



Committee Members

Carl Weimer, Chair • Leo Bowman, Vice Chair
Duane Henderson • Grant Jensen • George Hills
Pete Kmet • Dave Barnes • Katie Hansen
Richard Kuprewicz • Shirley Olson
Bill Rickard • Jean Buckner • Bob Bandarra

Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety

Meeting Minutes

Washington State Investment Board, Olympia, WA

November 9, 2006

Present

Carl Weimer, Chair
Jean Buckner
Duane Henderson
Katie Hansen
George Hills
Grant Jensen
Pete Kmet
Rick Kuprewicz
Shirley Olson
Bill Rickard

Absent

Leo Bowman, Vice Chair
Bob Bandarra
David Barnes

Public present at the meeting

Alan Rathbun, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
Tim Sweeney, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
Ilyne Lawson, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
Rhonda Huynh, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
Steve King, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
Keith Meissner, Cascade Natural Gas

Agenda:

1. Welcome, Introduction of Members and Visitors, Adoption of October 12, 2006 meeting minutes, Public Comment
2. Spokane Question: Siting or safety issue?
3. Proposed Legislation 2007
4. GIS Legislation 2007
5. UTC Pipeline Safety Update
6. Stakeholder Report
 - ✦ 2004-2005 Stakeholder Report
 - ✦ 2006 Stakeholder Report
7. Discussion of Conflict of Interest
8. Interpretation Request

9. 2007 Work-plan and Meeting Schedule
10. 2007 Chair and Vice Chair Appointments
11. Pipeline Safety Trust Conference Overview
12. Future Meeting Locations and Agendas – Other Business

1. **Welcome and Adoption of October 12, 2006 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was brought to order and Katie Hansen, past Chair, welcomed all attendees. The committee began the meeting by discussing the October 12, 2006 meeting minutes. George Hills identified two typographical errors: the middle of the third sentence on page two, item 2, line 5 “staring” should be changed to “starting” and on page six, item 9, middle of the second paragraph, “it” should precede “has adequate meeting dates during the legislative session.” The committee members agreed with the proposed corrections. Shirley Olson, moved to adopt the minutes as amended, seconded by Bill Rickard, and the committee passed the motion unanimously.

2. **Spokane Question: Siting or safety issue?**

Carl Weimer provided the committee with the status update on the Spokane question. Bob Beaumier gave a presentation during the Pipeline Safety Trust conference in New Orleans and he is waiting to see if the presentation provoked a response from any attendees. Carl Weimer has since spoken to Bob Beaumier and e-mailed an excerpt from the October 12 meeting minutes to him that clearly states the committee’s expectations. Alan Rathbun, UTC Pipeline Safety Director, also spoke with Bob Beaumier to reiterate the committee’s stipulations. As it stands, it is unclear if Mr. Beaumier has yet submitted a definitive question to the federal Office of Pipeline Safety.

3. **Proposed Legislation 2007**

Tim Sweeney, UTC Pipeline Staff, provided the committee with an update on proposed 2007 legislation.

Tim Sweeney informed the committee of the status of the agency request bill, also known as the pipeline safety consolidation bill, RCW 81.88. The UTC submitted its fourth draft of RCW 81.88 to the Code Reviser’s Office. The fourth draft has streamlined and clarified definitions by making the terms in the statute consistent with terms within the rules. After Tim Sweeney discussed the motivation for some of the changes, he requested the committee’s review and feedback. Staff would like to have responses from committee members before the next meeting in January 2007.

4. **GIS Legislation 2007**

Bill Rickard proposed a different approach towards amending RCW 81.88.080 and 42.56.330 (Public Records Act). Bill Rickard proposed empowering the commission to determine the extent of GIS data distribution. Alan Rathbun provided the committee with a brief overview of the process the UTC has in place to respond to requests for public records. Alan Rathbun explained that making decisions regarding who would or would not be allowed access to public records is not a function that the commission would embrace. The committee members communicated their opinions about whether the availability of GIS data could contribute to improving safety. However, the committee concluded that Bill Rickard’s suggestions would not help the draft bill pass. No formal action was taken.

5. **UTC Pipeline Safety Update**

Alan Rathbun, UTC Pipeline Safety Director, provided an update from the pipeline safety section.

Commission requests the Attorney General to seek enforcement action related to damage prevention

The commission has directed a letter to the Senior Assistant Attorney General, who represents the UTC, asking her to seek enforcement action against a Puyallup area excavator who has damaged PSE electric and gas facilities 12 times between October 2004 and May 2006. This letter recommends the AG's office file a complaint and summons seeking a maximum penalty of \$100,000.

NAPSR Annual Meeting – PHMSA Reauthorization is a major topic

David Lykken and Alan Rathbun attended the annual meeting of the National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives. One of the major topics of discussion was the pending congressional reauthorization of PHMSA. PHMSA discussed the bill comparison chart that was shared with the Committee in October. Given the pending change in congressional leadership and that this congress is now a "lame duck"; it is unlikely that any bill will be passed during this session of congress. This means, bills will have to be re-introduced before the new congress in 2007. That being said, there is a potential hearing on the senate version of the reauthorization bill set for November 17.

Land Use in the vicinity of transmission pipelines

Alan Rathbun gave presentations to land planner forums in Moses Lake, Vancouver and Silverdale with approximately 60 people attending these forums. Copies of the land use guideline report were distributed and the presentation was well received. It is clear that planners have not historically given "pipelines" much consideration in land use decisions.

Northern Star LNG import facility and related pipeline

State, federal and local agencies are awaiting the distribution of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC has not given a timeline on the DEIS release. Washington's Office of Regulatory Assistance has scheduled a December meeting of all state and local agencies involved in this project. The UTC will be in attendance.

6. **Stakeholder Report**

2004-2005 Stakeholder Report

Tim Sweeney, UTC Pipeline Safety Staff, displayed a re-formatted version of the 2004-2005 Stakeholder Report to the committee. The new format is a six page, tri-fold brochure with a picture of a Williams's pipeline on the front page.

Committee members identified corrections that should be made:

- the c in "committee" to be capitalized throughout the document
- the apostrophe to be removed from "citizen's"
- Katie Hansen's location should be changed from "Woodville" to "Woodinville"
- "Williams Pipeline Ruptures" should be in lower case

- “North Star applications” should be “Northern Star application”
- “UTC launches” should be “UTC’s launch of”
- “McChord Pipeline Company” should be “McChord Pipeline Co.”

The committee requested for the contact information provided in the brochure to be modified. Committee members asked for the brochure to provide information directing the reader to a point of contact on the committee rather than to UTC staff. Members were advised that the contact information currently in the brochure offers more continuity. The committee asked for thicker stock to be used in the final product of the 2004-2005 Stakeholder Report.

2006 Stakeholder Report

Carl Weimer has prepared a letter to accompany the 2004-2005 Stakeholder Report and a draft of the 2006 Stakeholder Report. Carl Weimer will send copies of the draft letter to committee members before the next meeting. Carl Weimer proposed mailing out the 2004-2005 and 2006 Stakeholder Reports at the same time. To make the report formatting process simple, Carl Weimer suggested using the same format for the 2006 Stakeholder Report. Instead of the blue background used in the 2004-2005 Stakeholder Report Carl Weimer suggested using a green background in the 2006 report.

Committee members agreed to send out a summary letter accompanying the 2004-2005 Stakeholder Report and postponed sending out the 2006 Stakeholder Report.

7. Discussion of Conflict of Interest

The committee continued its conflict of interest discussion begun at its October 12, 2006 meeting. Two conflict of interest drafts were presented and members shared their opinions about what each member agreed and disagreed with. The committee engaged in a discussion about the purpose of implementing a conflict of interest policy, and whether such a policy is even necessary. Members also discussed the intent of the legislature, the basis of members' gubernatorial appointments, the roles of voting versus non-voting members, and committee's objectives. Pete Kmet made a motion to continue on the conflict of interest discussion at a future meeting. Jean Buckner seconded the motion. The motion failed in a 3 to 4 vote. Shirley Olson, Katie Hansen, Bill Rickard, and Rick Kuprewicz voted against the motion while Pete Kmet, Jean Buckner, and Carl Weimer voted for the motion. This vote ended the conflict of interest discussion. A recorded version of this discussion will be provided to absent committee members.

8. Interpretation Request

Alan Rathbun, UTC Pipeline Safety Director, presented Admiral Thomas Barrett's response letter to the committee. The letter apologizes for the delayed response to the interpretation request and responds to the interpretation request related to the maximum allowable pressure on new pipelines.

9. 2007 Work-plan and Meeting Schedule

Schedule

Meeting date alternatives were proposed to committee members via e-mail. Committee members agreed upon the meeting dates January 4, 2007; February 15, 2007; March 1, 2007; May 31, 2007; August 2, 2007; and November 29, 2007. The February meeting is a tentative meeting that could be a face-to-face meeting or a teleconference.

Work Plan

The committee discussed different items that it could add to the 2007 work plan. Carl Weimer, Leo Bowman, and Alan Rathbun will work together to develop a workplan draft. Members suggested the following issues:

- Topics
 - ▶ UTC's future actions
 - ▶ Right to Know Issues
 - ▶ RP 1162 communications; evaluate and provide feedback operators' communications
 - ▶ Eminent Domain and Pipeline Siting
 - ▶ SCADA and the NTSB issues
 - ▶ Distribution Integrity Management Plan (DIMP)
 - ▶ Waivers on MAOP
 - ▶ Leak Detection
 - ▶ Emergency Response Planning
 - ▶ Quality Risk Assessment or Quality Risk Analysis
- Events
 - ▶ Tour of the One Call Center in Vancouver
 - ▶ Attend a portion of the June 2007 National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR) Western Region meeting in Seattle
- Guests
 - ▶ Canada's National Energy Board's (NEB) pipeline safety representative (British Columbia) to discuss Canadian processes and procedures
- Presentations
 - ▶ Pipeline repairs – an overview of the different types of repairs
 - ▶ Damage prevention from perspectives other than the operators'
 - ▶ How baseline assessments for the Integrity Management Program are conducted
 - ▶ Master meter and small gas systems study
 - ▶ Five largest risks (any type of pipeline risk) from operators' and UTC's perspectives and what is being done to prevent the risks

Locations

The committee agreed to meet in Vancouver on May 31, 2007, in Bellingham on August 2, 2007 and in Olympia for the other committee meetings unless otherwise specified. A representative of National Energy Board's pipeline safety program will be invited to the Bellingham meeting in August; in addition, the committee may extend the meeting for a day to include a tour of the 1999 explosion site and a refinery. Reiterating an idea from the October meeting, Jackson Prairie was suggested as field trip location, but a meeting date was not decided. The committee may explore other meeting locations later in the year.

10. 2007 Chair and Vice Chair Appointments

Leo Bowman has been elected President of the Washington Association of Counties and he has informed Carl Weimer and Alan Rathbun that he will not be able to assume the position of Committee Chair in August 2007. During the May 2007 election of officers the Committee Chair and Vice Chair positions will be filled.

11. Pipeline Safety Trust Conference Overview

Carl Weimer provided the committee with an overview of the Pipeline Safety Trust Conference in New Orleans. In addition to 120 attendees, Katie Hansen, Rick Kuprewicz and Tim Sweeney also attended. About 60% percent of the attendees came from the industry, about 30% were citizens, and about ten percent of the attendees were regulators. About 60 speakers presented topics similar to issues discussed during committee meetings. Effective RP1162 communication methods were a major topic at the conference. The conference will be available on the Pipeline Safety Trust website via web-cast and links will be provided for presentations.

12. Future Meeting Locations and Agendas – Other Business

The ID cards that were created for committee members today will be mailed to them. The next meeting will be held in Olympia on January 4, 2007 in Room 206 of the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission. If all committee members are present on January 4th, the committee will take a group picture for the 2006 Stakeholders Report. On January 4th individual pictures will be taken for committee members who were absent during this meeting and ID cards will be created for them.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.