



U.S. Department of Transportation
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration



PHMSA Western Region Update Sandy, Utah September 10, 2013



PHMSA Region Updates

- Total Switch to Integrated Inspection Process (II)
- Use the Integrated Inspection Assistant Tool (IA)
- Keep up with New Construction out of the Bakken formation in Montana (& ND)
- Aging Workforce and Departures
- Focus will be on:
 - Lesson Learned
 - How to Share Information Better during Accidents
 - Areas to Collaborate (IA, Accidents, Construction)

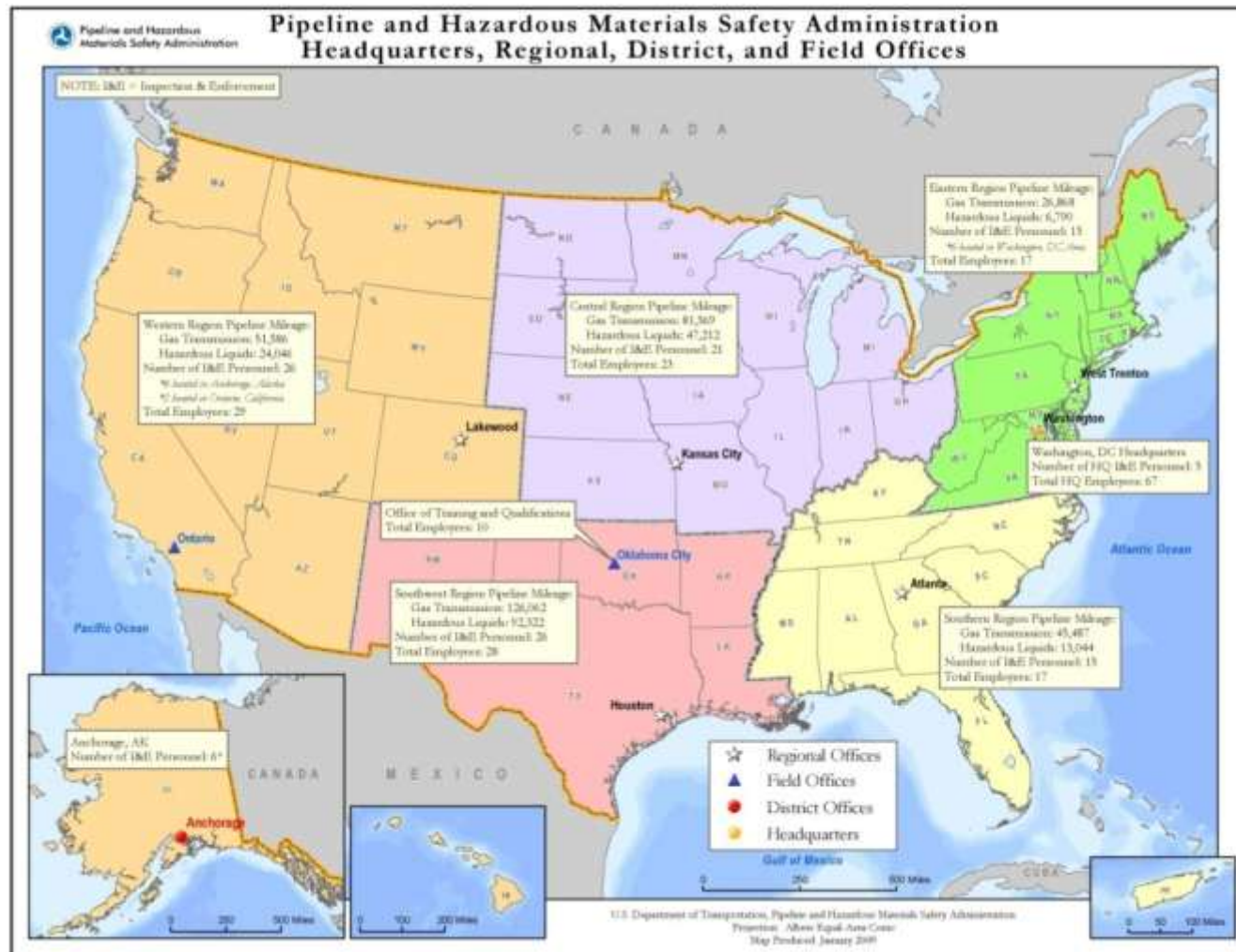


PHMSA Region Contacts & SMEs

- Chris Hoidal – Director of Western Region
- Brianne Kurdock/Bryn Karaus – Western Region Counsels
- Huy Nguyen and Terri Larsen – Supervisors
- Peter Katchmar – Accident Coordinator
- Ross Reineke – Construction Coordinator
- Jeff Gilliam – Special Permits and Interpretations
- Tom Finch – Community Assistance and Technical Services (CATS)
- David Mulligan and Kim Nguyen - Inspection Assistant Power Users
- Dustin Hubbard and Claude Allen - PDM and Mapping Issues
- Jerry Kenerson – Safety Related Condition Follow-up



PHMSA Regions





Western Region Offices

Western Region Office –

16 Engineers

12300 West Dakota Avenue, Suite 110

Lakewood, CO 80228

720-963-3160

Satellite offices in:

Cheyenne, WY (Accident Investigator)

Billings, MT (1 engineer)

Reno, NV (1 engineer)

Ontario, CA (3 engineers)

Anchorage, AK (4 engineers)

Two Regional Attorneys – DC

Openings – 1 additional CATS Manager and eventually 1 Data Analyst



Western Region Priorities - 2013

Continue to field investigate (roll) on any accidents

- Chevron again (3rd in Utah in 3 years)
- Tall Grass (Torrington, WY)
- P66-Seminole Pipeline-Lodge Grass, MT

Construction Oversight of Bakken Field pipelines

Get Better at II, IA and tweak process

Finish CRMs and DIMPS

Perform more IMP validations in the field



Accidents – Recent

Recent Accidents:

3/18 /13 – Chevron's Northwest Products System, Willard Bay, Utah

6/13/13 – Tall Grass Interstate Gas Transmission (Torrington, Wyoming)

7/3/13 – P66 Seminole Pipeline near Lodge Grass, Montana



Chevron Pipeline Spill

March 18, 2013

- Chevron Products Pipeline spilled **476.8** BBLs adjacent to Willard Bay due to corrosion near longitudinal seam
 - split on Low Frequency ERW pipe.
- CAO issued 3/22 to reduce pressure, hydrotest LFERW pipeline in area of Willard Bay, notify emergency responders and stakeholders during start up, and conduct metallurgical examination of failed pipe.



Chevron Northwest Products _ Willard Bay, UT – March 2013





Lesson Learned

- Ensure that IMP program reflects all of line pipe
 - Match up alignment sheets with corporate IMP plans****
- Just because LFERW has not failed doesn't mean it's not seam susceptible
 - Spike Hydros do have a place****
- Can not communicate enough – Keep logs of contacts**



Tall Grass Interstate Gas Rupture Near Torrington, WY June 13, 2013

- **Pipeline ruptured along long seam – ejected, no fire, fatalities or injuries**
- **2nd catastrophic Tall Grass release in 2 months**
- **CAO issued on 6/19 requiring Pressure drop, Overpressure Protection controls, and Metallurgical analysis**



Tall Grass Pipeline Rupture – 6/13/13





Tall Grass Lesson Learned

- Too early to tell
- Long seam continues to be issue on recently ILI inspected lines.
- New players abound and look to state and Federal regulators more



P66 Seminoe Refined Products Pipeline Rupture near Lodge Grass, Montana July 3, 2013

- **Pipeline rupture was due to stress from earth movement**
- **P66 indicated that the gasoline spill amount was 400 barrels.**



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P66 Seminole Pipeline Rupture 7/3/13





P66 Seminole Pipeline Lessons Learned

- Again ensure that the IMP program reflects all of the factors that can affect line pipe
 - Match up alignment sheets with corporate IMP plans**
 - Patrolling should include looking for factors such as earth movement****
- Again we cannot communicate enough – The Crow Tribe, state and federal agencies were all well apprised of the situation.**



Construction

- No let up. New, smaller, less sophisticated players
- HVL lines and crude oil lines coming south out of Bakken and on towards Gulf, Cushing, OK or Bushton, KS
- 60 day notification not enough time to reallocate inspection resources
 - Contractors
 - States assistance?
- Pipe quality is concern



Pipe Issues

- OneOK had to continuously NDT/UT the long seam for a 400 mile project. US ERW pipe out of McKeesport





Integrated Inspections - The Good, Bad, and the Ugly

The Good:

- System approach – contiguous, same vintage, same risks, one or more inspection units
- Heavy focus on Preparation to determine what to ask prior to inspections
- Tap multiple experts
- Data driven approach to determine where we focus our inspection resources



The Bad and the Ugly

- Time consuming and labor intensive – taking 6-9 months from start to finish
- Teams are hard to assemble and coordinate
- Is our data good enough to “pre script” inspections? We must be flexible to expand questions
- Operators are complaining about time to conduct
- Staff committed to inspections for months – lose management ability to re deploy staff
- Concerns that if we wait too long to conduct periodic inspections that operator will backslide



Inspection Assistant (IA) Tool

- Expandable so you **can** dig deeper into safety issues.
- Useful way to have enforcement guidance and issues embedded in inspection form.
- Ensures that we collect evidence to support violations
- Problems ID'd to date:
 - Code citations have been reworded so it is hard to understand what questions are asking.
 - Code citations have been grouped into “risk modules” and are hard to find.
 - Distracting – lots of personnel sitting around watching you type/keyboard



Coping with IA strategies

- **Federal and State Regulators must ensure that the Questions in IA are what we want.**
- Ask that directives (pre determined set of questions) tailored to our needs be considered
- Submit comments on how to improve



Any Questions? - Thank You!

Tom Finch

CATS Manager

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