

U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline Emergency Response Forum Agenda

DOT Headquarters, West Atrium, Washington, DC

December 9, 2011

Sponsors

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

The National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR)

United States Fire Administration (USFA)

Purpose: Convene a meeting of leaders in the emergency response community, the government, the pipeline industry, and the interested public to solicit professional advice that will inform the development of a strategy for improving emergency responders' ability to prepare for and respond to pipeline emergencies.

- 8:00 AM **Welcome and Introduction** | Cynthia Quarterman, PHMSA Administrator
- 8:05 AM **Forum Opening Remarks** | Ray LaHood, U.S. Secretary of Transportation
- 8:15 AM **USFA Opening Remarks** | Robert Neale, Deputy Superintendent, National Fire Academy
- 8:20 AM **NAPSR Opening Remarks** | Don Stursma, Manager, Iowa Utilities Board
- 8:25 AM **Forum Goals and Objectives** | Timothy Butters, PHMSA Deputy Administrator
- 8:30 AM **Regulator Perspective**
- Linda Daugherty, PHMSA Deputy Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety
 - Steve Pott, Chief of Gas Pipeline Safety, Colorado Public Utilities Commission
- 9:15 AM **Pipeline Operator Perspective**
- Bill Thompson, Baltimore Gas & Electric, Gas Distribution
 - Niki Affleck, TransCanada, Hazardous Liquid
 - Susan Waller, Spectra Energy, Gas Transmission
- 10:00 AM ~~~ **BREAK** ~~~
- 10:15 AM **Emergency Responder Perspective**
- Fire Chief Dennis Haag, San Bruno, CA
 - Battalion Chief Rick Edinger, Chesterfield County, VA/IAFC Hazardous Materials Committee
 - Fire Chief Lanny Armstrong, Pasadena, TX
- 11:15 AM **Instructions for Breakout Sessions** | Tim Butters, PHMSA
- 11:30 AM **Lunch Speaker** | Mike Callan, Emergency Planning, Response and Safety
(box lunch provided - attendees must remain in DOT building)
- 12:30 PM **Facilitated Breakout Sessions** – Breakout groups progress through each session for 1 hour
- 4:00 PM **Reports from Breakout Sessions**
- Breakout Session 1: Fire Chief Lanny Armstrong, Pasadena, TX
 - Breakout Session 2: Battalion Chief Rick Edinger, Chesterfield County
 - Breakout Session 3: Fire Chief Dennis Haag, San Bruno, CA
- 4:45 PM **Forum Closing Remarks** | Tim Butters, PHMSA

*All of the proceedings will be webcast *except* the breakout sessions from 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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Breakout Session 1: Rooms 8-10 Communications between Emergency Responders and Pipeline Regulators

Emergency Responder Representative: Fire Chief Lanny Armstrong

Facilitators: Sam Hall and Annmarie Robertson, PHMSA

What strategy should be adopted to effectively share general information about pipeline safety between emergency responders and pipeline safety regulators (both state and federal)?

1. How can PHMSA, NAPS, and the pipeline industry improve, package, and disseminate information about available resources such as training, grants, pipeline locations and operators, regulations, etc.?
2. What are the communication pathways to emergency responders and who are the communications gatekeepers? What are the preferred/most commonly used web sites, newsletters, etc.?
3. Ongoing dialogue: What do we need to know from you? How often should we reach out?
4. How do we ensure two-way communications between the ER community and the regulators?
5. What methods of outreach for other safety topics have you found to be most effective? Least effective?
6. What types of communication are effective from agencies that you already work with (state/local emergency management organizations, FEMA/USFA, EPA, etc.)?
7. How do we raise the level of interest in pipeline safety, given that emergency responders have so many safety issues to keep track of?
8. Do incentives work? If so, which ones? What incentives can the government leverage?
9. Ideally, at what fire service/emergency response events should there be PHMSA and/or state presence? As attendees, as presenters, booth presence?
10. Are existing regulations for pipeline operators sufficient?

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Breakout Session 2: Oklahoma City Room Pipeline Emergency Training for Emergency Responders

Emergency Responder Representative: Battalion Chief Rick Edinger

Facilitator: Robert Neale, Deputy Superintendent, National Fire Academy

What strategy should be adopted to ensure that emergency responders receive adequate pipeline emergency training?

1. Who needs pipeline emergency training? Firefighters, EMTs, 911 operators, who else?
2. How are emergency responders (e.g., firefighters) trained?
3. Who identifies the foundational training requirements (i.e., national organizations, state organizations, and/or local organizations)?
4. What constitutes “foundational” pipeline emergency training for emergency responders? Who makes that decision? For example, PHMSA and NASFM have produced a comprehensive training curriculum called “Pipeline Emergencies”. Should we identify the most crucial elements of this training as “foundational” or “fundamental”?
5. What are the differences between training programs for volunteer emergency responders versus professional emergency responders? Should our strategy differ for each of these groups?
6. What standards or additional training could be developed or built upon to ensure emergency responders receive a foundational understanding of pipeline emergency preparedness and response?
7. Can/should pipeline safety regulators seek to *require* pipeline emergency training for ERs?
8. Emergency responders are required to attain continuing education credits. Who comes up with the continuing education requirements? How can we structure pipeline emergency training materials to satisfy the requirements for continuing education credits?
9. What are the barriers to providing pipeline emergency training to emergency responders?
10. Some operators have indicated that some emergency responders do not take advantage of pipeline-specific training offered by pipeline operators. Why? What can operators do to entice more emergency responders to attend these training sessions? For example, could emergency responders receive continuing education credits for attending meetings?

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Breakout Session 3: Media Room Communications between Emergency Responders and Pipeline Operators

Emergency Responder Representative: Fire Chief Dennis Haag,

Facilitators: Christie Murray and Julie Halliday, PHMSA

What strategy should be adopted to effectively share information about pipeline safety between emergency responders and pipeline operators (taking into account existing regulations)?

1. Who do you envision when you hear “emergency responder”? Do you consider the 911 operator? What contact information does 911 need?
2. If 911 is used in your awareness material, what level of confidence do you have that the 911 dispatcher knows it is your pipeline?
3. How do operators determine with whom they need to have liaison (e.g., fire, police, etc.)? How do you maintain your emergency response “liaison” relationship and contact information?
4. Is there a central location for operators to find emergency responder contact information?
5. Do you find the information that is being communicated to you of value? If not, what information would be helpful? What format/communication channel is most effective for you?
6. How do we overcome the perception in some communities that pipelines are a low priority because major pipeline incidents are low frequency (although high consequence) events?
7. Have emergency responders assessed their capabilities and identified gaps in their ability to respond to pipeline emergencies? How do operators find out the capabilities of the emergency responders to respond to pipeline emergencies? What do operators and emergency responders do with this information?
8. What preventive tools or mechanisms can the emergency response community implement to reduce the risk of pipelines to people, property and the environment?
9. How do we leverage lessons learned about communication efforts from other pipeline emergencies?
10. Is there a role for public involvement? If so, what is it?