



eBrief

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GPA MIDSTREAM CONVENTION

April 9 - 12, 2017

San Antonio, Texas

Registration deadline reminder - March 10

With less than 6 weeks to go, more than 1,500 midstream professionals have registered for the 2017 GPA Midstream Convention. Interested in seeing who's registered? Our registration list is updated every Friday and posted on Monday; view the lists by company or by last name available on the [Registration](#) page.

If you haven't yet registered to attend, there's still time to do so at a discount. Please keep in mind that March 10 is the last day to receive the advanced registration discount. Anyone wishing to attend after this date will pay on-site fees.

For those who have already registered, please keep an eye on your inbox for important GPA Midstream Convention e-mails next month, including information about how to access event information in the GPA Midstream app.

For all GPA Midstream Convention information, visit www.GPAconvention.org.

Show Daily advertising opportunities

Attending or not, the GPA Midstream Show Daily is a great way to reach convention attendees. This convention news piece covers GPA Midstream and GPSA information and is distributed in hard copy on site on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and a PDF issue is also distributed to GPA Midstream's entire electronic database, so the reach goes well beyond the convention itself.

Inside front cover and back cover ad space is still available in all 3 issues. Contact [Crystal Myers](#) if interested in running an ad.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

GPA Midstream sends gathering line letter to DOT Secretary Elaine Chao

On Feb. 8, GPA Midstream Association sent a letter to newly confirmed Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao on the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) efforts on the Safety of Gas Transmission and Gathering Pipelines proposed rule. GPA

Midstream strongly advocated for a role for gathering line representation on the Gas Pipeline Advocacy Committee (GPAC). Right now there is a lack of gathering line representation on the GPAC. To put this in perspective, the proposed rule conservatively covers 300,000 miles of transmission lines and at least more than 300,000 miles of gathering lines. PHMSA has appointed five GPAC members whom represent transmission lines which cover, at most, half the total mileage of pipelines covered by the proposed rule, yet PHMSA has no representation from the gathering line industry which represents more than half of the pipelines that would be regulated under the proposed rule.

GPA Midstream also requested that Secretary Chao have PHMSA reevaluate the proposed rule and identify with greater detail the costs that the proposed rule would impose upon gathering lines. In its current form, the proposed rule fails to account for or detail the costs that would be passed onto gathering lines. GPA Midstream believes that the proposed rule will adversely impact GPA Midstream members by passing on excessive costs to our members and running the risk of negatively impacting midstream infrastructure that our members own and operate.

Finally, GPA Midstream had requested that PHMSA delay the Feb. 28 GPAC meeting until they can get gathering greater representation on the GPAC. PHMSA clearly heard GPA Midstream's concerns and delayed the Feb. 28 GPAC meeting until early June.

GPA Midstream files comments with Army Corps of Engineers for the Galveston district on its proposed regional conditions for nationwide permits

GPA Midstream's Natural Resources Subcommittee recently filed comments with the Army Corps of Engineers on the Galveston district's proposed regional conditions for nationwide permits. GPA Midstream highlighted the fact that some of the proposed conditions would unnecessarily delay and could potentially increase costs for members to obtain nationwide permits that would have these potential regional conditions placed upon them. A big thank you goes out to the Natural Resources Subcommittee, which worked collaboratively with the Texas Pipeline Association on this last-minute turnaround.

GPA Midstream responds to EPA Renewable Enhancement and Growth Support proposed rule

On Feb. 16, GPA Midstream filed comments with EPA on its proposed Renewables Enhancement and Growth Support (REGS) rule. GPA Midstream supported EPA's inclusion of natural gasoline as an acceptable blendstock for ethanol flex fuels (EFF). GPA Midstream members produce natural gasoline as part of their fractionation process. A number of GPA Midstream member companies then sell their natural gasoline to ethanol producers, and they use that natural gasoline as a denaturant.

GPA Midstream's main concern is that EPA is proposing to set unreasonable sulfur levels at 10 ppm and .62 ppm for benzene if our members wish to sell "certified" denaturant to the ethanol industry. Essentially, by EPA setting the standard so unnecessarily low, our members will have to make significant financial investments in their equipment if they want to continue selling natural gasoline to be used as a denaturant. This proposed rule has the potential of shutting off a revenue stream that our members currently use. GPA Midstream filed comments requesting that EPA not go this route and provided an alternative for EPA.

[View the comments.](#)

President Trump issues new executive order to create agency task force to further reduce regulatory burdens

A new executive order issued by U.S. President Donald Trump requires every federal agency to establish a Regulatory Reform Task Force to eliminate unnecessary and costly regulations. The task

force will evaluate existing regulations and identify regulations for repeal with a focus on eliminating costly and unnecessary regulations. This task force will help implement the previous Trump executive order on unnecessary and duplicative regulations.

GPA Midstream recently filed ozone comments with EPA

On Feb. 13, GPA Midstream filed comments on EPA's proposed rule on Implementation of the 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone: Nonattainment Area Classifications and State Implementation Plan Requirements.

In October 2015, EPA promulgated a revised 8-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone ("2015 ozone NAAQS" or "2015 standard"), which lowered the primary 8-hour ozone standard from 0.75 parts per million (ppm) established in 2008 to 0.070 ppm. States have submitted letters to EPA recommending areas that should be designated as attainment, nonattainment or unclassifiable under the 2015 standard. EPA is expected to promulgate the area designations by October 2017. At that time EPA will also "classify" the relative severity of the "nonattainment" problem in designated nonattainment areas as either a marginal, moderate, serious or extreme. The classifications will drive, among other things, deadlines for attaining the 2015 standard, as well as major source and major modification thresholds.

The 5-tiered ozone nonattainment classification system is unique to the ozone NAAQS and reflects the unique nature of ozone as an air pollutant as compared to the other criteria air pollutants.

The proposal presents EPA's nonattainment area classification thresholds and implementation requirements for the 2015 standard and, in so doing, it lays the groundwork for transitioning from the 2008 to the 2015 standard. GPA Midstream members' operations could be impacted from this proposal.

[View the comments.](#)

EPA proposes greater reporting requirements for gas processing plants under Toxics Release Inventory

In early January, EPA proposed to add natural gas processing facilities to the scope of the industrial sectors covered by the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI). This rule proposes to expand coverage to all natural gas processing facilities, which receive and refine natural gas.

The rule was the result of environmental activist organizations petitioning EPA to list oil and gas facilities under the TRI. When EPA delayed and stalled, the environmental activists sued EPA and EPA settled. This is called a "sue and settle" case of which we are the ones to be regulated, yet we do not have a seat at the table.

GPA Midstream has set up a workgroup to file comments on this proposed rule. GPA Midstream also filed a request to extend the comment deadline. Contact GPA Midstream Vice President of Government Affairs [Matthew Hite](#) if you are interested in joining the group.

TECHNICAL/RESEARCH

Aalto University awarded research contract to study sulfur species distribution in liquid-liquid equilibrium systems

A team of researchers led by Dr. Ville Alopaeus, head of the chemical engineering research group at Aalto University in Finland will soon begin work on GPA Midstream Research Project #162: NGL Treating LLE Data.

The work involves measuring COS and light mercaptans (methyl and ethyl mercaptan) partitioning between a hydrocarbon phase and aqueous amines at operational conditions for liquid extraction units of interest for GPA Midstream members. There is currently a lack of COS and mercaptans liquid-liquid equilibrium (LLE) data between hydrocarbons and aqueous amine systems required for

the design, operation and troubleshooting of industrial extraction units used in the removal of sulfur compounds from NGLs, particularly LPGs.

This project specifically will measure the distribution of COS, methyl and ethyl mercaptan between aqueous amine systems and liquid hydrocarbons at common liquid treater operational conditions. According to the project's proposal, two years of funding and work will be required to complete the project.

May GPSA Engineering Data Book Training Course set for Pennsylvania; registration open

GPA Midstream's favorably reviewed, hands-on GPSA Engineering Data Book course teaches students how to proficiently put to use a much respected midstream industry resource. The next training course is scheduled for May 22 - 26 in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, which will be the first course covering the soon-to-be-released 14th Edition of the GPSA Engineering Data Book, and as always, the registration fee includes print and electronic copies of the most recent edition of the Data Book.

The course is limited to 25 students and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. GPA Midstream and GPSA members save on registration fees, but the course is open to non-members as well.

Registration rates

\$2,500 - GPA Midstream and GPSA Members

\$3,500 - Non-Members

In addition, we are actively soliciting suggestions of locations for future courses and encourage those interested in attending a training course to let us know your preferred location. Once enough interest exists to fill a class in a new region/location, GPA Midstream will pursue those options to meet industry training needs in those areas.

To express interest in GPA Midstream offering this course near you, or to register for the May course in Canonsburg, visit <https://www.gpaglobal.org/training/data-book>.

INDUSTRY NEWS

Propane Education & Research Council selects Korn/Ferry for CEO search

The Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) recently announced that it has retained Korn/Ferry International to conduct its search for a new president/CEO. PERC's current leader, Roy Willis, announced his retirement, effective July 31, 2017.

PERC is a nationwide check-off program established, operated and funded by the propane industry. The council is a 21-member board appointed by the National Propane Gas Association and GPA Midstream. An advisory committee made up of industry volunteers provides advice and recommendations concerning plans and programs. The council's programs are funded by an assessment levied on each gallon of propane gas at the point it is odorized or imported in the United States.

Korn/Ferry will lead the search in collaboration with an industry search committee, and GPA Midstream President and CEO Mark Sutton will serve alongside National Propane Gas Association President and CEO Rick Roldan and Willis as an adviser to the committee.

Those interested in applying or following the process should contact [Lorraine Lavet](#) or [Richard Prent](#).

GPA MIDSTREAM/GPSA CALENDAR

March

7 - MidContinent GPA Midstream Overview of Operator Training - Part 3

9 - Rocky Mountain GPA Midstream 1st Quarter Luncheon

10 - Rocky Mountain GPA Midstream 20th Annual Ski Bus

17 - Appalachian Basin GPA Midstream Young Professionals Ski Trip

22 - Houston GPA Midstream March Luncheon

23 - MidContinent GPA Midstream TopGolf Event

[View details on events listed above](#)

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