

**Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety**

Meeting Minutes

Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission

1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, WA 98504

November 19, 2012

**Present members:**

David Taylor, Chair  
Tim Sweeney, Vice-Chair  
Carl Weimer  
Bob Beaumier  
Terrill Briere  
Christian Amend  
Art Coulombe  
Rosalie Ann Lopez  
Jody Morehouse  
Corey Herrick

**Absent members:**

Bill Rickard  
Ron Schmitt  
Ruth Mabrey

**Other attendees:**

David Lykken, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Joe Subsits, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Jim Fernald, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Marina Woodard, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Rhonda Huynh, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Scott Zimmerman, Dept. of Ecology  
Grant Jensen, Northwest Pipeline  
Terry Hardman, Northwest Pipeline

**Agenda Items:**

1. **Welcome, Introduction and Adoption of September 20, 2012 Meeting Minutes**  
The meeting was brought to order by Dave Taylor who welcomed all attendees. In a unanimous vote, the Committee adopted the September 20, 2012 meeting minutes as written.
2. **Discussion: Review of draft 2012 Stakeholder Annual Report**  
The Committee reviewed the draft 2012 Stakeholder Report and cover letter.

Marina noted that the 21,000 miles of underground natural gas and hazardous liquid pipeline miles referred to in the stakeholder report cover letter is actually over 41,000 miles when including main lines and service lines.

Dave noted that the committee had reviewed San Bruno incident in an effort to learn issues pertaining to the incident and consider promulgation of procedures in an effort to prevent the occurrence of future incidents.

Bob also noted that the report reflects the goals, activities that the committee accomplished during the four meetings held in 2012.

Dave Lykken recommended that information on page one referring to the Lowthian letter be revised. Dave will provide updated facts and language pertaining to this incident for the committee's consideration for including in the report.

Marina stated that she updated the CCOPS committee membership that is included in the header of the 2012 Stakeholder Report cover letter. The update includes the addition of Christian Amend as a new committee member.

Marina has the updated stakeholder distribution list and will forward it to the committee for review and approval.

Marina will update the stakeholders report and cover letter to include all proposed changes that were discussed. These documents, including the updated distribution list will be forwarded to the committee for final review and approval before the report is mailed in January.

**Action(s):**

- 1) Bob Beaumier moved to approve the 2012 Stakeholder Report and cover letter subject to the changes discussed. Motion passed.
- 2) Marina will email final draft of cover letter, stakeholder report and distribution list to committee members for review and approval. Following this process, Marina will send out the report in January. Motion passed.
3. **Discussion: Review and approve letter to PHMSA regarding Integrity Management, HCA through online maps, and public engagement process (Item 2, 3 & 4 from Sept 20<sup>th</sup> agenda)**

Bob Beaumier commented on the draft letter that he developed recommending that PHMSA provide further clarification on the definition of transmission lines. He believes this is an important issue that needs to be addressed by PHMSA and included in the letter.

An initial motion was made for the Committee to approve the draft letter as written. However, Tim Sweeney asked if there was a docket number assigned to PHMSA's Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM). Marina commented that the proposed rule has not been issued and Dave Lykken informed the Committee that PHMSA originally scheduled to issue the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) this month. He stated that issuance of the NPRM has been delayed until early 2013. Dave further recommended that the committee delay sending the letter until the NPRM is issued and the draft rule can be reviewed by committee members.

The Committee subsequently determined that the letter will not be sent until committee members can review the forthcoming NPRM.

Tim suggested that the three meeting discussion paragraphs on page 2 of the draft report be endorsed for approval so that the information can be used in the future letter to PHMSA.

When the NPRM has been issued and reviewed by members, Marina will schedule a Committee conference call to review and finalize the letter.

**Action(s):**

Tim made a motion to endorse and approve the three meeting discussion paragraphs on page 2 of the draft letter which can be used by the Committee in development of an updated letter. Motion passed.

4. **Industries Presentation on “Gas and Liquid Control Center” (Presentation by Gas Industries – Avista & Williams)**

Jody Morehouse with Avista and Terry Hardman with Williams provided PowerPoint presentations on Natural Gas Control Room Centers as it pertains to their respective companies (*These documents are posted on the CCOPS website*).

5. **Industries Presentation on “Gas and Liquid Control Center” (Presentation by Hazardous Liquid Industries – Olympic & McChord)**

Corey Herrick with McChord Pipeline and Rosalie Ann Lopez and Sandy Conlan with BP/Olympic Pipeline provided PowerPoint presentations on Hazardous Liquid Control Centers as it pertains to their respective companies. (*These documents are posted on the CCOPS website*).

6. **Public Comments**

No public comments.

**Continued Discussion: Review and approve letter to PHMSA regarding Integrity Management, HCA through online maps, and public engagement process (Item 2, 3 & 4 from Sept 20<sup>th</sup> agenda)**

Carl Weimer was not in attendance earlier in the meeting and provided comments regarding the draft letter to PHMSA. He stated that the second paragraph of item #1 on page two is inaccurate. He recommended that “PHMSA” referred to in the first sentence be changed to “INGAA” (Interstate Natural Gas Association of America). In addition, he recommended omitting reference to hazardous liquid pipelines in the same sentence, since INGAA advocates regulations of importance to natural gas pipelines only. Finally, he noted that all references to the “ANPRM” should be changed to “NPRM.”

**Action(s):**

The committee agreed to amend previous motion (Agenda Item #3) by deleting the second paragraph of Item #1 on page two of the draft letter. Motion passed.

7. **UTC Update – David Lykken**

- **Training** - UTC pipeline safety engineers attended the PHMSA Training and Qualification Gas Seminar in Boise, Idaho during the week of November 12th. Joe Subsits provided a presentation at the seminar on a new approach in investigating pipeline related accidents.
- **NTSB Training** - Two pipeline safety staff traveled to the NTSB academy last week to attend human fatigue factors and cognitive interviewing training courses. Both were very good classes and he encouraged industries to participate in these types of training courses.
- **Pipeline Safety Trust Conference** – David attended the Pipeline Safety Trust Conference in New Orleans two weeks ago. He served on a conference discussion panel and described how inspections are performed in Washington State.

- Staffing/Personnel – UTC is in the process of filling a vacant pipeline safety engineer position. Interviews have been conducted and it is anticipated that the position will be filled in the next few weeks. Kuang Chu will retire from the Commission on December 31, 2012.
  - Damage Prevention Update – The Damage Prevention Safety Committee will begin work on January 1, 2013 as required by the new dig law. Anna Gill has conducted two damage prevention seminars in October (Cowlitz County and Bellevue). He also mentioned that more individuals are registering on the online Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT).
  - PHMSA Rulemaking – PHMSA anticipates issuing 15 to 20 new rulemakings within the next two years.
  - FERC Scoping Meetings – During the week of October 15<sup>th</sup> pipeline staff attended a number of FERC scoping meetings. The meetings pertain to the proposed Northwest Expansion project which is tied to the Oregon LNG project.
  - 2013 Workplan – Joe is in the process of completing the 2013 inspection workplan. Pipeline operators will be contacted in the near future to schedule inspections for next calendar year 2013.
8. **Dept. of Ecology (DOE) Update**  
Scott Zimmerman provided an Ecology update to members. (*This document is posted on CCOPS website*).
9. **Public Comments and Other Business**  
Dave Taylor briefed the Committee on his attendance to the Pipeline Trust Annual Conference held in New Orleans on November 8 & 9, 2012. About 170 individuals attended the conference. Information is available on the Trust website.
10. **Future Agenda Review (FAR) – 2012-2013 Meetings**  
Members were provided a copy of FAR document and agreed with the following:
- Emergency response for the March 2013 meeting.
  - The Committee expressed interest in inviting the Washington State Fire Marshall to a future meeting.
  - UTC Pipeline safety update
  - PHMSA rulemaking update
  - Department of Ecology update
  - Damage Prevention Safety Committee update
  - Future 2013 meeting dates include March 7<sup>th</sup>, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, September 19<sup>th</sup> and November 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - The next meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2013 at the WA UTC.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.