

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Transportation

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Technical Pipeline Safety Standards Committee

3b. GSA

Committee No.

703

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

10/23/2020 10/23/2022

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

10/21/2022

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

N/A

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Section 60115 of Title 49 United States Code

13. Effective Date

08/12/1968

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a.

Open

0

17b. Closed

0

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The committee reviews each proposal to determine the technical feasibility, cost effectiveness, reasonableness, and practicability of each proposal. The committee also reviews matters relating to risk assessment. The members provide valuable technical knowledge and practical experience to supplement staff resources at relatively low cost. Since it is composed of government, industry, and public members, the committee serves as a unique forum for give and take, facilitating discussion of complex and often controversial issues. The balance of views on the

Committee aids the Office of Pipeline Safety in evaluating conflicting demands placed on us by NTSB, GAO, Congress, and other external stakeholders.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The membership of the Committee represents a unique mix of government, industry and public members. This balance of views reflects varying interests in pipeline safety. The Committee provides a valuable, independent base of technical knowledge and practical experience.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Committee generally meets at least twice each calendar year.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Committee brings together experts with technical knowledge and practical experience who represent all constituent groups (government, industry, public) having an interest in pipeline safety. Frank and open discussion of proposed gas pipeline safety standards by these experts is both economical and productive. The result is a stronger pipeline safety program. No other readily available source of similar expertise exists within government or industry.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A

21. Remarks

Designated Federal Officer

Alan K. Mayberry Associate Administrator for
Pipeline Safety, PHMSA

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Ariaratnam, Samuel	03/16/2022	03/16/2025	Professor and Beavers-Ames Chair in Heavy Construction, Arizona State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Dewar, Alex	03/16/2022	03/16/2025	Senior Director Center for Energy Impact Boston Consulting Group	Representative Member
Gilbert, William (Chad)	03/16/2022	03/16/2025	United Association International Representative Pipeline and Gas Distribution Department	Representative Member
Longan, Sara	01/07/2021	01/07/2024	Executive Director, North Slope Science Initiative, BLM	Representative Member
Murphy, Erin	03/16/2022	03/16/2025	Senior Attorney, Energy Markets and Utility Regulation, Environmental Defense Fund	Representative Member
Ravikumar, Arvind	03/16/2022	03/16/2025	Associate Professor Department of Petroleum and Geosystems Engineering, University of Texas at Austin	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 6

Narrative Description

The committee considers each proposed pipeline safety rule to assure technical feasibility, reasonableness, cost-effectiveness and practicability of proposed standards. The members also review and evaluate each associated cost-benefit analysis and risk assessment. This fiscal year GPAC did not meet.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

During this reporting period, the committee did not have any meetings.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

None

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

Number of Recommendations Comments

PHMSA uses one recommendation per rule; however, there are several recommendations within a proposed rule; therefore, the estimate would be 41 for 41 proposed rules.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

92%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Not Applicable

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Not Applicable

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

Agency Feedback Comments

The charge of this committee is to consider all of PHMSA's proposed rules applicable to gas pipelines and facilities. During FY22, the GPAC did not meet. During FY23, the GPAC did not meet.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO

☐

Online Agency Web Site

☒

Online Committee Web Site

☒

Online GSA FACA Web Site

☒

Publications

☐

Other

☐

Access Comments

N/A