

**Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety**  
Meeting Minutes  
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, WA 98504  
May 17, 2012

**Present members:**

David Taylor, Chair  
Tim Sweeney, Vice-Chair  
Bill Rickard  
Carl Weimer  
Ron Schmitt  
Art Coulombe  
Bob Beaumier  
Rosalie Ann Lopez  
Jody Morehouse

**Absent members:**

Terrill Briere  
Ruth Mabrey  
Corey Herrick

**Other attendees:**

Joe Subsits, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Marina Woodard, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Anna Gill, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Scott Zimmerman, Dept. of Ecology  
Rick Kuprewicz, Accufacts, Inc.  
Ernesto Ybarra, UA Local 32  
Verlyn Bailly, TransCanada GTN

**Agenda Items:**

1. **Welcome, Introduction and Adoption of March 14, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was brought to order by Dave Taylor who welcomed all attendees.

The following error was noted during the adoption of the draft minutes.

**Item #1** – The agenda title noted the incorrect meeting date. The title should read “**Welcome, Introduction and Adoption of November 10, 2011 Meeting Minutes.**”

In a unanimous vote, the Committee adopted the revised March 14, 2012 meeting minutes. The finalized minutes will be emailed to members and posted to the website.

2. **Election of Vice-Chair**

In a unanimous vote, Tim Sweeney was elected as a vice-chair.

3. **San Bruno update**

Rick Kuprewicz of Accufacts, Inc. presented a slide presentation updating the San Bruno Gas Pipeline Rupture incident. (*This document is posted on CCOPS website.*)

4. **Update on ANPRM-reviewing priority issue [Docket PHMSA-2011-0023-Safety of Gas Transmission Pipelines]**

Bob Beaumier presented a list of 22 proposed issues that he summarized based on comments submitted to PHMSA. (*Beaumier memorandum dated May 10, 2012 is posted on CCOPS website*).

**Action(s):**

- 1) Members decided to further discuss the following topics (item numbers correspond to Beaumier May 10, 2012 memorandum) in preparation to comment on the NPRM when it is released.
  - Items 1 & 2 – These items will be consolidated as one issue. Because an NPRM is pending on hazardous liquid rules, it was decided that Carl and Tim will assist Bob Beaumier in addressing the issue of HCA for both gas and liquid.
  - Item 6 (relates to items 1 & 2)
  - Items 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 & 17.
- 2) Members decided to skip the following topics.
  - Items 3, 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21 & 22.
- 3) Tim will work with Marina in creating an online blog page for member discussions. Marina will inquire the UTC help desk on the feasibility of setting up the system.

5. **The Search for Meaningful Pipeline Safety Metrics**

As a result of San Bruno and Michigan liquid pipeline incident, the NTSB has asked for meaningful ways of measuring pipeline safety. PHMSA and the industries are seeking help in determining what measures would be meaningful to the public. Carl Weimer distributed a draft metric comparing Gas Transmission pipelines prepared by the Trust. He also distributed a comparison of states pipeline safety program for natural gas. This data was compiled from PHMSA website.

Carl invited anyone who is interested in helping to provide advice on pipeline safety metrics to contact him.

6. **UTC Update**

- Damage Prevention - Joe introduced Anna who provided an update on Damage Prevention effort.
  - Workshop was held a week ago to discuss rulemaking around damage reporting requirements. It is proposed that damage would be reported every 45 days through the UTC Virtual DIRT system.
  - A request for proposal is planned on June 28<sup>th</sup> to seek a non-profit entity to facilitate creation of the safety committee.
  - Seminars for stakeholders have been held. A webinar is planned later this year for local governments in an effort to remind them of their responsibility under the dig law.
- New pipeline operator – Joe reported that Targa Resources will be constructing a new 3 mile pipeline in Tacoma connecting to Olympic Pipe Line system beginning in August 2012.
- As a result of the San Bruno incident, the Inspector General will be auditing state programs to determine their effectiveness. Seven programs were selected, Washington was not included.
- Dave Lykken attended the NAPS meeting during the week of May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The issue of land use planning by local government was a topic of discussion. PHMSA reported that pipeline safety programs may become more involved in hazardous liquid safety drills, something that the DOE has been primarily overseeing in Washington.

- PHMSA issued an Advisory Bulletin relative to establishing Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP).

7. **Dept. of Ecology (DOE) Update**

Scott Zimmerman introduced himself as the new pipeline coordinator for the DOE. He provided an Ecology update to members. *(This document is posted on CCOPS website).*

8. **WA State Rules**

Joe Subsits, UTC Pipeline Safety Program Chief Engineer provided a PowerPoint presentation on the WA State Rules. *(This document is posted on CCOPS website).*

9. **UTC Pipeline Safety Program GMAP overview**

Joe Subsits provided an overview and background on GMAP (Government Management Accountability and Performance). GMAP is the process that was initiated by Governor Gregoire in 2005 that helps Washington state agencies measure and improve their performance. Washington is the first state in the nation to adapt these data-based management models to improve the results of statewide programs and services.

Joe further explained that the UTC has an established internal process where GMAPs are presented to the Senior Management Team and the Commissioners once a year by each section. Each section presents measures on their respective missions, productivities and outcomes. All information obtained is used by the agency director as a tool in developing the agency report for the Governor.

Joe summarized the 2011 Pipeline Safety GMAP. The Pipeline Safety program provides measurable GMAP data and objectives relating to the program itself. This includes the number of inspections performed, number of violations issued and monitoring days to produce inspection results. It also includes a comparison on the significant incident rates in Washington with overall national statistics as well as the four other state programs having similar jurisdictions and operations. Finally the GMAP includes future strategic plans, updates on current activities and other internal measures that may change based on PHMSA state guideline requirements.

10. **Public Comment and Other Business**

- Joe responded to an inquiry from a representative of TransCanada concerning exemptions to the new dig law.
- Marina responded to member's inquiry relative to members' term expiration and filling of potential vacancies.

11. **Future Agenda Review (FAR) – 2012 Meetings**

Members were provided a copy of 2012 FAR document.

- Members decided to include discussion on HCA at the September meeting.
- Members decided to keep the "Gas Control Center" presentation in September.
- The next meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2012 at the WA UTC.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.