

From: Brig General (CA) Jack Hagan
Sent: 3/3/2013 7:34:28 AM
To: Doll, Laura (/O=PG&E/OU=CORPORATE/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=LRDD); emory.hagan@cpuc.ca.gov (emory.hagan@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc: elizaveta.malashenko@cpuc.ca.gov (elizaveta.malashenko@cpuc.ca.gov)
Bcc:
Subject: RE: GAO Report About Pipeline Safety

Sounds like a good idea. I know we are going to have to pay for the travel and per diem for our quest speakers, especially any military types. Let's think about who should or could pay the easiest.

BG H

Brigadier General (CA) Emory J. Hagan, III

Redacted

From: Doll, Laura [mailto:LRDD@pge.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 02, 2013 18:44
To: [Redacted] emory.hagan@cpuc.ca.gov
Cc: elizaveta.malashenko@cpuc.ca.gov
Subject: FW: GAO Report About Pipeline Safety

You may already be aware of this recent GAO report about pipeline safety, but if not, there's a link below and a brief summary from the AGA.

At one point in our symposium discussions, we thought that the report's author, Susan Fleming, Director, Physical Infrastructure Team for the GAO, might be worth inviting to speak. Given the likelihood that we will have a panel on emergency response, perhaps this report and the GAO person might be relevant? GAO says that PHMSA should be gathering data nationwide about operators' response times following pipeline ruptures so the agency can determine how quickly pipeline operators should respond.

From: Yura, Jane
Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2013 4:15 PM
To: Doll, Laura; Ramaiya, Shilpa R
Subject: RE: GAO Report About Pipeline Safety

Here's the portion AGA sent in emphasis to members this morning.

Jane

To: Operation Safety and Regulatory Action Committee (OSRAC), Gas Control Committee (GCC), Distribution and Transmission Engineering (DTE), and Transmission (TC) Committees

Re: Jan 2013 GAO Report – “Better Data and Guidance Needed to Improve Pipeline Operator Incident Response”

The General Accountability Office (GAO) today released a report which was mandated by congress in the Pipeline Safety Act of 2011. The report examines the ability of transmission pipeline operators to respond to an incident tied to a hazardous liquid or natural gas release.

Here is an excerpt from the report summary:

....“GAO has previously reported that a performance-based approach—including goals and associated performance measures and targets—can allow those being regulated to determine the most appropriate way to achieve desired outcomes. In addition, several organizations in the pipeline industry have developed methods for quantitatively evaluating response times to incidents, including setting specific, measurable performance goals. While defining performance measures and targets for incident response can be challenging, PHMSA could move toward a performance-based approach by evaluating nationwide data to determine response times for different types of pipeline (based on location, operating pressure, and pipeline diameter, among other factors). However, PHMSA must first improve the data it

collects on incident response times. These data are not reliable both because operators are not required to fill out certain time-related fields in the reporting form and because operators told us they interpret these data fields in different ways. Reliable data would improve PHMSA's ability to measure incident response and assist the agency in exploring the feasibility of developing a performance-based approach for improving operator response to pipeline incidents".

...."The primary advantage of installing automated valves is that operators can respond quickly to isolate the affected pipeline segment and reduce the amount of product released; however, automated valves can have disadvantages, including the potential for accidental closures—which can lead to loss of service to customers or even cause a rupture—and monetary costs. Because the advantages and disadvantages of installing an automated valve are closely related to the specifics of the valve's location, it is appropriate to decide whether to install automated valves on a case-by-case basis. Several operators we spoke with have developed approaches to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of installing automated valves"...

From: GAO Webmaster [<mailto:webmaster@GAO.GOV>]

Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2013 2:10 PM

To: TRANSPORTATION-S@LISTSERV.GAO.GOV

Subject: GAO Reports About Transportation

January 23, 2013

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) today released the following reports, testimony, and correspondence:

LETTER REPORT

Pipeline Safety: Better Data and Guidance Needed to Improve Pipeline Operator Incident Response, GAO-13-168, January 23

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-13-168>

The latest information from GAO is available at <http://www.gao.gov>

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