

Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety
Meeting Minutes
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW, Olympia, WA 98504
December 15, 2016

Present members:

David Taylor, Chair
Ron Bowen, Vice-chair
Bob Beaumier
Carl Weimer
Greg Baruso
Juliana Williams
Randy Tarter
Nick Peelo
Janet Alderton (via Conference Bridge Line)

Absent members:

Ron Schmitt
Jody Morehouse

Other attendees:

Alan Rathbun, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Joe Subsits, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Debbie Becker, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Denise Crawford, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Lynda Holloway, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Darren Tinnerstet, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Jason Lewis, UTC Transportation Policy Advisor
Kate Blystone, Pipeline Safety Trust
Steve Ogle, Dept. of Ecology
Scott Zimmerman, Dept. of Ecology

Agenda Items:**1) Welcome, Meeting Protocols, Introduction and Adoption of September 23, 2016 Minutes**

The meeting was brought to order by Dave Taylor who welcomed all attendees. In a unanimous vote, the Committee adopted the September 23, 2016 meeting minutes as written.

NOTE: Due to the delayed arrival of some of the members, many of the agenda items were switched in order. Therefore, the minutes reflect the amended order in which items were considered.

2) Federal Rulemaking Update

Alan Rathbun briefly reviewed the following significant Federal Rulemaking updates:
(*This document has been posted to the CCOPS website*)

Docket Number PHMSA-2010-0229 - Safety of Hazardous Liquid Pipelines-Final Rule
PHMSA is amending the Pipeline Safety Regulations to improve protection of the public, property, and the environment by closing regulatory gaps where appropriate, and ensuring that operators are increasing detection and remediation of unsafe conditions, and mitigating the adverse effects of hazardous liquid pipeline failures.

Docket Number PHMSA-2011-0023 - Gas Transmission (RRR)-Final Rule
PHMSA is addressing repair criteria for both HCA and non-HCA areas, assessment methods, validating and integrating pipeline data, risk assessments, knowledge gained through the IM program, corrosion control, change management, gathering lines, and safety features on launchers and receivers.

Amendments to Parts 192 and 195 to require Valve installation and Minimum Rupture Detection Standards

This rule would propose installation of automatic shutoff valves, remote controlled valves, or equivalent technology and establish performance based meaningful metrics for rupture detection for gas and liquid transmission pipelines.

Underground Storage Facilities for Natural Gas

PHMSA has safety authority over the underground storage facilities used in natural gas pipeline transportation, but has no safety regulations in the DOT code (49 CFR Part 192) that apply to the down-hole underground storage reservoir for natural gas. PHMSA is planning to issue an interim final rule requiring underground storage facilities for natural gas to comply with the minimum standards of API RP 1171 and API RP 1170.

3) Agency Request Legislation

Debbie Becker reviewed the agency request legislation RCW 19.122 - Dig Law. Remove expiration dates, obsolete dates, and an outdated statutory reference from the enforcement provisions of the underground utility damage prevention act. Lauren McCloy is the Lead Policy Advisor on this bill. Lauren may contact CCOPS members and request a letter of support. *(This document has been posted to the CCOPS website)*

4) Land Use

Alan gave a brief overview of the 2004 Public Awareness Project Report and the 2006 Report on Land Use Planning in Proximity to Natural Gas and Hazardous Liquid Transmission Pipelines in Washington State. Alan described how the CCOPS members were actively involved in public awareness and land planning right after the Bellingham incident.

This could be a role that current CCOPS members actively take on in making visits and talking with local planners and jurisdictions and making to remind them of where these pipelines are; the potential hazards of land development around them; provide tools in assessing the risks.

Juliana Williams suggested that the committee make a best practices information sheet with a brief description of consultation zones and notification practices that are required and cities could adopt. This could be a good way to get the conversation started with local jurisdictions.

Bob Beaumier suggested an improved regulatory structure for easements.

The members discussed encouraging the developers to use the land around pipelines for something other than building, such as for a miniature golf course, park, or walking trails.

Randy Tarter pointed out that while these are all good ideas, it really comes down to money for the developer and the value of the property. They look at their profit margin per square foot.

Alan reminded the Committee that raising awareness at local government level and helping them take action is going to be easier than trying to pass a statewide regulation.

Janet Alderton suggested writing a "letter to the editor" of local newspapers warning of the possible hazards of building around pipelines and reminding them of the Bellingham incident.

Carl Weimer encouraged members to discuss how they can get planners and local jurisdictions involved in land use discussions/awareness. He suggested starting with viewing the pipeline map to determine which areas have a pipeline and discuss consultation zones with planner before building begins.

Dave Taylor suggested that the committee try to secure a spot on the Association of Washington Cities Annual Conference to discuss land use.

Janet Alderton questioned how a city or county would go about gathering pipeline GIS data.

Alan responded that under state law, the commission has an obligation to provide hazardous liquid and gas pipeline information for all pipelines operating at or above 250 PSIG to local governments and first responders.

Juliana suggested:

- Prioritizing the items that we want to discuss with the local planners.
- Starting with the Association of Washington Cities and the Washington Planning Association, as opposed to cold-calling on city or local governments. She feels that these Associations can help us identify which groups are interested or inclined to take action.
- Enlisting support from some of the local jurisdictions who have already implemented land use ordinances.

Carl Weimer suggested enlisting the help of Jim Doherty of the MRSC (Municipal Research and Services Center). Jim expressed to Carl that he enjoyed being a part of this effort in the past. The incoming President of the Washington Planning Association is the Planning Director for the City of Bellingham. This would be a good group to contact.

Randy Tarter said that Williams is on board and they will provide support and resources.

Carl Weimer also suggested to creating a presentation that will give planners continuing education (CE) credits.

Action Items:

Staff will develop some talking points for the Association of Washington Cities and the Washington Planning Association.

Dave Taylor will prepare a list of talking points to discuss with the local planners.

Dave Taylor will talk to Victoria Lincoln about getting on the Association of Washington Cities Annual Conference Agenda for next June.

Carl will contact the Counties and the Planning Association of Washington.

5) **Department of Ecology Update**

Scott Zimmerman provided the Department of Ecology update. (*This document has been posted on the CCOPS website*) The Ecology update started with a year-end wrap up. All of the pipeline plans have either been re-approved for the year, or have done an annual update. All of the contingency plans are up to date. All of the companies have completed the necessary drills for the year. There were no reportable spills from a regulated oil pipeline in the state for this past year.

6) **Damage Prevention Update**

Lynda Holloway provided the following Damage Prevention Updates.

Q3 2016 DIRT Analysis, July-Sept. 2016

(*This document has been posted on the CCOPS website*)

There was a huge increase in locate requests this quarter, resulting in a decrease of damage reports compared to the same time period one year ago. Operators have stepped up the Call Before You Dig public awareness with commercials and hiring staff to patrol local construction sites, looking for locate marks and educating the excavators.

Outreach

The UTC Damage Prevention Program will be providing contractor and locator training this year. Some of the PHMSA One-Call Grant and Damage Prevention Grant and money received from penalties will be used for radio and TV advertising.

L&I Contractor Training

Lynda will be participating in the new contractor training classes offered through L&I.

Northwest Flower and Garden Show – Feb. 22-26, 2017

The Damage Prevention Program will have a booth at the Northwest Flower and Garden show in February. If anyone is interested in helping provide outreach, please contact Lynda Holloway.

7) **Annual Pipeline Safety Trust Conference – New Orleans, LA**

Carl Weimer gave a brief overview of the conference that was held last October. Carl provided the committee members with a guide on the rulemaking process. (*This document has been posted to the CCOPS website*) Carl also provided members with the Fall 2016 Safe Pipelines newsletter. (*This document has been posted to the CCOPS website*)

Operator Meetings

Pipeline Safety staff will be holding the annual Interstate Operator Meeting on January 10-11, 2017 and the Intrastate Operator Meeting on January 18-19, 2017. Agenda topics include the 2017 Inspection Work Plan, legislative and rulemaking updates, damage prevention, and a discussion on earthquake preparedness and pipeline safety management systems.

8) **UTC Update**

Joe Subits provided the following UTC Update.

Olympic Pipe Line Incident, Nov. 2, 2016

Olympic Pipe Line reported a small leak of 14 gallons. It was near the Tacoma junction on the mainline. The leak came off of control valve. The O-ring and slipped and caused this leak. The leak was contained within the system vault.

Alan Rathbun provided the following UTC Updates.

2nd Annual Operator Meetings

The Interstate Operator Meeting is scheduled for January 10-11, 2017 and the Intrastate Operator Meeting is January 18-19, 2017. Agenda topics include the 2017 Inspection Work Plan, legislative and rulemaking updates, damage prevention, and discussion on earthquake preparedness and pipeline safety management systems.

Complaints against Puget Sound Energy and Cascade Natural Gas Corporation

- Staff and Cascade Natural Gas Corporation will be filing a proposed settlement agreement with the Administrative Law Judge, which must then be approved by the commission. Docket No. PG-150120
- Greenwood complaint – Discovery is progressing and a settlement conference was held earlier this week. Docket No. PG-160924

PSE LNG Proposal

PSE is proposing a LNG liquefaction facility in the Port of Tacoma to serve both peak shaving for their LDC but also to provide LNG as a fuel for TOTE shipping. The Commission has issued an order concerning the corporate structure of PSE, in order to protect rate payers from economic liability related to the supplying of fuel to TOTE or

other transportation modes. The project is of some controversy among the local residents. Pipeline Safety is responsible for assurance of compliance with 49 CFR Part 193 and that work will likely begin shortly.

If desired, we can ask PSE to brief the Committee on this project at a meeting early in 2017.

Williams North Seattle Lateral

Williams is investigating the enhancement of a gas system capacity serving the area north of Bothell/Woodinville by replacing 6.5 miles of an existing 8-inch pipeline with a new 20-inch pipeline. An open house was held for impacted land owners earlier this month, with construction likely not starting until 2019.

PHMSA letter on 2015 Program Evaluation

On October 21, 2016, the Pipeline Safety Program received written verification of the 2015 program audit findings in a letter from Zach Barrett to Chairman Danner. PHMSA did express a series of recommendations for improvement in this letter. Both PHMSA's letter and Chairman Danner's response have been posted to our website. Juliana Williams requested that we provide a link to this letter via email.

Action(s):

Alan will send an email with the link to the 2015 Pipeline Safety Program audit letter.

Staffing Update

Marina Woodard has taken another position in the UTC after serving Pipeline Safety for 16 years. Alan Rathbun will be retiring effective June 1, 2017.

9) 2016 CCOPS Annual Report

Jason Lewis discussed the preparation of the CCOPS Annual Report. The information will be extracted from the committee meeting minutes and presentations. He will use the template from the 2014 Annual Report and update the pipeline data.

10) Potential 2017 Work Plan Topics and Selection of 2017 Meeting Dates

- Juliana Williams recommended a systematic review of the Pipeline Safety Program throughout the year.
- Carl Weimer recommended an independent review of the Washington Pipeline Safety Program with a report and recommendations. The review would provide metrics showing how Washington State compares to other states. The Pipeline Safety Trust can put together a template. He suggested that some of the information may also be used for the CCOPS Annual Report.
- Ron Bowen recommended an educational review of Pipeline Safety operations, i.e., the inspection process and damage prevention.
- Discussion on what constitutes as meaningful metrics, using the PST's recent metrics report to Canada.
- A review of the Commission's enforcement policy.

- Debbie Becker will provide a comprehensive list of the Damage Prevention penalties that have been levied.
- An overview of the Washington State Dig Law Safety Committee. Invite the Chair to discuss their process.

Action(s):

Carl Weimer will send the template out to the CCOPS members to review.

Jason Lewis will provide the information from the 2015 CCOPS Annual Report to Carl to help coordinate the effort.

Juliana Williams recommended that the voting CCOPS members take an active role in making contact with the local jurisdictions and discussing land use, in between meetings.

Pipeline staff will send the 2017 meeting date choices via Doodle Poll and report the results back to the members.

11) **Review of Action Items, Topics for Next Meeting, and Other Business**

Action(s)

Staff will develop some talking points for the Association of Washington Cities and the Washington Planning Association.

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Dave Taylor will talk to Victoria Lincoln about getting on the Association of Washington Cities Annual Conference Agenda for next June.

Carl will contact the Counties and the Washington Planning Association.

Alan will send an email with the link to the 2015 Pipeline Safety Program audit letter.

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Topics for Next Meeting:

CCOPS members progress on Land Use outreach. Who made contacts and what were the results.

- 12) **Public Comments**
No public comments

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.