safety regulation.

I would welcome any opportunity to talk with you more about the committee’s past, current and future activities. I also would welcome you to attend one of our meetings.

For more information about our activities, please visit: www.utc.wa.gov/pipeline/ccops

Sincerely,

Ron Schmitt, Chairman
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