



APRIL 2009 eBrief Print Version

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LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY AFFAIRS NEWS

For additional information on topics below or to get involved in GPA's legislative and regulatory activities, please contact Stuart McCalman, GPA Director, Government Affairs: smccalman@GPAGlobal.org.

EPA Grants GPA's Request for Deadline Extension

GPA recently filed an official request for extension with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to submit comments on its proposed rule to revise the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines (RICE). GPA argued that given the breadth of coverage of the proposed rule and the implications for the midstream industry, the 60-day comment deadline was inadequate to fully assess the rule's potential effect and to develop constructive comments supported with complete data. In response, the EPA has informed GPA that they intend to extend the comment period for this rule by 30 days and are preparing to publish a notice in the Federal Register granting the extension.

GPA to Form New GHG Reporting Rule Working Group

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed a proposed rule on March 10 establishing the first comprehensive national system for reporting emissions of green house gasses (GHG). The results of this rulemaking will potentially serve as the basis for expected federal legislative and regulatory action as it pertains to the issue of climate change and the reduction of GHG emissions. It is vital that GPA be proactive in addressing this proposed rulemaking with the energy, focus and expertise it deserves. It is in this vein that GPA has retained outside counsel with direct experience and expertise in this area to help serve as stewards in the drafting and filing of comments. Though retaining outside counsel was an important and needed step, it is imperative that our membership remains involved and engaged on this issue as it moves forward. As such, a GPA GHG Reporting

Rule working group is being formed, consisting of members of both LARAC and the Environmental Subcommittee whose responsibility it will be to provide direction and insight to our counsel.

GPA Expresses Opposition to Employee Free Choice Act

On March 23, GPA sent letters to all relevant members of Congress expressing GPA's opposition to the Employee Free Choice Act currently being debated in Congress. GPA noted in its letter how the Employee Free Choice Act creates an unfair advantage for unions during the collective bargaining process by allowing unions to end good faith negotiations and force an employer into binding arbitration in order to set all terms of a union contract. Perhaps of most concern, the legislation will serve to disenfranchise workers who favor independence from unions by eliminating the secret ballot voting process when deciding whether to form a labor union. Ending the secret ballot process could also invite intimidation and coercion of workers who wish to remain independent of a union.

GPA honors the safest companies in our industry

According to safety data compiled by GPA, the gas processing industry is one of the safest in the world, and that's why we annually celebrate the outstanding safety accomplishments of GPA member companies during the GPA Convention, paying special recognition to those who have achieved the overall best safety records. To be considered, companies must submit their safety statistics by deadline, and we appreciate all of you that have participated this year. Equal award categories are established for both our U.S. and non-U.S. operating companies.

First place winners were presented with a 3' x 5' safety flag during the convention's general session.

Among GPA U.S. operating companies, recipients for the most outstanding safety records during 2008 are:

Division I: More than 500,000 work hours

First place - ExxonMobil Corporation: .565 "total cases" incident rate, .188 "fatalities plus lost workdays" incident rate and 1,061,869 work hours

Second place – Enterprise Products Operating, LLC: .877 "total cases" incident rate, .279 "fatalities plus lost workdays" incident rate and 5,017,237 work hours

Division II: 100,000 - 500,000 work hours

First Place - AKA Energy Group, LLC: zero "total cases" incident rate, zero "fatalities plus lost workdays" incident rate and 144,803 work hours

Second Place - ConocoPhillips: .552 "total cases" incident rate, zero "fatalities plus lost workdays" incident rate and 362,198 work hours

Division III: Less than 100,000 work hours

First Place – Copano Processing L.P.: zero "total cases" incident rate, zero "fatalities plus lost workdays" incident rate and 65,242 work hours

Second Place – Superior Pipeline Co.: zero "total cases" incident rate, zero "fatalities plus lost workdays" incident rate and 59,029 work hours

Among GPA non-U.S. operating companies, our 2008 outstanding safety records award winners are:

Division I: More than 500,000 work hours

First place - United Gas Derivatives Co.: zero "total cases" incident rate, zero "fatalities plus lost workdays" incident rate and 1,323,747 work hours

Second place - Bahrain National Gas Co.: zero "total cases" incident rate, zero "fatalities plus lost workdays" incident rate and 772,424 work hours

Division II: 100,000 - 500,000 work hours

First Place - Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited: zero "total cases" incident rate, zero "fatalities plus lost workdays" incident rate and 422,597 work hours

Second Place – Kuwait National Petroleum Co.: zero "total cases" incident rate, zero "fatalities plus lost workdays" incident rate and 399,283 work hours

Division III: Less than 100,000 work hours

First Place – Unocal Canada - Chevron: zero "total cases" incident rate, zero "fatalities plus lost workdays" incident rate and 35,205 work hours. No additional companies qualified for a second place award.

TECH TALK

Section M Meeting Experiences Spring Growth

What a difference a couple of years make! Great attendance for the Technical Section M – Operations and

Maintenance meeting in San Antonio left standing room only for the more than 100 people who joined the meeting. The meeting focused on training and maintenance issues, and attendees learned from great presentations, followed by an outstanding panel discussion. We should all give Mike Brumley and Section M kudos for a job well done.

Work to Begin on the Next Edition of GPSA Engineering Data Book

The GPSA Editorial Review Board (ERB) met in San Antonio on March 11 and has identified sections in the GPSA Engineering Data Book that call for updates and revisions, as well as other sections that could use some "sprucing up." Revisions will take into account recent research work undertaken by GPA's Technical Data Development Section (also known as the Research Committee), as well as other pertinent updates. The next edition of the Data Book is in the initial stages, and the ERB expects that it will take somewhere in the range of five years to complete the revision, so don't throw out your 12th Edition just yet! Look for more detailed descriptions of revisions in future eBrief articles.

Publication Revisions Discussed

Technical Section H – Product Measurement and Handling plans to work on revising the following documents in the coming months. Please look for more specifics to these revisions in future eBrief articles.

GPA 8182-03 – Standard for Mass Measurement of Natural Gas Liquids

GPA 8186-86 – Measurement of Liquid Hydrocarbon by Truck Scales

GPA 8173-94 – Method For Converting Mass of NGL's and Vapors to Equivalent Liquid Volumes

GPA 8195-95 – Tentative Standard for Converting Net Vapor Space Volumes to Equivalent Liquid Volumes

Technical Committee Leadership Changes

Technical Section M – Operations and Maintenance

Ajey Chandra, Hess, has stepped down as Vice Chair.

Dena Lund, EnCana, will replace Chandra.

Technical Section H – Product Measurement and Handling

Harry Workmon, DCP Midstream, has ended his tenure as Chair.

David Courtney, ConocoPhillips, is moving from Vice Chair to Chair.

Dean Graves, Devon, has accepted Vice Chair position.

Technical Section A – Facilities Design

Mike Conder, Samson Resources, ended his tenure as Chair.

Kevin Lawlor, Samson Resources, is moving from Vice Chair to Chair.

Vice Chair position has yet to be filled.

CHAPTER NEWS

MidContinent GPA Annual Meeting

Join us for the MidContinent GPA Annual Meeting and Golf Tournament. The Golf Tournament will be held Wednesday, April 15 at the Silverhorn Golf Club in Oklahoma City, followed by the Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 16 at the Clarion Meridian Convention Center.

Download the registration forms: <http://www.GPAGlobal.org/pdf/MCGPA09regforms.pdf>

Permian Basin GPA Annual Meeting

Please mark your calendars for the Permian Basin GPA Annual Meeting on May 5, and Golf Tournament on May 6. The meeting will be held at the Center for Energy and Economic Diversification (CEED), University of Texas of Permian Basin, in Midland, Texas. Program details will be available in the coming weeks.

Download the registration form: <http://www.GPAGlobal.org/pdf/PBGPA09RegForms.pdf>

2009-2010 GPA Officers

President: Bob Dunn, Prism Gas Systems

President Elect: Alan Armstrong, Williams Midstream Gas & Liquids

Vice-President: Jean Leger, Enogex

Vice-President: Bill Ordemann, Enterprise Products Operating

Vice-President: Tim O'Sullivan, SemGroup

2009-2010 GPSA Officers

President: Harvey Hensley, ENGlobal Corp.
First Vice-President: Chris Lindenberg, Western Filter Co.
Second Vice-President: Jim Marcotte, Daniel Measurement & Control
Treasurer: Jerry Bullin, Bryan Research and Engineering

New PERC Appointments

At its March meeting, the GPA board of directors approved adding two new producer representatives to the Propane Education and Research Council (PERC). Tim Stauff, Aux Sable, was approved to replace Bill McAdam, who had term-limited on the Council. Greg Dighero, Encana, was approved to replace Kevin Sparks, Marathon Oil. Dighero's membership to the Council is effective immediately, and Stauff will take over for McAdam beginning in June.

Training & Retaining: One Leads to the Other

Everyone strives to be the best at what they do. Being properly trained ensures the employee can efficiently and effectively do their jobs, which not only increases accuracy and productivity, but also gives employees confidence in their abilities to handle responsibilities. Additional knowledge assists the employee to do a better job in his or her current position and is a tool toward advancement. *Advancement from within* is the trend in our industry, as the employee brings to the table both knowledge and experience. A company willing to invest dollars in employee training sends a message of confidence and job security to its employees.

The upcoming GPA School of Gas Chromatography is the perfect opportunity for this type of investment. The school covers basic gas and gas liquid chromatography, with an introduction to extended analysis and chromatographs. The school will be conducted Aug. 10-14 at the University of Tulsa (Okla.), and registration for the class of 2009 is now open. If you register by July 17 and space is available, the cost is \$475 per person for GPA & GPSA members and \$725 per person for non-members. Download the registration form: <http://www.gpaglobal.org/pdf/ChromoRegForm09.pdf>. Contact Judy London, jlondon@GPAglobal.org, or Kenny Wheat, kwheat@GPAglobal.org, with questions or for additional information.

GPA/GPSA Career Center Job Postings

The following opportunities are currently listed at <http://careers.gasprocessors.com>.

Account Manager, Flexpipe Systems
Operations Technology Specialist, Southern Union Gas Services

GPA/GPSA Calendar

For event location and additional details about meetings listed below, visit: www.GPAglobal.org/calendar.php

GPA/GPSA Calendar

April

- 8** - Houston GPA Luncheon
- 15** - MidContinent GPA Annual Golf Tournament
- 16** - MidContinent GPA Annual Meeting
- 16** - AVPG Forum "The Global Crisis and Its Impact in the Natural Gas Industry"

May

- 1** - GPAC Operations and Maintenance Conference and Safety Awards Banquet
- 1** - MidContinent GPA Annual Spring Sporting Clays
- 5** - Permian Basin GPA Annual Meeting
- 5** - Permian Basin GPSA Shrimp Boil
- 6** - Permian Basin GPA Golf Tournament
- 6** - GPA - GCC 17th Annual Technical Conference
- 13** - GPA Europe Sour Gas Processing Conference
- 13** - North Texas GPA Annual Spring Meeting and Golf Tournament
- 20** - Houston GPA Luncheon
- 27** - Rocky Mountain GPA Four Corners Meeting

March 2010

- 21-24** - 89th Annual GPA Convention

Gas Processors Association

www.GPAGlobal.org

6526 E. 60th Street, Tulsa, OK, USA 74145 | 918-493-3872 | Fax 918-493-3875 |

E-mail: gpa@GPAGlobal.org
