



## Convention

We're looking forward to the 2021 GPA Midstream Convention, which is just 3 weeks away (Sept. 26 – 29). More than 1,100 midstream professionals have registered to attend, with registrations still coming in from both GPA Midstream and GPSA member companies that are anxious to reunite in San Antonio. If you haven't registered but would like to join us, it's not too late! [Register now.](#)

We will have a smaller crowd than in the recent past, but on the positive side, a few less attendees will allow us to provide ample space in meeting rooms and other functions.

### Health and Safety Measures

We encourage everyone planning to attend to exercise prudent health and safety measures: <https://GPAMidstreamconvention.org/health-and-safety>

### Marriott Rivercenter and Marriott Riverwalk Protocols

Our host hotels, the Marriott Rivercenter and Marriott Riverwalk, have provided some [information for our attendees regarding their policies and protocols](#)

We remain in contact with the Marriott properties about their protocols and continually monitor updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the State of Texas and the City of San Antonio. If changes are necessary, we will make registered attendees aware of those and will also update the health and safety measures link provided above.

### Convention App

By now, registered attendees should have received an invitation to download the app that has the full convention schedule, interactive hotel maps and attendee lists to help you make the most of your time in San Antonio.

If you are registered to attend but have not seen the app invitation, please email [April Tollette](#) for assistance.

### Registration and Policies

Again, it's not too late to register! To join us in San Antonio, [register here](#).

If your plans to attend have changed, please find a copy of our registration policies here and note that Sept. 10 is the last day to cancel and receive a full refund: <https://GPAmidstreamconvention.org/policies>

After Sept. 10, you may transfer your registration to a colleague at no cost.

We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio!

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## Government Affairs

### **Update on Infrastructure and Budget Bills Brings Hopes and Ongoing Concerns**

The infrastructure and reconciliation bills continue to wend their way through the U.S. Congress with the hope of some regulatory relief in one bill and punishing fees for the industry in the other.

GPA Midstream had worked with a group of Republican senators to get expedited permitting for natural gas gathering lines on federal land to open markets and reduce the need to vent and flare. It disappeared from a prior version of the \$1.1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill but reemerged in the version that passed the U.S. Senate in August.

The new version, while watered down somewhat in the negotiations phase, provides for a speedier process, but with the caveat that leaves the consideration of expedited permitting in the hands of the U.S. Secretary of the Interior.

Methane emissions, meanwhile, continue as a hot-button issue in another big bill that is holding up a House vote on infrastructure. A resolution for a “blueprint” for the \$3.5 trillion reconciliation bill passed the Senate and the House, forming the framework for what will go in the follow-up budget bill. House leadership has vowed to not vote on infrastructure until the Senate sends the budget reconciliation bill to the House. House votes are tentatively slated for late September.

As mentioned in the July eBrief, there is a proposal in the reconciliation measure that would mean a possible fee on methane emissions that would affect upstream, gathering, processing and transmission companies. If it survives in its current form, the U.S. Department of Treasury would collect \$1,800 per ton of methane emissions from each oil and natural gas basin.

The question is whether it will pass muster with the Senate’s Parliamentarian, who reviews the reconciliation bill and strikes out anything that goes beyond the subject scope of what was in the original budget. Application of the so-called “Byrd Rule” can also come as a point of order from the Senate floor.

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- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are soliciting public input on restoring the language and long-standing protections of the Waters of the U.S. to 2015 standards. The restoration of the rules would take into account any changes made necessary by U.S. Supreme Court rulings in the last six years and create a foundation for new rulemaking, which will undergo a second process including public comment.
- The EPA, as part of its listening sessions with stakeholders in the Risk Management Plan Program of the Clean Air Act, received comments from GPA Midstream to rectify 2017 changes that created confusion and inefficiency and keeping 2019 rules that struck a balance. GPA Midstream pointed out that the Risk Management Plan isn't the right place to tackle climate change reduction because it is intended to regulate accidental fires, explosions or catastrophic harm from the release of certain substances, none of which are classified as greenhouse gases.
- GPA Midstream formally objected to the efforts of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to classify the Lesser Prairie-Chicken as an endangered species, despite evidence that populations are stable. A large part of the preservation of the species comes from industry efforts and contributions to conservation programs carried out by landowners in states including Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

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## Research And Technical

### Results of Recent Technical Ballots

Voting closed on four GPA Midstream Technical Program ballots since the July eBrief. Results of the ballots are as follows:

- **Approval Ballot - *GPA 2103 (Errata)***: 19 Approve, 0 Negative, 2 Abstain (document published, see details below)
- **Approval Ballot - *Minimizing Emissions During Meter Verifications, Plate Inspections, and Sampling***: 9 Approve, 3 Negative, 3 Abstain
- **Approval Ballot - *Simplistic Approach to Leak Detection and Valve Spacing for Liquid Pipelines***: 14 Approve, 1 Negative, 0 Abstain
- **Workgroup Charter - *Midstream Property Loss Prevention Guidelines***: 12 Approve, 0 Negative, 1 Abstain

We greatly appreciate everyone's participation. Documents will be published after ballot comments have been resolved, and workgroups are initiated upon approval of their charter. Contact the workgroup lead or a committee officer to get involved. For more information about GPA Midstream's technical committees and to learn how your organization can get involved, contact GPA Midstream Director of Technical Services [Martin Erne](#).

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## **GPA Midstream Publishes One Standard and One Research Report**

GPA Midstream recently published one standard and one research report, outlined below. As a reminder, technical documents and research reports are free to GPA Midstream and GPSA members and are accessible through the members-only Data Book and Publications Cloud. Any employee of member companies may access the cloud by visiting [GPAmidstream.org/login](https://GPAmidstream.org/login) and creating a free account by using your work email address for access. Once you create an account, log in and click on Cloud-Based Data Book and Publications. All others wishing to receive copies of GPA Midstream publications can visit the [GPAmidstream.org Publications page](https://GPAmidstream.org/Publications). Non-members may contact Technical Program Assistant [Kristy Morrison](#) to purchase RR-249 or other reports.

- **GPA Midstream Standard: GPA-2103 (Errata)** - This is an Errata to GPA 2103-20, which includes an equation update.
- **GPA Midstream Research Report 249: *Effect of Gas Gravity, H<sub>2</sub>S, and Salinity on the Water Content in Natural Gas: Part III, Effect of Brine*** - GPA Midstream Research Project 074 is a three-part study focused on obtaining new experimental data to benchmark historical correlations based on gas gravity and water salinity provided by McKetta and Wehe (1958). Part I, published as RR-237, reported the relationship between gas gravity and the water content of sweet hydrocarbons. Part III is presented in this report and will address the effect of brines on the water content of methane. Part II will address the effect of hydrogen sulfide on the water content of methane and will be presented in a separate report.

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## **Chapters**

### **APPALACHIAN BASIN**

#### **Joint Networking Event to be Rescheduled**

The Joint Networking Event (partnering with Appalachian Pipeliners Association) scheduled for Sept. 1 was postponed due to the inclement weather from Hurricane Ida. Based upon our strong industry safety culture, the chapter felt this was the best decision in the interest of members, given this was to be an outdoor, tented event. The rescheduled date is being evaluated and will be broadcast when determined.

#### **9th Annual Clay Shoot**

Registration is open for the Appalachian Basin chapter's 9th Annual Clay Shoot being held Oct. 7 at Seven Springs. You can renew your membership to save on registration, and renewals will be good for 2022.

For more information or to register, visit the [Appalachian Basin GPA Midstream website](#).

## **ABGPA YP Range Night**

This earlier postponed event has been rescheduled for Sept. 23 and will be held at the Keystone Shooting Center.

For more information or to register, visit the [Appalachian Basin GPA Midstream website](#).

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## **HOUSTON**

### **October Luncheon**

Save the date for the Houston chapter's October luncheon to be held at the Houston Club on Oct. 6.

For more information or to register, visit the [Houston GPA Midstream website](#).

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## **MIDCONTINENT**

### **Sporting Clays**

Join your peers and shooting enthusiasts on Sept. 17 at the Silverleaf Shotgun Sports in Guthrie, Okla., for the Midcontinent chapter's fall sporting clays event.

### **Registration Fees**

Individuals - \$225

Team of 4 - \$900

The registration fee includes 100 rounds of ammunition and two raffle tickets per participant, plus a barbecue lunch. Team registration includes one golf cart per team.

For more information or to register, visit the [Midcontinent GPA Midstream website](#).

### **Scholarship Golf Tournament**

Registration is open for the 2021 Fall Golf Tournament being held at Rose Creek Golf Club in Edmond, Okla., on Oct. 11. Registration is \$300 for individuals or \$1,000 per team.

For more information or to register, visit the [Midcontinent GPA Midstream website](#).

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## **NORTH TEXAS**

### **Annual Shrimp Boil and Membership Drive**

The North Texas chapter invites you to enjoy great food while supporting a

great cause at its shrimp boil on Sept. 16, which serves as a fundraiser for the chapter's scholarship fund and general chapter events. Participation for current North Texas GPA Midstream members and a guest is free; the cost for non-member participation is \$40 per person.

For more information, to pay your membership dues or to register, visit the [North Texas GPA Midstream website](#).

### **Clay Shoot**

The NTGPA Midstream clay shoot was postponed from the original April 2021 date and has been rescheduled for Oct. 22 at the Alpine Shooting Range in Fort Worth.

For more information, to pay your membership dues or to register, visit the [North Texas GPA Midstream website](#).

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## **PERMIAN BASIN**

### **Clay Shoot**

The Permian Basin GPA (PBGPA) Midstream 2021 Annual Sporting Clays event registration is open, and all net proceeds go to PBGPA Midstream Scholarship Fund. The event is scheduled for Sept. 24 beginning at 9 a.m. at Jake's Clays in Midland, Texas.

The event is limited to 240 shooters. The \$195 per-shooter cost includes a cart, lunch, shooting and a chance at door prizes.

For more information or to register, visit the [Permian Basin GPA Midstream website](#).

### **Shrimp Boil**

The PBGPA Midstream 2021 Shrimp Boil will be held on Oct. 14 at 4 p.m. Join the chapter at Rolling 7's for an evening of food, beverages, networking, and the always-popular raffle prizes.

For more information or to register, visit the [Permian Basin GPA Midstream website](#).

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## **ROCKY MOUNTAIN**

### **Third Quarter Luncheon**

Join the Rocky Mountain chapter for lunch, education and networking at the Denver Athletic Club on Sept. 9 at 11 a.m.

For more information or to register, visit the [Rocky Mountain GPA Midstream website](#).

## **Sporting Clays**

The Rocky Mountain chapter board has decided to postpone the fall sporting clays event and rescheduled it for spring 2022. Keep an eye on the [Rocky Mountain GPA Midstream website](#) for the reschedule date.

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## **Calendar**

[Learn more about the events below here](#)

### **September**

- 9 - Rocky Mountain GPA Midstream Third Quarter Luncheon
- 16 - North Texas GPA Midstream Annual Shrimp Boil and Membership Drive
- 17 - Midcontinent GPA Midstream Fall Sporting Clays
- 23 - Appalachian Basin GPA Midstream YP Range Night
- 24 - Permian Basin GPA Midstream Annual Sporting Clays
- 26-29 - GPA Midstream Convention

### **October**

- 6 - Houston GPA Midstream October Luncheon
  - 7 - Appalachian Basin GPA Midstream 9th Annual Clay Shoot
  - 11 - Midcontinent GPA Midstream Fall Scholarship Golf Tournament
  - 14 - Permian Basin GPA Midstream Shrimp Boil
  - 22 - North Texas GPA Midstream Clay Shoot
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