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GPA continues working on federal pipeline legislation

Chair of the GPA Pipeline Safety Committee Matt Norton, Crestwood, and Vice Chair Alice Ratcliff, XTO, have worked tirelessly with Evan Hanson, Williams, GPA Legislative Committee Chair, and Steve Johnson, ONEOK, Legislative Vice Chair. In a tag-team effort that would impress Vince McMahon and the WWF, members of both committees have partnered with GPA staff and Lisa Epifani of Van Ness Feldman, GPA's new lobbying firm in D.C., working on pipeline drafts in the U.S. House and Senate. On Sept. 8, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee reported out on a unanimous voice vote on the pipeline safety bill, H.R. 2845. The House Energy and Commerce Committee is expected to mark up their version of the bill next week. Both House committees will then negotiate and merge their bills together for action on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. No timeline has been set for the floor debate and vote. The final House bill will then be reconciled with the Senate pipeline bill, S. 275.

GPA Environmental Committee remains active on EPA proposed rulemaking

Our Environmental Committee continues their high level of engagement defending GPA member company interests against multiple EPA rules and rulemakings. Lynn Reed, ONEOK, working with committee leaders, is championing GPA efforts on the Proposed Rulemaking for the Oil and Gas Sector: New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants Review. GPA has filed for an extension of the comment period to Dec. 23, 2011, to allow adequate time for a thorough review of the multiple changes in the proposed rulemaking. Environmental Committee leaders feel the extension is justified based on the significant expansion of the regulatory requirements in the proposed rulemaking that would cover a variety of emission units that have not previously been addressed by these standards.

Because the proposed rulemaking would modify and expand existing emission standards issued under two separate Clean Air Act (CAA) authorities, New Source Performance Standards (NSPS), which are authorized by Section 111 of the CAA, and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP), which are governed by a Section 112 of the CAA, GPA and other stakeholders will need to prepare comments that address different emission sources, different pollutants, different applicability triggers, and different bases for determining cost/benefit or evaluating risk. The volume of issues on which to prepare comments and the complexity of those issues calls for a comment period of at least 120 days. GPA also maintains that the extension request is justified based on the numerous existing regulatory demands that the midstream oil and gas sector faces related to other EPA rulemakings.

Grover Campbell, Chesapeake, takes over as GPA Environmental Committee chair

Grover Campbell, Chesapeake, has taken over as chair of the GPA Environmental Committee. Doug Jordan, Southwestern Energy, has stepped up as the new vice chair. Grover has actively served as vice chair for the past two years. Our Environmental Committee has tackled several major issues during the tenure of Bill Grygar, Anadarko, and Grover. GPA is still actively engaged with the EPA on RICE MACT and Subpart W, just to mention a couple of the biggest issues. GPA is fortunate to have the level of dedication of active and former leaders on our committees. Bill will remain engaged and serve as chair emeritus. While we have traditionally changed Environmental Committee leaders each year in September, the committee plans are for Grover, Doug and Bill to serve in these new roles through the GPA Convention in 2013. Future Environmental Committee leaders will serve a two-year term and switch in conjunction with our annual meetings.

GPA Executive & Finance Committee members meet with Congressman John Sullivan

In recent years, GPA leadership has worked diligently to increase visibility of our association, recognizing the need and value of being active in the political and regulatory arenas. Several members of our GPA Executive & Finance Committee recently attended and participated in a meeting with Oklahoma Congressman John Sullivan. The event was hosted by Jeff and Laurie Applekamp in their home in Tulsa. The event was a tremendous success and provided an opportunity for GPA leaders to visit with Sullivan on our association's issues and concerns. Congressman Sullivan serves on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, House Subcommittee on Environment and Economy, and House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. He is Vice Chair of the House Subcommittee on Energy and Power and serves on the Congressional Natural Gas Caucus.

GPA voices concerns about the release of NFPA 56

At its meeting this week, the NFPA Standards Council issued and made effective the new NFPA 56 (PS), *Standard for Fire and Explosion Prevention During Cleaning and Purging of Flammable Gas Piping Systems*.

While NFPA 56 is a well written document with the intent of safety at its core, Kenny Wheat, GPA director, Technical Services, has concerns that the document has been written far too broad in scope, allowing the possible future misuse or misinterpretation with regards to the wide range of facilities encompassed by this direct excerpt from the applicability section of the document: "... new and existing flammable gas piping found in electric-generating plant, industrial, institutional and commercial applications."

On behalf of GPA and its member companies, Wheat requested during the balloting period that gas processing facilities and other facilities whose purpose is to, but not limited to, treat, separate, dehydrate, and recover natural gas liquids, be included in section 1.1.2, the *Nonapplication of Standard* section.

GPA stated in its comments that gas processing facilities and the like are covered under API Standard 521 - *Pressure-relieving and Depressuring Systems*, and that multiple standards governing such practices were not necessary and could lead to confusion, misinterpretation and unnecessary delays. GPA's comments, however, were not found persuasive, and the standard was published without change.

API 521 specifies requirements and gives guidelines for examining the principal causes of overpressure, determining individual relieving rates, and selecting and designing disposal systems, including such component parts as piping, vessels, flares, and vent stacks. API 521 covers the same topics and requirements, which are identified by the proposed standard NFPA 56. However, API 521 identifies these topics in a more specific manner, as they apply to refining facilities, processing facilities, petrochemical facilities, gas plants, liquefied natural gas facilities and oil and gas production facilities.

Public comments for NFPA 56 are due no later than close of business on Nov. 25. GPA plans to comment before this period, arguing the same points mentioned above. This topic will be a point of discussion among GPA's Technical Committee later this month. If you would like to be involved with drafting comments on behalf of GPA members, please contact Kenny Wheat.

More information regarding NFPA 56(PS) may be found at:
<http://www.nfpa.org/aboutthecodes/AboutTheCodes.asp?DocNum=56PS>.

GPA members and staff discuss changes to GPA 2172

The Midwest Measurement Society (MWMS) recently met for a two day technical conference in Tulsa, Okla. The most anticipated subject matter discussed at MWMS concerned revisions made in 2009 to GPA 2172 - *Calculation of Gross Heating Value, Relative Density, Compressibility and Theoretical Hydrocarbon Liquid Content for Natural Gas Mixtures for Custody Transfer*, which recently met its two year implementation date. The roundtable discussion panel was made up of GPA member company representatives, as well as GPA staff.

The most notable changes in this revision addressed methods for incorporating water vapor into the analysis

calculation, provide the method for calculating theoretical hydrocarbon liquid content (GPM), and discusses characterizing the heavy ends in the gas analysis typically seen as hexanes plus. These changes have made it difficult for certain companies' measurement departments to fully comply with GPA 2172. The hope of this roundtable discussion, the second such roundtable discussion held by MWMS in two years, was to clear up some of the confusion, answer questions and explain why these changes were made and their importance on correct measurement reporting.

Thank you to the MWMS and to the GPA members serving on the panel for your willingness to take the time in helping industry professionals to better understand the revisions made to such an important document in our industry. Those in attendance were very thankful and all seemed to have left with a better understanding.

Technical Committee Section meetings

Technical Sections will meet at the Wyndham Dallas Love Field Hotel located at 3300 W. Mockingbird Lane in Dallas, Texas. Meeting details are shown below.

Technical Committee	Date	Time	Room Assignment
Section A	Oct. 11	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Sky
Section B	Oct. 10	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Concourse
Section C	Oct. 10	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Sky
Section H	Oct. 11	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Concourse
Section M	Oct. 12	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Concourse

These are all open meetings and any interested party is welcome to attend. Committee members should send agenda items to [Kenny Wheat](#) no later than Sept. 28.

GPA has a limited block of sleeping rooms at a rate starting at \$119.95, which includes a hot breakfast. To make a room reservation, contact [Judy London](#) at the GPA Office (918-493-3872) with your travel and credit card information.

The main Technical Committee will meet Oct. 20 at the Sandia Resort in Albuquerque, NM from 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 pm. Room reservations for this meeting should be made by Sept. 18 directly with the hotel (877) 272-9199 or (505) 798-3930.

Any questions concerning the meetings above should be directed to [Kenny Wheat](#).

Apply now to be considered for GPA's Environmental Excellence Award

The GPA Environmental Excellence Award is a project-based award honoring companies' achievements in energy conservation and environmental support. GPA member companies may apply through the self-nomination process to be considered for the award recognition at the 2012 GPA Convention, where they will be able to demonstrate their projects so other member companies may benefit from their knowledge and information. **The application deadline is Dec. 31, 2011.** Visit <http://GPAglobal.org/awards/envexcellence/> for full program details and application forms.

3 weeks left before the Call for Papers deadline

Our open Call for Papers brings some of the best industry experts to present at the GPA Convention each year, and that could be you! We invite you to share your knowledge and expertise with more than 1,500 industry professionals at the 2012 GPA Convention in New Orleans, La. If you would like to be considered, please send your abstract(s) to Johnny Dreyer, jdreyer@GPAglobal.org, by Oct. 7, 2011.

Presentations chosen will cover midstream topics (gas processing, gas gathering, fractionation, storage and transportation) relating to these activities:

- Computer Technology
- Environmental
- Midstream Facilities Design
- Legislative, Regulatory & Safety
- LNG Technology
- NGL Business or Market Perspective
- Operations & Maintenance
- Pipeline Safety
- Technical Data Development
- Technology Developments in Gas Processing

- Technology to Improve Operations
- Worldwide Developments
- Young Professionals
- Training
- Compliance

For more information, visit www.GPAGlobal.org.

Publication ordering information

In the past, ALL publications could be ordered in the Publications area of the GPA web site, including the GPSA Engineering Data Book/CD set. Now, the Data Book can be found and ordered through the GPSA web site. To order, visit this link: <https://www.gpaglobal.org/publications/databook/>. Please bookmark the link for future use.

MidContinent GPA Sporting Clays

Plan to attend the Oct. 7 fall MidContinent GPA Sporting Clay Event! Forms can be found on the MidContinent GPA web site (<http://www.gpaglobal.org/chapters/midcontinent/>) and must **be received by Sept. 30**.

GPA/GPSA Calendar

For event location and additional details about meetings listed below, visit: www.GPAGlobal.org/calendar/

September

- 15 North Texas GPA Annual Shrimp Boil Kickoff Meeting
- 21 LPG Charity Fund Poker Tournament
- 22 Houston GPA Annual Shrimp Boil
- 21-23 GPA Europe Annual Conference

October

- 5 GPA Fall Safety Committee Meeting
 - 7 MidContinent GPA Fall Clay Shoot
 - 10 Technical Section B and C Meetings
 - 11 Technical Section A and H Meetings
 - 11 Houston GPA Annual Meeting and Golf Tournament
 - 11 Technical Section M Meeting
 - 18-19 GPA Environmental Subcommittee Meeting
 - 19-20 GPA and GPSA Fall Board Meeting
 - 20 GPA Technical Committee Meeting
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Gas Processors Association

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