

Washington State Citizens Advisory Committee on Pipeline Safety  
Meeting Minutes Summary  
Location: Olympia, WA (WUTC)  
**October 24, 2001**

**Present**

Chuck Mosher, Chair  
Susan Harper  
Don Evans  
Harry “Jay” Follman  
Lee A. James  
Duane Henderson  
Richard Gilda  
Brad Rosewood  
Lester Olsen  
Laura L. Parsons  
Alan J. Cabodi

**Absent**

Sarah Spence  
Grant Jensen

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome and Introductory Remarks
2. Review of Accomplishments and Lessons to Date
3. Committee Member Agreements
4. WUTC Staff Update
5. Public Comment
6. Twelve-month Goals
7. Subcommittees and Workplans
8. Meeting Frequency, Logistics and Adoption of September 26 Meeting Minutes

1. **Welcome and Introductory Remarks** – Chairman Chuck Mosher welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety. Chairman Mosher introduced Larry Dressler who would be facilitating today’s meeting. Larry went over the agenda and the objectives for meeting. Larry explained his role as facilitator for the committee. He stressed that he would deal with the processes of the committee, and as the Chairman, Chuck would deal with the issues of pipeline safety.
2. **Review of Accomplishments and Lessons to Date** – Larry broke the committee up into pairs and asked them to brainstorm what they felt the committee had accomplished since they came together in October of 2000. Larry recorded the following responses:
  - ✓ Understanding/Education of the members regarding pipelines and legislation.
  - ✓ Created a forum for damage prevention.

- ✓ “Vehicle” for other parties to voice their concerns on pipeline safety.
- ✓ State legislation and funding of the pipeline safety program through letters, lobbying and testimony. Also by voting to support the legislation unanimously.
- ✓ Stayed together throughout internal and external pressures.
- ✓ Built trust with the citizens and reassured the public that pipeline safety is an issue that is being worked on.
- ✓ Forum for honest dialogue and open communication.
- ✓ Consistency with the public that attends the meetings; continue to give good input and keep the committee focused.

Next, Larry asked the group as a whole to brainstorm measurable success factors. These included:

- Tangible products – letters and documentation.
- Educating members on pipeline safety and a willingness to take the time to learn.
- Openness – sharing the facts. Nothing has been a “canned” presentation.
- Ability to ask the hard questions.
- Member attendance.
- Chairman has done a good job.
- WUTC staff – Responsive to questions, returns calls/e-mails, completes follow-up, professional and neutral on issues.
- Citizens input consistency.
- Member preparation

3. **Committee Member Agreements** – Larry and the committee discussed agreements that were compiled by Larry according to pre-work questions that the committee answered. These included:

- 1) Listen to others (confirm what others are saying by paraphrasing).
- 2) Speak to others with respect.
- 3) Check ego and personal agendas at the door.
- 4) Seek common ground.
- 5) Balance speaking with listening.
- 6) Disagree agreeably.
- 7) Identify facts vs. opinion.
- 8) Stick to the agenda.
- 9) Hold one conversation at a time.
- 10) Represent your opinion as yours.
- 11) Have fun!
- 12) Ask questions.
- 13) Get clear on conclusions/decisions:
  - reach consensus and write it down
  - follow-up on member assignments/contributions
  - be clear regarding assignments

The committee felt that they could live up to these above agreements.

Chairman Mosher noted how he would allow the public's input but will always be cautious to regulate its extent if necessary. He said that the public that attends the meetings have done a great job so far, but stated that the audience has a different role in the meetings than the committee members. The public input portion of the meeting is reserved for such comments.

4. **WUTC Staff Update** – Doug Kilpatrick gave the committee an update on recent activities of the WUTC pipeline safety division. Doug informed the committee that the division's head engineer, Dennis Lloyd resigned from the commission and will be leaving by the end of the month. Dennis will be taking a position with El Paso Natural Gas Company in Arizona. Staff will be getting together to begin recruiting for that position. Another engineer, Kim West, is on a leave of absence and the division has hired a temporary replacement, Kjel Finnvik. Doug let the committee know that the federal integrity management rulemaking for gas companies is being extended for another 60 –90 days before a notice of proposed rules will be issued. One committee member asked if OPS is cutting back on pipeline inspections or just rulemakings in light of the recent terrorist attacks? Doug answered by saying that inspections are not being cut back on, but he knows that numerous meetings/conference have been cancelled and this alone slows down the federal rulemaking process. Another committee member asked staff if there is time to comment on the WUTC hazardous liquid and gas rulemakings? Sondra Walsh, Policy Strategist with the WUTC said yes. She indicated that there would be more stakeholder meetings and more time to comment. Generally, comments will be accepted at anytime. She overviewed the general timeline for the rulemakings and stated that the draft hazardous liquids rules would be sent to interested parties the first part of November and the draft gas rules would be sent out the first part of December. Drafts of proposed rule language will also be posted to the WUTC's website?

One member asked about a Williams NW Pipeline's (NWP) proposal recently filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The project is called the Evergreen Expansion Project. NWP wants to expand its existing pipeline system for the transportation of additional volumes of natural gas within the Skagit, King, Pierce, Whatcom, Snohomish, Skamania, Klickitat, and Benton Counties, Washington. FERC will develop an Environmental Assessment of the project and be seeking public input for this document. One committee member indicated that they would like future updates of FERC and EFSEC sitings.

Carole Washburn, Executive Director of the WUTC, gave an update to the committee on the series of damage prevention meetings that the WUTC has held this summer. She told the committee that a meeting would be held in SeaTac on Friday October 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss draft legislative language on an enforcement mechanism for the current dig law, RCW 19.122. She let the committee know that John Neff with the Washington Building Officials Association will be speaking at the meeting in the morning to address questions about local building official involvement in One-Call activities and enforcement. Carole invited the committee to attend the meeting at the SeaTac DoubleTree Hotel and told the

committee that she would e-mail the draft legislative language to them as soon as it is available.

**5. Public Comment –**

*Ken Meyer, President of Fuel Safe Washington* echoed what Carole just talked about and encouraged the committee to come to the meeting on damage prevention.

*Richard Kuprewicz, Accufacts, Inc.* Said he would like to discuss and track the progress of OPS's federal rulemaking on gas pipeline high consequence areas with WUTC staff and the committee. Rick noted that he believed the regulations were not adequately addressing some of the very technical aspects of pipeline integrity management. He stated that he had intended to make comments at a meeting that was supposed to take place on September 13<sup>th</sup> but had been cancelled.

**6. Twelve-month Goals (Brainstorming) –** Larry broke the committee into small groups and asked them to write down suggested main goals of the committee be for the next year. Larry asked Doug Kilpatrick, WUTC pipeline safety director, to note some areas that the committee may want to focus on. Doug suggested that the committee could be very helpful to the WUTC if they were to consider:

- **WUTC hazardous liquid and gas rulemakings.** Doug felt that the committee is a good avenue to gauge the public's concerns in the rulemakings.
- **Federal rulemakings.** Doug stated that staff would keep the committee updated and informed on federal rulemakings.
- **Public-right-to-know.** Would like to get an opinion from the committee on what the public wants and needs to know about pipelines and how information is distributed. The recent terrorist attacks and knowledge of pipeline information is also a big consideration in regards to public right-to-know. He said that the agency needs to find a balance.
- **Damage Prevention.** Any input from the committee on this multi-faceted issue.

The groups broke up and developed individual goals for committee consideration.

**Group 1 - Proposed Goals (Lee James, Les Olsen, Dick Gilda & Duane Henderson)**

- White paper on damage prevention. Includes committee vote/sponsorship with the audience being possibly stakeholders and legislators.
- Seek sponsorship (legislator) for a damage prevention bill.
- Build consensus for passage of a damage prevention bill.
- Recognition of others of value to the committee.

**Group 2 – Proposed Goals (Chuck Mosher, Susan Harper, Al Cabodi)**

- Damage Prevention – put teeth in one-call law (enforcement) and more public education (tap into existing education programs).
- Legislation – Monitoring, input and agency actions (i.e. rulemaking activities monitoring) on state and federal levels.
- Public Relations – Annual report to Governor's office, hot topic bulletins, communicate with other states about the committee's existence and each other's issues.

Issues to be addressed in Committee By-Laws:

- ✓ Educational training for committee members (i.e. tours of facilities, guest speakers on technical issues; at least one of these elements once each quarter).
- ✓ Recruit strong replacements for committee.
- ✓ Ongoing funding, adequate resources and support for committee.

**Group 3 – Proposed Goals (Laura Parsons, Brad Rosewood, Jay Follman, and Don Evans)**

- Proposed damage prevention bill to legislature/sponsor.
- Public awareness program in the form of a pamphlet, sponsored by the committee with general pipeline information, state overview map, call before you dig, agency contact information, pipeline marker and color codes. Statewide distribution to include schools, cities, counties, etc. Also look into public service announcements.
- One-call number in a more prominent area of the phone book, possibly the emergency numbers list.
- Develop forum for input on future construction and projects in the state of Washington with information about the pipeline like: who, what, when, where, and why.

7. **Subcommittees and Workplans** – The committee members were asked to sign-up for the subcommittee that were created by grouping together common twelve month goals. The subcommittees, members and ideas were as follows:

**Damage Prevention Sub-Committee**

White paper on damage prevention. Includes committee vote/sponsorship with the audience being possibly stakeholders and legislators. Seek sponsorship (legislator) for damage prevention bill. Build consensus for passage of damage prevention bill. Put teeth in one-call law (enforcement). Proposed damage prevention bill to legislature/sponsor.

Twelve-month outcome: Within the next year, the damage prevention subcommittee would like to give input on any draft bills, identify a sponsor and see the passage of enforcement legislation. This subcommittee's actions to reach the above goals would be to compose a “white paper” and have the committee as a whole review it and vote on it. The subcommittee and the WUTC would be the ones to write it and the subcommittee would like to see this accomplished by December 2001. This subcommittee would also like to get a sponsor for the damage prevention bill by January 2002 and would like to see consensus among the stakeholders on a bill. The damage prevention subcommittee would like to vote on a draft bill by December 2001.

Sub-committee Members:

Duane Henderson  
Don Evans  
Jay Follman  
Dick Gilda  
Brad Rosewood

### **Public Awareness Sub-Committee**

Public awareness program in the form of a pamphlet, sponsored by the committee with general pipeline information, state overview map, call before you dig, agency contact information, pipeline marker and color codes. Statewide distribution to include schools, cities, counties, etc. Also look into public service announcements. One-call number in a more prominent area of the phone book, possibly the emergency numbers list. More public education (tap into existing education programs).

Twelve-month outcome: The public awareness subcommittee would like the outcome of their workplan to be the development of a statewide public outreach program, which focuses on underground pipelines. The action items to accomplish this would be the development of an information pamphlet for distribution to citizens, businesses, and organizations, the development of a radio/T.V. public service announcement for One-Call relating to pipeline safety, and a Governor-sponsored public awareness week.

Sub-Committee Members:

Lester Olsen  
Laura Parsons  
Brad Rosewood

### **Public Relations Subcommittee**

Annual reports to Governor's office, hot topic bulletins, communicate with other states about the committee's existence and each other's issues. Strive to achieve recognition from others of the value of committee.

Twelve-month outcome: The public relations committee would like the outcome of their work-plan to be a brochure by January 2002 that states who the committee is and how to contact them. A first draft could be brought to the November meeting and at the December meeting the brochure could be finalized. Another outcome of this subcommittee would be a committee activity report to stakeholders, with the first report in January 2002 and then every other month after that. They would also like to send annual reports to other states, create website updates and press releases at the committee's request.

Sub-Committee Members

Susan Harper  
Dick Gilda  
Don Evans

### **Monitoring & Input Subcommittee**

Monitoring, input and agency actions (i.e. rulemaking activities monitoring) on state and federal levels. Develop forum for input on future construction and projects in the state of Washington with information about the pipeline like: who, what, when, where, and why.

Twelve-month outcome: The monitoring and input subcommittee would like to, within the next year, send a letter to congress supporting one of the federal pipeline bills. They would develop an ongoing, updated report to the committee as a whole on new transmission level facilities in Washington. The subcommittee would like a training session on the rulemaking process, an ongoing triage so that the committee has

knowledge of ongoing rulemaking and a method for choosing which ones it wants to engage in. They would also like to evaluate OPS's public rulemaking process and possibly draft a letter commenting on whether this constitutes an effective public forum. The monitoring and input subcommittee would like to have a semi-annual report from the WUTC and DOE pipeline programs that would detail their annual accomplishments. This subcommittee would also like to publish an annual or semi-annual report on statewide pipeline safety and emergency preparedness (i.e. listing of spill drills, etc.).

Sub-Committee Members:

Susan Harper  
Lee James  
Lester Olsen  
Chuck Mosher

8. **Meeting Frequency, Logistics and Adoption of September 26th Meeting Minutes** – The committee decided that the next committee meeting would be held on November 28<sup>th</sup> with the location to be either SeaTac or Bellevue. WUTC staff will find a location and inform the committee and post that information to the WUTC website. Carole Washburn hoped the committee would review their meeting schedules for the next year and suggested they stay away from Wednesdays because the WUTC holds its open meetings every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month and it can get difficult for staff to try to attend both meetings (considering there is a pipeline issue on the open meeting agenda). Brad Rosewood felt that at meetings the committee should suggest the items they would like on the next meeting agenda.

The committee talked about when subcommittees should meet. The committee felt that taking two hours during a regular committee meeting would be sufficient, with phone calls and e-mails occurring in between regular meetings. A small subcommittee of Chuck, Laura, and Richard will address these kinds of logistics.

The minutes from the September 26<sup>th</sup> committee meeting were approved, with Lester Olsen making the point that he did attend the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. WUTC staff made note of this addition to the minutes.

## **ACTIONS**

### **Committee**

- ❖ Draft of committee By-Laws for consideration at the next meeting (Chuck Mosher, Laura Parsons, Dick Gilda)

### **WUTC Staff**

- ❖ Track high consequence gas transmission regulations with some translation.
- ❖ Track proposed siting of new pipelines/facilities.
- ❖ Damage prevention status report and draft legislation outcomes.