

**Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety**

## Meeting Minutes

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, WA 98504  
May 7, 2015

**Present members:**

Ron Bowen, Chair  
Bob Beaumier  
Ron Schmitt  
Tim Sweeney  
Robert Oenning  
David Taylor  
Carl Weimer

**Absent members:**

Jody Morehouse  
Nick Peelo  
Ed Cimaroli  
Randy Tarter

**Other attendees:**

Joe Subits, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Jim Fernald, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Marina Woodard, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Lynda Holloway, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Jason Lewis, UTC Transportation Policy Advisor  
Scott Zimmerman, Dept. of Ecology  
Ryan Paulsen, Dept. of Ecology  
Verlyn Bailly, TransCanada  
Charlie Gadzik, PSE  
Francis Roemer, Williams  
Kellis Gustaf, BP Pipelines

**Agenda Items:**

1. **Welcome, Meeting Protocols, Introduction and Adoption of January 26, 2015 Minutes**  
The meeting was brought to order by Ron Bowen who welcomed all attendees. In a unanimous vote, the Committee adopted the January 26, 2015 meeting minutes as written.
2. **Election of Vice-chair**  
During the meeting, an election of the vice-chair was not conducted. Ron Bowen will address the election at a future meeting.
3. **Emergency Response Outreach**  
The speaker was not available.

4. **Senate Bill 6075**

Bob Beaumer distributed his memo to the committee summarizing “SB 6075 and ESHB 1449” relating to Oil Transportation Safety. *(This document is posted on CCOPS website)*. After a lengthy discussion, members decided no further action is required. They will continue to monitor the bill.

5. **Fugitive Gas - (2015 Workplan, item ii)**

Jason stated that this item was identified in the 2015 workplan, however, this discussion will likely to be continued during the next scheduled CCOPS meeting in September. In response to Ron Bowen’s question on the purpose of this topic, Jason stated that Chairman Dave Danner requested this item be added to the workplan to determine if this is an issue in Washington state and if so, can best practices be identified that industries need to incorporate.

6. **Geographic Response Plan (GRP) – (2015 Workplan, item i)**

Scott Zimmerman provided a powerpoint presentation on GRPs. *(This document is posted on CCOPS website)*.

**Action(s):**

Bob Oenning moved to recommend that a letter be drafted to legislature in support of funding for GRPs. Jason will assist Ron Bowen in drafting this letter.

7. **Review of Draft CCOPS letter to PHMSA RE: Interstate Agent Agreement**

This topic was carried over from the January 26, 2015, CCOPS meeting regarding PHMSA’s possible re-assumption of interstate inspection authority by rescinding the Interstate Agent Agreement.

**Action(s):**

After further discussion, members moved to write a letter to PHMSA indicating their support of retaining Washington’s Interstate Agent Authority.

Further discussion regarding correspondence to PHMSA will be considered at the next scheduled CCOPS meeting.

8. **Follow-up to U.S. DOT PHMSA, Secretary Anthony Foxx Letter**

The letter to Secretary Foxx was sent on December 30, 2014, pertaining to their delay in adopting new pipeline safety rules with copies to Governor Inslee and WA State Congressional Delegates. CCOPS received PHMSA’s response letter on April 13, 2015. Ron Bowen opened for discussion on the next steps. *(Both documents are posted on CCOPS website)*.

**Action(s):**

Members moved to develop a transmittal cover letter to be sent to the Congressional Delegations with a copy of PHMSA’s April 13, 2015, response letter. *(Note: There was no action on who will draft this transmittal cover letter)*.

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

Scott Zimmerman provided an Ecology update to members. *(This document is posted on CCOPS website).*

10. **UTC Update**

Joe Subsits provided the following UTC updates:

- **PHMSA Audit**

The pipeline program annual certification audit has been scheduled the week of July 6, 2015. The audit will include the on-site office review of written records and progress reports submitted to PHMSA. The field portion of the audit will be performed with two UTC pipeline inspectors.

- **PHMSA Gas Training & Qualification (T&Q)**

The Joint Gas T&Q Seminar (WA, ID, OR) hosted by Washington is scheduled for May 12-13, 2015 in Richland, WA. Approximately 70 participants have registered to attend this seminar.

11. **Damage Prevention Update**

Lynda Holloway provided the following updates:

- **Home and Garden Show**

The UTC attended Home and Garden Show in the following cities; Seattle, Tacoma, Yakima and Moses Lake. Thousands of 811 promotional items were handed out during these events for education and outreach purposes.

- **Media Campaign**

Year two of media campaign has been delayed until 2016.

- **Report to Legislature**

The report is due to the legislature on the effectiveness of the damage prevention program in December 2015. Tim Sweeney has been contracted to assist in facilitating stakeholder meetings and developing the final report.

- **Penalty Assessment Notice**

Eight excavators were identified as having multiple violations of the RCW 19.122.030(1)(a). Pipeline inspectors were assigned to conduct further investigations of each of these violations. Penalties for these types of violations range from \$2,000 to \$4,000, and if additional violations are found, the next penalty can increase up to \$10,000.

- **UTC letters to violators who failed to call the 811**

Approximately 720 damage notification letters have been sent out to date.

12. **Other Business**

The committee proposed the following topics for consideration in the next scheduled meeting agenda.

- Public Outreach Emergency Response - Presentation by Randy Tartar/Francis Roemer.
- Landuse Guidelines – Recommended by Tim Sweeney
- CCOPS Bylaws – Recommended by Bob Beaumier
- Cyber Security – (2015 Workplan, item iii)

Due to unavailable facilities, members agreed to move the next meeting to Wednesday, September 9, 2015. The meeting will be held at UTC.

13. **Public Comments**

Jason reported that the draft annual report is now complete. The UTC will be issuing the press release with the finalized annual report today. Electronic copies will be distributed to the approved distribution list.

No other public comment were provided.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.