

Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety
Meeting MinutesWashington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, WA 98504
September 9, 2015**Present members:**Ron Bowen, Chair
David Taylor, Vice-chair
Bob Beaumier
Ron Schmitt
Carl Weimer
Jody Morehouse
Nick Peelo
Ed Cimaroli
Randy Tarter**Absent members:****Other attendees:**Alan Rathbun, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Joe Subsits, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Marina Woodard, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Scott Anderson, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Derek Norwood, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Lex Vinsel, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Scott Rukke, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Jason Lewis, UTC Transportation Policy Advisor
Scott Zimmerman, Dept. of Ecology
Steve Ogle, Dept. of Ecology
Hank Henrie, Northwest Pipeline LLC (Williams)
Adam Cole, Northwest Pipeline LLC (Williams)
Jared Ellsworth, Northwest Pipeline LLC (Williams)
Patti Chartrey, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation**Agenda Items:**

1. **Welcome, Meeting Protocols, Introduction and Adoption of May 7, 2015 Minutes**
The meeting was brought to order by Ron Bowen who welcomed all attendees. In a unanimous vote, the Committee adopted the May 7, 2015 meeting minutes as written.
2. **Election of Vice-chair**
In a unanimous vote, Dave Taylor was elected as vice-chair.

3. **Emergency Response Outreach**

Wayne Senter, Executive Director with the Washington Fire Chiefs (WFC) provided a brief background of himself, his experience as it relates to pipeline safety issues and the organization he currently leads. After serving at the South Kitsap & Fire Rescue as the Fire Chief for nine years, he took the opportunity to serve as the Executive Director at the WA Fire Chiefs Association. Wayne is a registered lobbyist, and an advocate on behalf of WA Fire Chiefs on employer issues. The organization consists of 1,200 members representing 350 agencies.

The WFC's mission and the foundational purpose is to “**Serve, Educate, and Lead** its membership” where it strives to support and enhance the work of those leaders and organizations in order that they may best provide for protection of people and the environment from the occurrence and outcomes of fires and other natural, technological and human-behavior-caused emergencies.

In response to Bob Beaumier's question on the connection/liaison with the State Fire Marshall particularly on fire prevention and safety issue, Wayne explained his organization works closely with the State Fire Marshall office and the WA State Patrol. In addition, his organization administers the WA State Fire Marshal Association which is a separate association consisting of fire marshall inspectors, public educators and fire investigators.

The WFC also maintains a Membership Email Blast system that was adopted in 2009 and the membership group types are maintained by WFC. To request an email blast, members must email the information or material to the WFC office, wfc@washingtonfirechiefs.org. Once the email blast is requested, WFC staff will create a draft and if necessary, receive Executive Director approval prior to e-mailing.

Wayne announced that the WFC together with the Hazmat Committee/Section is hosting an “Annual WA Fire Chief's Conference” in May 2016. The conference will be held in Spokane, WA. Wayne suggested that if CCOPS has any presentation on safety awareness relating to pipeline, to contact the WFC for consideration. Wayne also noted that the webinar is another option available which is a relatively convenient and inexpensive method for CCOPS to promote Pipeline Safety.

Ron Bowen shared his goals for the next two CCOPS meeting where he plans on bringing in the volunteers from the Fire Fighters Association, and the Washington Association Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to be able to open up more communication between first responder, industries and the committee.

4. **PHMSA Pending Rules Update**

Carl distributed a copy of a presentation, “PHMSA's Pipeline Standards and Rulemaking Division: Current Rulemakings in Process.” This was presented by John Gale during the PHMSA's Technical Pipeline Safety Standard Committee (Gas and Liquid) meeting held on August 25, 2015, in Arlington, Virginia. John is the Director of Standards and

Rulemaking for PHMSA. The presentation includes updates on the pending rules. *(This document posted on CCOPS website)*

5. **PHMSA Congressional Re-Authorization**

Jason reported that the UTC was asked by NARUC to send a letter supporting PHMSA's re-authorization with a set of ten recommendations. The UTC drafted letter is currently in the review process before being sent to the Congressional Delegation for review. One of the recommendations concerns continuation of Interstate Agent agreements between PHMSA and several states, including Washington. UTC has reached out to other state programs to gauge how many other states will be sending similar support letters to their respective congressional delegations. After the letter is finalized, the UTC will make it available to CCOPS members.

6. **Kalama Lateral Project and Washington Expansion Project**

Hank Henrie with the Northwest Pipeline LLC. provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Kalama Lateral Project and Washington Expansion Project. *(This document posted on CCOPS website)*

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

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

8. **UTC Update**

Alan Rathbun provided the following UTC updates:

- **CCOPS Membership**

The Governor's office received seven applications from the general public for the four vacant positions. The UTC is in the process of providing recommendation to the Governor's office and anticipated to have a full membership by the next CCOPS meeting.

- **PHMSA Audit**

PHMSA conducted the pipeline program annual certification audit the week of July 6, 2015. The audit included 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 in September 2015.

- **Pipeline Fees 2015-2016**

The commission imposes an annual pipeline fee pursuant to RCW 80.24.060 and RCW 81.24.090 to meet the costs of its pipeline safety program. The fee was established using the methodology set forth in WAC 480-75-240 and WAC 480-93-240.

The commission approved the pipeline fees set for 2015-2016 during the August 27, 2015 open meeting. The fees collected from the pipeline regulated operators are paid quarterly and the first invoice will be mailed to each operator on August 1, 2015

showing the total amount of the pipeline fee for fiscal year 2016, with the first quarterly payment due September 1, 2015.

- Updates – Bremerton Motel Explosion
On August 18, 2015, UTC staff responded to a natural gas explosion and fire at the Motel 6 in Bremerton. This incident remains under investigation.
- National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR) National Meeting
The NAPSR national meeting was held in Tempe, AZ on August 31 – September 4, 2015. The NAPSR is a non-profit organization comprised of state program representatives who serve to promote pipeline safety in the U.S. and its territory.
- PSE LNG Project in Tacoma, WA
PSE is proposing to construct an LNG facility in the city of Tacoma. The facility is interconnected within PSE's intrastate natural gas distribution system. The proposed facility will provide PSE residential and commercial customers with natural gas reserves to maintain dependable service on the coldest days of the year. It will also provide local transportation companies with a cleaner fuel alternative, including Totem Ocean Trailer Express vessels.
- Proposed Island Gas Connector Pipeline (Williams)
The UTC received a letter from Williams on September 8, 2015 notifying us that the Northwest Pipeline LLC, subsidiary of Williams is working with Steelhead LNG, a Canadian company, to determine the feasibility of building and operating natural gas pipeline called the "Island Gas Connector" (IGC) to serve a proposed liquefied natural gas facility on the Vancouver Island shoreline known as Malahat LNG. The IGC pipeline will originate in the U.S. and terminate in Canada.

9. **Damage Prevention Update**

Alan Rathbun provided the following updates:

- Report to Legislature
The report is due to the legislature by December 1, 2015. The draft report has been prepared and is currently under internal review. Tim Sweeney was contracted to serve as the lead and facilitator. Upon completion of the internal review, staff will email a draft copy to CCOPS members for review and members are welcome to provide individual or group comments to the UTC. Staff will provide updates at the next CCOPS meeting on December 3, 2015.

10. **Other Business**

- Carl announced that the Pipeline Trust will hold its annual conference in New Orleans on November 19 & 20, 2015. This conference is open to the public. Carl asked members to contact him if interested in attending. Visit the Pipeline Safety Trust website at www.pstrust.org for more information on the conference and registration.

- Measurable Metrics – PHMSA and the pipeline industry has been working for some time in developing “Measurable Metrics,” as a way to tell a story to the public whether the pipeline are being operated safely. The Trust has also been contacted by the Canadian pipeline industry with the same goal in mind. Carl may be contacting the CCOPS members requesting insight on potential meaningful data and information to demonstrate that a pipeline is safe.

11. **Public Comments**

No public comment were provided.

12. **Review of Action Items and Topics for Next Meeting**

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

- Cyber Security

The next committee meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2015. The meeting will be held at the UTC.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 pm.