



eBrief

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MIDSTREAM'S GREATEST RESOURCE

May 2013 eBrief Print Version

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#### **TCEQ to provide GHG permits in Texas**

Mike Heim, GPA's immediate past president, testified before Texas House and Senate committees on behalf of GPA and our industry in favor of Texas House Bill 788. The bill will authorize the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to write rules for permitting of greenhouse gases (GHG). The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had previously taken the task of issuing GHG permits in Texas, which caused tremendous delays and lost profits to GPA member companies.

During committee hearings, Heim explained how these delays were burdening our industry. Several entities came forward to testify of the delays caused by the EPA. Even the EPA has stated that the TCEQ is better equipped to perform the role of issuing permits.

HB 788 has passed both the House and Senate and now awaits the governor's signature. It will become effective Sept. 1, 2013.

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#### **GPA vice president testifies on GPA's behalf at U.S. Senate Energy Committee Forum**

The U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee is hosting a series of three forums to gather information from stakeholders with an interest in ensuring federal policy evolves to take into account the new supplies of natural gas that have become accessible in recent years. The forums are being held in a roundtable format to encourage open discussion and allow flexibility to find areas of agreement.

Rick Cargile, president of Energy Transfer Partners' midstream division and vice president of GPA, participated in the May 14 forum addressing "Infrastructure, Transportation, Research and Innovation." Speaking on behalf of GPA, Cargile addressed the challenges to our industry to build and access infrastructure to be able to transport natural gas and NGLs. High points of his presentation included the development of shale reserves, the obstacles of excessive regulatory permitting processes, the impact of the expanded Endangered Species Act and changes to the Army Corps of Engineers nationwide permitting program.

Following presentations, Cargile participated in a lively Q&A session and discussion period with Sen. Ron Wyden and the other presenters. During the discussion, he also addressed "third-party strikes" to pipelines, and MLPs and their expansion to include renewables.

The forum also included presenters from CenterPoint Energy, Cummins Westport, Drive Natural Gas Initiative, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, General Electric Co., Interstate Natural Gas Association of America, ISO New England, Northwest Natural, Pacific Gas & Electric Co., and UPS.

Cargile's presentation was vetted through the GPA Executive & Finance Committee and the Legislative Committee before the final version was completed and submitted.

The other forums hosted by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee include "Domestic Supply and Exports" and "Shale Development – Environmental Protection and Best Practices."

According to the Senate web site, "Chairman Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, and Ranking Member Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, have pledged to approach the forums without a predetermined outcome or legislation in mind other than to maximize the economic and environmental benefits of the nation's natural gas reserves."

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### **Texas gathering line regulation update**

GPA has been following House Bill 2982 by Rep. James Keffer and Sen. Robert Duncan. The bill allows the Texas Railroad Commission to adopt rules for regulating rural gathering lines and for complaint-based response on gathering lines. All Texas safety standards and practices must be consistent with federal law.

Keffer filed this bill targeting a gas gathering company in response to constituency concern of reactivating an inactive pipeline that runs under a lake that provides the local community water supply. GPA held that the Railroad Commission already had the authority to do inspections on a complaint basis.

GPA's contract lobbyist Kelly McBeth worked closely with Duncan throughout the legislative session in an effort to prevent increased and unnecessary regulations. Texas Pipeline Association supported the bill.

HB 2982 has passed in the House and the Senate. Two amendments were added to the bill on the Senate floor. One amendment was a technical correction. The other amendment offered by Sen. Wendy Davis requires the Railroad Commission to notify Texas Department of Transportation (DOT) when a drilling permit is issued in DOT right-of-way. It is anticipated that Keffer will not concur with the Senate amendments, so the bill will go to a conference committee.

View a copy of the bill: <http://www.GPAGlobal.org/assets/gpaglobal/gpa/pdf/HB-2982-amended-5-22-13.pdf>

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### **Moxley appoints E&F members**

Newly elected GPA President Joel Moxley, Crestwood Midstream Partners, who succeeded Mike Heim, Targa Resources, following the GPA Convention in April, has confirmed his appointments to the GPA Executive & Finance (E&F) Committee. The GPA E&F Committee exercises the duties of the GPA board of directors at times when the board is not in session as to the routine affairs of the association. The committee consists of the immediate past president, GPA officers, and five appointed members. Appointed members of the committee serve one-year terms.

### **Members of the 2013-2014 E&F Committee:**

Joel Moxley, Crestwood Midstream Partners, Chair  
Robert Mitchell, Carrera Gas Co.  
Wouter van Kempen, DCP Midstream  
Terry McGill, Enbridge Energy  
Rick Cargile, Energy Transfer  
Paul Brewer, Enogex  
Bill Ordemann, Enterprise Products  
John Mollenkopf, Markwest Energy Partners  
Terry Spencer, ONEOK Partners  
Bill Ward, Superior Pipeline  
Mike Heim, Targa Resources  
Mark Sutton, GPA

The first meetings of the 2013-2014 GPA E&F Committee will be held in conjunction with the summer GPA and GPSA board of directors meetings June 20-21 in Santa Fe, NM.

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### **GPSA reactivates bylaws task force**

At its recent board of directors meeting in San Antonio, Texas, the GPSA board reactivated a task force charged with reviewing its bylaws to address director districts and director tenure. The subject of director districts deals with the geographic district that a GPSA director represents and the director tenure will address how long a director can serve on the board. The group will hold its first meeting on June 19 in Santa Fe, NM.

**Members of the task force:**

Jim Marcotte, Daniel Measurement and Control, Chair  
David Bardeen, Ariel Corp.  
Chuck Dewees, Cummins  
Bill Flowers, Fisher Controls  
Pat Holub, Huntsman Corp.  
Bob Huebel, Randall Gas Technologies  
Harvey Hensley, S & B Engineers and Constructors  
Chris Lindenberg, Western Filter Co.

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**GPA Environmental Committee prepares comments on EPA NSPS Subpart OOOO**

The GPA Environmental Committee continues their dedicated efforts representing the midstream industry before the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The committee's Subpart OOOO Workgroup has written, compiled and distributed comments addressing EPA's New Source Performance Standard Subpart OOOO.

Committee members participated in working conference calls to discuss comments, and Environmental Committee leaders coordinated the drafting of GPA comments with the American Petroleum Institute and the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America. The workgroup recently met in Houston in conjunction with their regular Environmental Committee meeting to finalize comments before submitting to the EPA.

We want to thank all Environmental Committee members for their hard work on this matter and want to extend special recognition to Laura Weber, DCP Midstream, and Lynn Reed, ONEOK, for championing this project for GPA.

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**GPA welcomes new Van Ness Feldman representative**

Please join us in welcoming Michael Platner, senior counsel for Van Ness Feldman, as our new GPA representative for the firm. Platner's practice focuses on government affairs and legal issues pertaining to energy, tax, customs and international trade legislative and regulatory issues.

Prior to joining VNF, Platner was with the American Petroleum Institute (API) for 18 years. He was involved in all aspects of energy policy as one of its senior lobbyists and member of the API leadership team. While at API and since joining VNF, he has experience working all energy issues with most of the Senate and House committees involved in energy policy debates.

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**Ad hoc committee meets to address NFPA 56**

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) adopted NFPA 56, "Standard for Fire and Explosion Prevention During Cleaning and Purging Of Flammable Gas Piping Systems" in 2012. The standard was prepared in response to a serious natural gas explosion that occurred while natural gas piping systems in a power generating facility were being cleaned and prepared for service. NFPA 56 appears to create a duplication of safety regulation for the industry.

Members from GPA's Technical Section A - Facilities Design & Optimization, Technical Section M – Operations & Maintenance, and the Safety Committee met in Dallas last week to develop a strategy to respond to NFPA 56. The ad hoc committee, chaired by Brett Wheelock, Enogex, will prepare a position paper and comments to submit during the NFPA revision cycle by June 2014 asking for clarification.

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**GPA monitors NFPA 58**

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is proposing changes to NFPA 58, "Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code," to redefine the point of odorization. GPA is monitoring the proposed change, which moves responsibility for odorization to supplier and not wholesaler. The proposal is as follows:

**4.2 LP-Gas Odorization**

**4.2.1\*** All LP-Gases shall be odorized prior to ~~delivery to a bulk plant~~ shipment from a pipeline or storage terminal by the addition of a warning agent of such character that the gases are detectable, by a distinct odor, to a concentration in air of not over one-fifth the lower limit of flammability.

**4.2.2** Odorization shall not be required if it is harmful in the use or further processing of the LP-Gas or if such odorization will serve no useful purpose as a warning agent in such further use or processing.

**4.2.3\*** If odorization is required, the presence of the odorant in the required quantity shall be documented at the point of odorization, and shall be verified ~~determined~~ by sniff-testing or other means, and the results shall be documented as follows:

- (1) When LP-Gas is delivered to a bulk plant
- (2) When shipments of LP-Gas bypass the bulk plant

NFPA 58 Certified Amending Motions will be discussed at the NFPA Conference and Expo in Chicago on June 12.

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### **Technical Section H monitors BLM Onshore Orders 3, 4 & 5**

The Bureau of Land Management has issued notice that it plans to publish updates to Onshore Orders 3, 4 & 5 because of changing industry practices and new technologies, and to respond to recommendations from the Government Accountability Office, the U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) Office of the Inspector General, and the DOI's Subcommittee on Royalty Management. The orders were last updated in 1989. At a two-day public forum, potential revisions that affect how oil and gas are measured for royalty collection were proposed. Many of the measures proposed could increase the cost and burden of metering and tracking federal lease production. The American Petroleum Institute, and GPA's Technical Section H - Measurement, Calculations and Handling of Hydrocarbon Fluids Including NGL and Natural Gas, are monitoring the process and evaluating how best to participate.

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### **GPA's chromatography school is filling quickly**

GPA has filled more than half of the available space for the 2013 GPA School of Gas Chromatography, which is scheduled for Aug. 5 - 9 in Tulsa, Okla.

In its 40th year, this intensive one-week school has proven to be one of the best available worldwide. We expect the school to sell out once again this year and encourage those interested in attending to register early and secure your spot. Those who register by July 11 will save \$100.

#### **Early Bird Registration (by July 11)**

\$600 - GPA / GPSA Members  
\$900 - Non-Members

#### **Standard Registration (after July 11)**

\$700 - GPA / GPSA Members  
\$1,000 - Non-Members

For more information, visit [www.GPAGlobal.org/chromo/](http://www.GPAGlobal.org/chromo/) or contact [Janet Griggs](#), (918) 493-3872.

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### **GPSA membership dues reminder**

GPSA's fiscal year ends on June 30, and we still have not received some companies' membership renewal dues for 2013. As a reminder, companies that don't renew by the end of June will be removed from the GPSA membership roster, the GPSA web site and service/supply directory, and from Section 26 of the GPSA Engineering Data Book. Once a company declines membership, the \$100 initiation fee will once again be required to re-join the association.

To renew memberships by credit card online, visit <https://gpsa.gpaglobal.org/register/gpsamembership/>.

For questions about your company's membership or payment status, contact Piper Penny, (918) 493-3872 or [ppenny@GPAGlobal.org](mailto:ppenny@GPAGlobal.org).

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### **Interested in speaking at the 2014 GPA Convention?**

GPA is accepting abstracts from those interested in speaking opportunities at next year's convention.

#### **What we're looking for**

Midstream topics (gas processing, gas gathering, fractionation, storage and transportation) that are relevant, timely and informative, relating, but not limited, to these activities:

Alternative energy

Compliance  
Computer technology  
Environmental  
Facilities design  
Gas and product treating  
Legislative, regulatory & safety  
LNG  
NGL business or market perspective  
Operations & maintenance  
Pipeline safety  
Project economics and finance  
Research  
Technical data development  
Technology developments in gas processing  
Technology to improve operations  
Training  
Unconventional gas  
Worldwide developments  
Young professionals

### **What we aren't looking for**

The primary focus of the GPA Convention is sharing knowledge and best practices to benefit the midstream industry as a whole. With that in mind, we are not looking for overly commercial papers with regard to a specific company or service. We receive some great abstracts every year that contain valuable information but aren't selected because they are too commercial.

### **How topics/papers are selected**

As abstracts come in, members of the GPA Program Committee review each one and select the most appropriate and relevant papers for each convention session. GPA Program Committee members represent more than 40 different midstream industry companies that face the same challenges and opportunities that you do.

### **How to be considered**

All authors who send a 200-250 word abstract to GPA by Oct. 22 will be considered as a potential presenter at the 2014 GPA Convention. **Abstracts submitted early will be given priority consideration.** Please send your abstract, with full contact information, to [Johnny Dreyer](#), GPA director of industry affairs.

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## **Chapter News**

### **Appalachian Basin GPA**

GPA's newest chapter, Appalachian GPA, was formed earlier this year and will host its first luncheon and golf outing June 19 – 20. For more information about the chapter's activities, leadership and membership, visit <http://www.abgpa.org/>.

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### **GPA Safety Award correction**

Unfortunately, we misspelled our first place Division II (100,000 – 500,000 workhours) U.S. safety award recipient's name in the April eBrief issue and would like to extend a sincere apology to Hiland Partners for the error. Congratulations again to Hiland Partners and all of our 2012 GPA Safety Award recipients.

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## **GPA/GPSA Calendar**

### **June**

5-6 GPA European Chapter European Gas Production Forum  
13 Rocky Mountain GPA Chapter Luncheon & Meeting  
14 MidContinent GPA Spring Clay Shoot  
14 Rocky Mountain GPA Golf Tournament  
19 Appalachian Basin GPA Luncheon  
20 Appalachian Basin GPA Golf Outing  
19-20 GPA/GPSA Board of Directors Meetings  
28 Permian Basin GPA Sporting Clays Event

**July**

11-12 GPA Summer Chapter Leadership Meeting

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**Gas Processors Association**

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