

Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety  
Meeting Minutes Summary  
**May 23, 2001**

**Present**

Chuck Mosher, Chair  
Harry “Jay” Follman  
Duane Henderson  
Richard Gilda  
Brad Rosewood  
Sarah Spence  
Grant Jensen  
Laura L. Parsons  
Alan J. Cabodi

**Absent**

Bill Hinkle  
Susan Harper  
Don Evans  
Lee A. James

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome and Adoption of April 25, 2001 Meeting Minutes
2. WUTC Pipeline Safety Activity Report
3. WUTC Website Information
4. Damage Prevention Enforcement – WUTC Proposal
5. Contract Special Provision
6. Committee Discussion on Comments to Federal Rulemakings
7. Committee Appointments
8. Field Trip Suggestions and Committee Meeting Location Ideas
9. New Items of Business

1. **Welcome** – Chuck Mosher, Citizens Committee Chair welcomed the committee and the public to the seventh meeting of the committee. The present committee members reviewed the minutes from the April 25 meeting. Chuck Mosher proposed a revision to the minutes. On page four, under item six “Committee Communication”, Chuck suggested to revise the last sentence in the last paragraph to say, “If a member disagrees with the majority on the decision, committee members felt that the record should reflect the varying opinion”. The revision was noted by WUTC staff and a revised version of the adopted minutes will be e-mailed to the committee and posted to the WUTC pipeline safety website.
2. **WUTC Pipeline Safety Activity Report** – Sondra Walsh, Policy Strategist with the WUTC pipeline safety division, gave an activity report to the committee. She explained

how staff has been focusing on the Local Distribution Companies (LDC's) standard inspections. Sondra also informed the committee how the WUTC is drafting procedures on making a commission order out of the pipeline companies' letter of intent to comply with the non-compliances found during a pipeline safety audit.

Sondra updated the committee on the rulemaking relating to the pipeline fee methodology (Docket number UG-010522). She explained how draft fee language was sent to the pipeline companies and interested parties on May 10<sup>th</sup> and a workshop was held on May 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the draft fee language. Numerous suggestions were made on the language and Sondra said that a revised draft language would be re-sent by May 24<sup>th</sup> with comments due on June 1<sup>st</sup>. If needed, another draft will be sent out on June 6<sup>th</sup> and comments will be due back on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Finally, the finalized language will go in front of the Commissioners at the Open Meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup>. Sondra also explained how an emergency rulemaking would have to be put into effect, since SSB 5182 mandates the fees to fund the pipeline safety program beginning July 1, 2001. In order to collect those fees the language must be put into rule. The emergency rulemaking will make the fee rule effective for 120 days. Within that time the regular process for a rulemaking will be followed and a permanent rule will be set by August or September, Sondra stated.

Sondra informed the committee of the status of the hazardous liquids rulemaking (Docket number TO-000712). Currently, stakeholder's comments and feedback is being drafted. These revised rules will be sent out to interested parties within the different subcategories (Sondra reminded the committee that there are numerous subcategories). The WUTC hopes to have hazardous liquid rules in place by the end of the year.

3. **WUTC Website Information** – Lindsay Walker, Secretary Administrative and website editor for the WUTC, spoke with the committee about what information is currently on the WUTC pipeline safety website. She explained how the committee agenda and meeting information are posted to the website, as well as the adopted minutes. Lindsay also pointed out other resources on the pipeline safety website like state and federal rulemaking information, the state pipeline safety bills, links to other informative websites and new articles of interest. She also noted how the one-call number and damage prevention information is posted on the website. One item that is not on the website, but has been asked for by committee members at past meetings, are pipeline maps of Washington state. Dave Cullom, WUTC GIS (Geographic Information System) Mapping Analyst came to the meeting to get suggestions from the committee on what they felt the citizens of Washington state would want to know about pipelines in Washington state. Committee members felt a general map of the state of Washington would be useful, especially if it was user-friendly and capable of zooming in and out to view more detail. Dave noted those suggestions and let the committee know that he is currently focusing on the mapping submissions to the federal National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS). Lindsay told the committee to let her know if they have any suggestion for the website.
4. **Damage Prevention Enforcement – WUTC Proposal** – Carole Washburn, Executive Secretary with the WUTC, spoke to the committee about the federal grant that will allow the WUTC to hire a staff person to focus on damage prevention issues. Carole

introduced the committee to the staff person that had been hired for the job, Penny Hansen. Carole explained how Penny has been with the commission for ten years and has experience with public involvement. Carole reminded the committee that several meetings were held last year on damage prevention and how the WUTC promised to continue those meetings this year after the legislative session was over. Some committee members expressed an interest in having a ½ presentation/summary of last years damage prevention meetings on the next meetings agenda.

Carole passed out the damage prevention proposal and asked the committee if they would sponsor the proposal. The five voting committee members present moved to sponsor the proposal and the non-voting members present stated their interest in supporting the proposal as well. Carole also let the committee know that she will be asking the Pipeline Safety City-County Consortium and the Association of Washington Cities to sponsor the proposal. She stated that she hoped all groups involved with the damage prevention issue would come to a consensus to bring something to next year's legislative session. Carole also noted that the WUTC is interested in having some entity be the enforcer and it's not the WUTC's agenda to have the Commission be the enforcer.

5. **Contract Special Provision** – Sarah passed out to committee members her idea on how the construction industry can build safely around pipelines. Sarah has circulated a document she created called “Special Provision – Draft” to a civil engineer and an industrial contractor and has received revisions from them and would now like to get the Citizens Committees’ input on the special provisions, which she would like to see one day incorporated into construction contracts. Sarah would like anyone with comments on the provisions to call her or e-mail her.
6. **Committee Discussion on Comments to Federal Rulemakings** – The committee was presented with draft letters that commented on two federal pipeline safety rulemakings. (Docket No. RSPA-00-7804; Notice 1 regarding pipeline integrity management and Docket No. RSPA-01-8663 regarding hazardous liquid accident reporting). The letters were distributed to the committee as a starting point on the federal rulemakings. The committee gave their input and WUTC staff noted these revisions. It was suggested on the accident reporting rulemaking to reference the state of Washington Department of Ecology’s, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) regarding spill reporting which has no minimal reporting requirements. WUTC staff took all the suggestions and will revise the letters and then re-submit them to the committee for review. Once the letters are finalized they will be sent to Washington D.C.
7. **Committee Appointments** – Carole Washburn informed the committee that she will be meeting with Carol Jolly in the Governor’s office next week to discuss the issue of committee appointments and the formal process that needs to be followed if the committee decides to do reappointments. Carole stated that she would communicate the formal process to the committee by e-mail.
8. **Field Trip Suggestions and Committee Meeting Location Ideas** – The committee discussed where they would like to hold future meetings and any pipeline facilities they

would be interested in visiting. The suggestion was made to hold the meetings at a pipeline company's facility so that the meeting and the field trip could be at the same location. Brad Rosewood offered his Chevron Pipeline facility in Pasco, Washington for the June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. The committee agreed with Brad's offer. The July meeting will be held at Puget Sound Energy on July 25<sup>th</sup>. The committee decided not to hold a meeting in the month of August. The committee expressed their interest in holding the September meeting at the BP/Olympic Renton Control room facility on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

**9. New Items of Business**

**State Publication on Pipeline Safety Information -**

Brad Rosewood felt that a statewide booklet should be created and distributed to citizens on pipeline safety information. He suggested asking the one-call centers, the WUTC and the committee to endorse and promote the booklet. The information in the booklet/brochure should include how close someone can build to a pipeline, pipeline terminology and other general pipeline information.

**Construction Criteria -**

Sarah Spence passed out information on backfilling; an issue she feels has very little regulation or oversight. The packet she passed out included federal and state regulations on backfilling. Sarah feels this issue is very important in this area because of Washington states' seismic activity. Sarah told the committee to get back with her with their ideas via e-mail.