

Pipeline Safety Update

2023 Energy Association of Pennsylvania Gas T&D Seminar

Robert Horensky
Safety Division Manger
Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

June 2, 2023





The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission oversees the nearly 7,000 entities which provide utility services across the state, including:

- Electricity
- Natural gas
- Pipeline transmission of natural gas and hazardous materials
- Motor carrier transportation of passengers and property
- Railroad crossings
- Telecommunications
- Water and wastewater collection and disposal

The roles and responsibilities of the PUC continues to evolve as the utility marketplace and technology changes and as legislators amend the Public Utility Code.



Our Mission

The mission of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission is to balance the needs of consumers and utilities; ensure safe and reliable utility service at reasonable rates; protect the public interest; educate consumers to make independent and informed utility choices; further economic development; and foster new technologies and competitive markets in an environmentally sound manner.

Bureau of
Investigation
and
Enforcement

► **Richard Kanaskie**, Director and
Chief Prosecutor

- Safety
 - Enforcement
 - Rates
 - Motor Carrier
- I&E has the authority to bring enforcement action, seek emergency orders from the Commission or take other steps necessary to promote public safety.



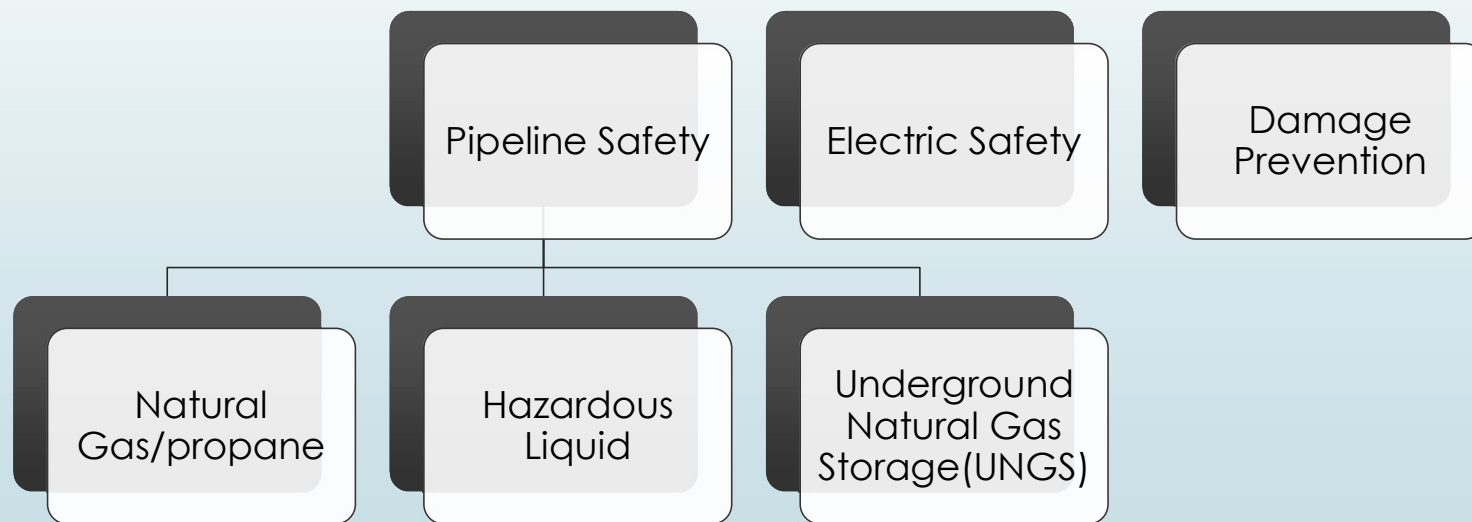
The Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement-

The Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement, or I&E or BIE, is the independent prosecutor and enforcement arm of the Public Utility Commission.

While a part of the Commission, by design and need, I&E is considered independent of the Commission. The Commission does not have the authority to require or instruct I&E to complete an investigation or institute an action.

I&E handles multiple areas of public utility law, including but not limited to ratemaking, service complaints, rail safety, electric safety, damage prevention and state and federal motor carrier and pipeline safety laws and regulations. I&E has a rates division, an enforcement division, a motor carrier enforcement division, and a safety division.

I&E Safety Division Overview



I&E Safety Division Overview

Current Org Chart:

Manager					
Damage Prevention	Electric	Pipeline SE	Pipeline NE	Pipeline Central	Pipeline Western
1 supervisor 5 inspectors	1 supervisor 4 engineers	1 supervisor 6 engineers	1 supervisor 5 engineers	1 supervisor 5 engineers	1 supervisor 8 engineers

Safety Division Staff of 40:

- 1 Manager
- 6 Supervisors
- 28 Engineers
- 5 Damage Prevention Investigators



I&E
Safety
Division
Overview

Electric Safety Section:
Brent Killian- Supervisor
Investigators(4):

- **James Campbell**
 - **Benedict Tarr**
- 2 vacancies**



I&E
Safety
Division
Overview

Electric Safety Section:

- ▶ Pole attachments
- ▶ Ratecase intervention
- ▶ Enforcement actions
- ▶ Underground faults
- ▶ Hiring process
- ▶ National meetings with Electric Regulators

I&E
Safety
Division
Overview

Damage Prevention Section:

Sara Locke- Supervisor

Investigators(5):

- **Summers Newsome-Connor**
- **John Cooper**
- **Kristal Ferron**
- **Eva Maki**

1 vacancy



Coordinate PA integrates with Pennsylvania One Call System's Web Ticket Entry process to create design and excavation notifications to increase project safety and reduce project costs.



Pennsylvania 811

A Privately funded non-profit Pennsylvania Corporation



I&E
Safety
Division
Overview

Damage Prevention Section:

- ▶ Act 50 Reauthorization
- ▶ Annual Report
- ▶ Enforcement Actions
 - ▶ Act 50 combined / 49 CFR 192
- ▶ Focus on Education Component
- ▶ More cases to DPC monthly
- ▶ Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE)



Pennsylvania 811

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I&E
Safety
Division
Overview

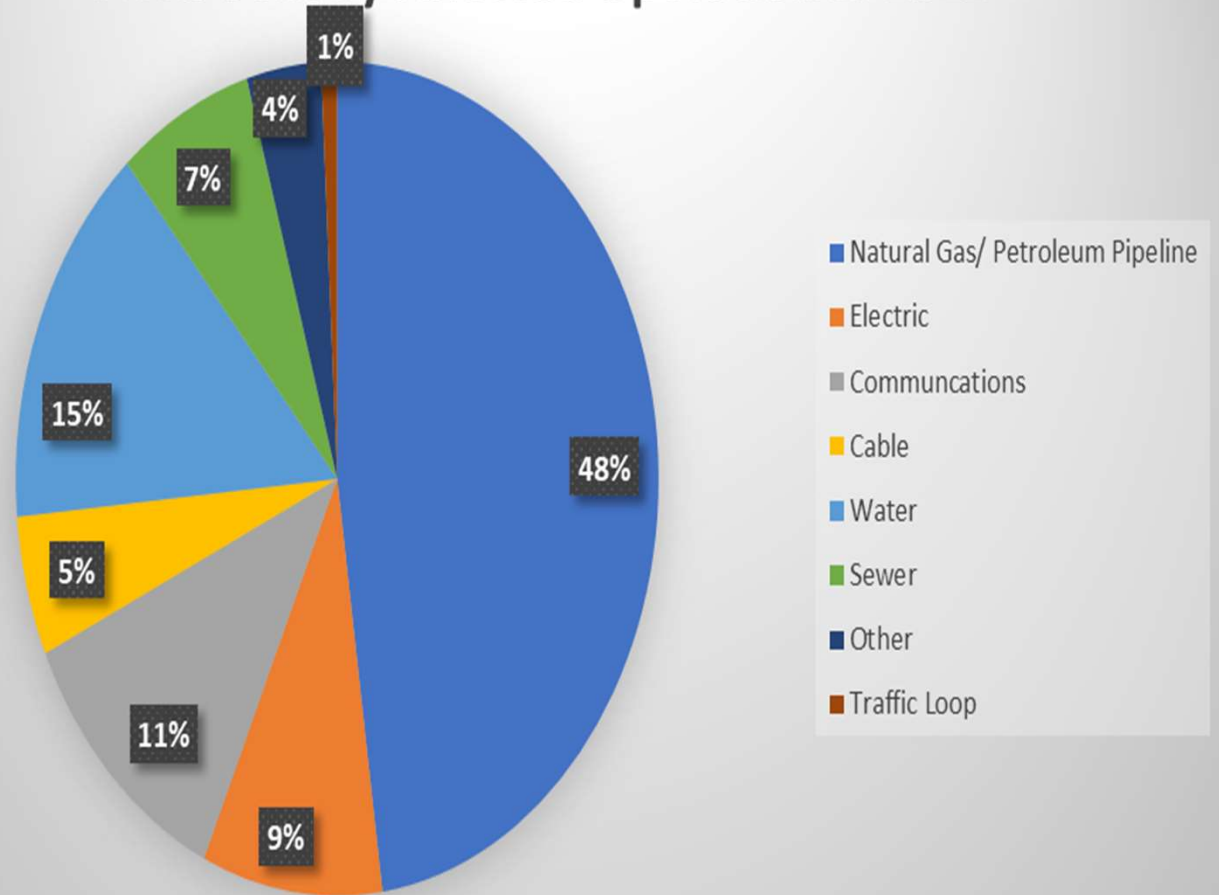
Hits per Ticket

➤ CY 2022 2.14	➤ CY 2022 3.80
➤ CY 2021 2.10	➤ CY 2021 3.50
➤ CY 2020 2.41	➤ CY 2020 4.49
➤ CY 2019 2.30	➤ CY 2019 4.59
➤ CY 2018 2.10	➤ CY 2018 2.17

I&E
Safety
Division
Overview

Damage Prevention Section:

AVRs Sent by Affected Operation in 2022





I&E
Safety
Division
Overview

Pipeline Safety:

- **SE – Terri Cooper Smith**
 - **6 Inspectors**
- **NE – Mike Chilek**
 - **5 Inspectors**
- **Central – Bob Biggard**
 - **5 Inspectors**
- **West – Dave Kline**
 - **8 Inspectors**

Western



David Kline
Supervisor



Jesse
Burkett



Robert
Gobrecht



Israel Gray



Jason
Harvey



Matt Matse



Melissa
McFeaters



Tyler Merritt



Lassine
Niambele

Northern



Mike Chilek
Supervisor



James Harchar



Jessalynn
Heydenreich



Andrew Hiorth



Lara Lapinski



Ryan Zaffino



Southeast



Terri Cooper Smith
Supervisor



Elena Bozhko



Nick Nagele



Scott Orr



Martin
Salamonski



Vladimir Shteyn

Central



Bob Biggard
Supervisor



Kokou Apetoh



Alex Pankiw



Sunil Patel



Anna Ritchie



Chris Whiteash



**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION & ENFORCEMENT • SAFETY
DIVISION**

ROBERT HORENSKY, MANAGER

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Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement
Safety Division
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Administrative Support Pipeline/Electric Safety

vacant

PIPELINE SAFETY

Supervisors

Northwest/Southwest	South Central	Southeast	North Central/Northeast
DAVID KLINE 717-315-1097 davidkline@pa.gov	ROBERT BIGGARD 717-554-2286 Rbiggard@pa.gov	TERRI COOPER SMITH 717-315-1481 tcsmith@pa.gov	MICHAEL CHILEK 717-315-1180 mchilek@pa.gov

Inspectors

JESSE BURKETT 717-678-4416 Jesburkett@pa.gov	KOKOU APETOH 717-216-3399 kapetoh@pa.gov	ELENA BOZHKO 717-480-0842 ebozhko@pa.gov	JAMES HARCHAR 717-603-2350 jharchar@pa.gov
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LASSINE NIAMBELE 717-315-4445 lniambele@pa.gov			

ELECTRIC SAFETY

Supervisor

BRENT KILLIAN
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Inspectors

JAMES CAMPBELL (SW) 717-585-1951 jdcampbell@pa.gov	BENEDICT TARR (NW) 717-512-1158 btarr@pa.gov
VACANT	VACANT

ONE CALL-DAMAGE PREVENTION

Supervisor

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VACANT	



Enforcement Authority for Federal Regulations

The Commission is annually authorized and certified to enforce federal safety standards by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Office of Pipeline Safety per 49 U.S.C. 60105. Under a 60105 *Certification*, the State Agency assumes inspection and enforcement responsibility with respect to intrastate facilities over which it has jurisdiction under State law. With a Certification, the State Agency may adopt additional or more stringent standards for intrastate pipeline facilities provided such standards are compatible with Federal regulations. 49 U.S.C. Chapter 601 provides the statutory basis for the pipeline safety program and establishes a framework for promoting pipeline safety through exclusive Federal authority for regulation of interstate pipeline facilities and State authority for all or part of the intrastate pipeline facilities under annual Certification.



PHMSA and State Authority

State Programs Overview

- The pipeline safety statutes allow for States to assume safety authority over intrastate gas pipelines, hazardous liquid pipelines, and underground natural gas storage through Certifications and Agreements with PHMSA under 49 U.S.C. §§ 60105- 60106.
- The District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and all States except Alaska and Hawaii participate in the pipeline safety program providing safety oversight for over 80 percent of the infrastructure under PHMSA's safety authority. Twelve States participate in PHMSA's underground natural gas storage program providing oversight for approximately 20.5% of the underground natural gas storage under PHMSA's safety authority.

52 Pa Code § 59.33

§ 59.33. Safety.

- ▶ (a) *Responsibility.* Each public utility shall at all times use every reasonable effort to properly warn and protect the public from danger, and shall exercise reasonable care to reduce the hazards to which employees, customers and others may be subjected to by reason of its equipment and facilities.
- ▶ (b) *Safety code.* The minimum safety standards for all natural gas and hazardous liquid public utilities in this Commonwealth shall be those issued under the pipeline safety laws as found in 49 U.S.C.A. § § 60101—60503 and as implemented at 49 CFR Parts 191—193, 195 and 199, including all subsequent amendments thereto. Future Federal amendments to 49 CFR Parts 191—193, 195 and 199, as amended or modified by the Federal government, shall have the effect of amending or modifying the Commission's regulations with regard to the minimum safety standards for all natural gas and hazardous liquid public utilities. The amendment or modification shall take effect 60 days after the effective date of the Federal amendment or modification, unless the Commission publishes a notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* stating that the amendment or modification may not take effect.

52 Pa. Code
§59.33
(cont.)

§ 59.33. Safety.

- (c) *Definition.* For the purposes of this section, “hazardous liquid public utility” means a person or corporation now or hereafter owning or operating in this Commonwealth equipment or facilities for transporting or conveying crude oil, gasoline, petroleum or petroleum products, by pipeline or conduit, for the public for compensation.
- (d) *Enforcement.* Each public utility shall be subject to inspections as may be necessary to assure compliance with this section. The facilities, books and records of each public utility shall be accessible to the Commission and its staff for the inspections. Each public utility shall provide the Commission or its staff the reports, supplemental data and information as it shall from time to time request in the administration and enforcement of this section.
- (e) *Records.* Each public utility shall keep adequate records as required for compliance with the code in subsection (b). The records shall be accessible to the Commission and its staff.

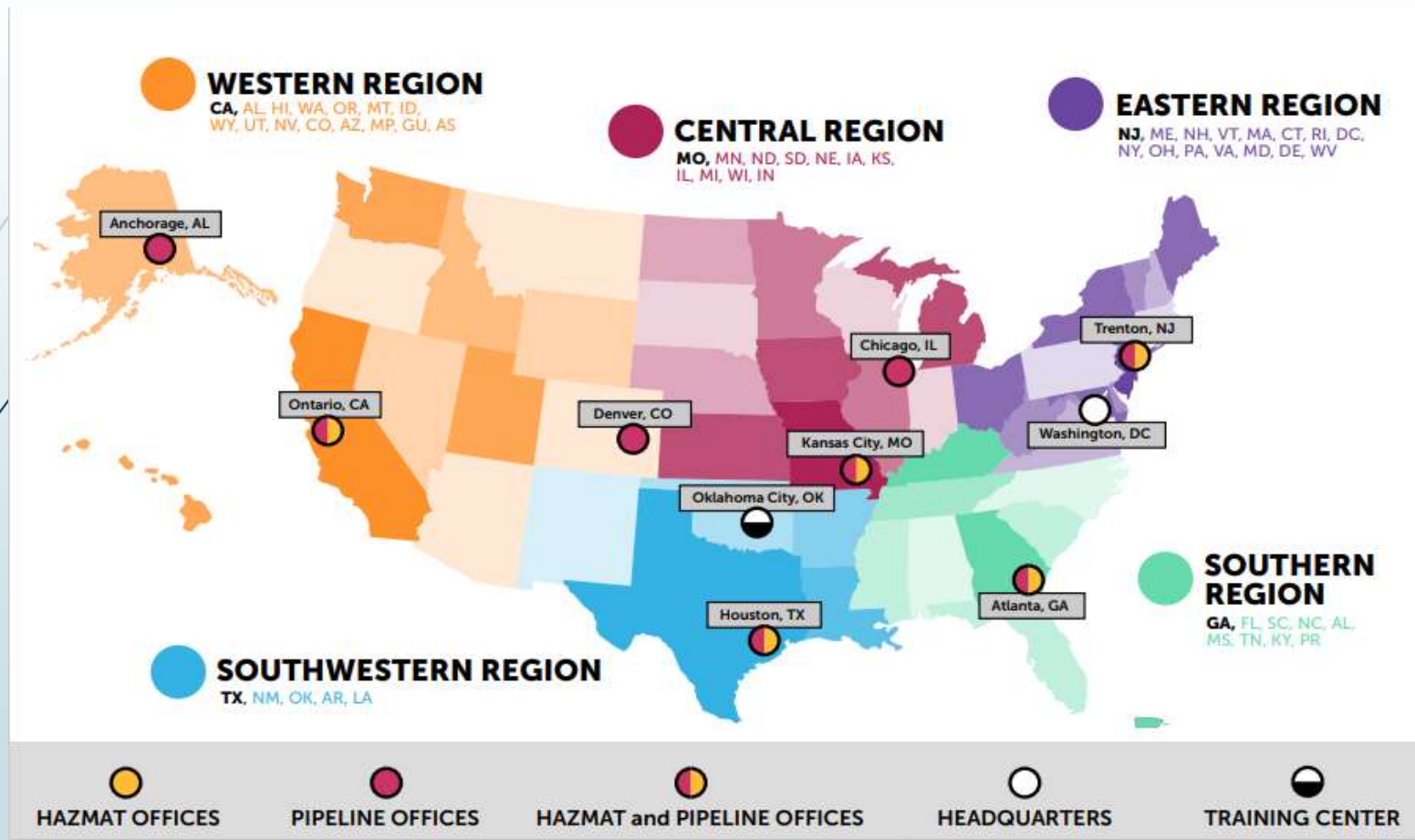


U.S. Department of Transportation
**Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration**

PHMSA Headquarters (Washington, DC)



NAPSR and PHMSA Regions





PHMSA Oversite of States

State Programs

- **Progress report**
- **Base grant**
- **Records Audit**
- **Field Audit**
- **Financial Audit**

PHMSA Training and Qualifications

- **Inspectors must be trained and qualified**

Grants

- **Pennsylvania has 4 federal grants for the Pipeline Section:**
 - **ONECALL Enforcement Grant**
 - **Gas Program**
 - **Hazardous Liquid Program**
 - **Underground Natural Gas Storage Program**



Located in Oklahoma City, PHMSA's Training & Qualifications (TQ) Training Center provides state-of-the-art training courses for Federal and State pipeline safety inspectors and investigators. The team of experienced instructors lead training courses that promote uniformity in the application of pipeline safety regulations through a professional mix of participant-centered classroom instruction, lab training, and field exercises. Additionally, TQ's instructors participate in State-hosted seminars throughout the country.


PHMSA TQ



Pennsylvania Gas Facility Overview

2022 Mileage:

- **Distribution – 49,278 miles**
- **Service Lines- 29,932 miles and nearly 3 million services.**
- **Transmission – 1,156 miles**
- **Jurisdictional Gathering – 4,366 miles**
 - **Type C- 3,506 miles**
 - **Type A- 586**
 - **Type B- 242**
- **LNG – 4 operators, 11 plants, 17 total tanks**
- **LP systems, Master Meters, Municipal, community owned**
- **Underground Storage – 4 operators with 7 fields**
- **Number of operators/units – 170 operators and 253 units**



**Pennsylvania
Hazardous
Liquid
Facilities**

- **2022 Mileage – 81 miles**
- **Products – Refined & HVL**
 - **43 miles refined petroleum products**
 - **38 miles HVL**
- **Breakout Tanks – 4**
- **Number of Operators – 6 operators**
- **Two Public Utility HL operators ~ 1,400 miles**
 - ***Highly volatile liquid or HVL* means a hazardous liquid which will form a vapor cloud when released to the atmosphere and which has a vapor pressure exceeding 276 kPa (40 psia) at 37.8 °C (100 °F).**



Pennsylvania Totals

- **Over 86,200 miles of PA PUC jurisdictional pipelines**
- **Plus, PHMSA mileage within the Commonwealth-13,544 miles:**
 - **~9,300 Interstate Gas Transmission and**
 - **~4,200 Interstate Hazardous Liquid**
- **PA totals- 100,000 miles**
- **US totals- 3.3 million miles**



Inspections

- **Over 2,930 inspection days on Gas and Hazardous Liquid**
- **27% were construction inspections**
- **Number of compliance actions: 54 Non-Compliance Letters with 185 violations and several referred for potential enforcement review**
- **Several cases referred to I&E Enforcement for consideration**
- **Workload expected to increase in the coming years**
- **76 different inspection forms**
- **Proactive and reactive inspections**
- **Reduce risk**
- **Prevent reoccurrence**

Growing...





Inspection/ Investigation Types

Construction

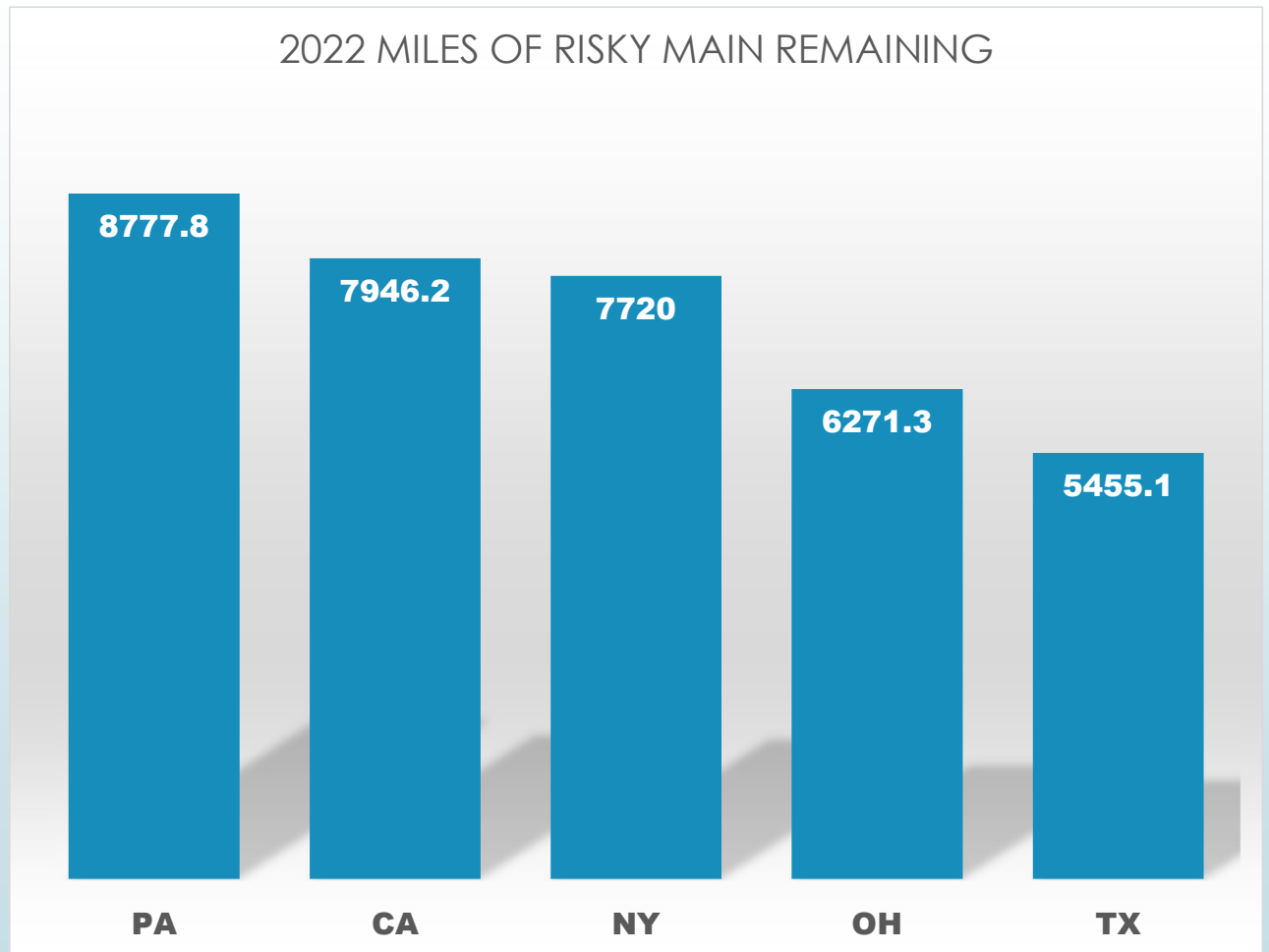
Miles remaining:

- **2,227 miles of cast iron/wrought Iron**
- **5,241 miles of bare steel**
- **1,173 miles of unprotected coated steel**
- **Plastics**
- **Other**

New Construction

PHMSA requires 20% of inspections to be on construction

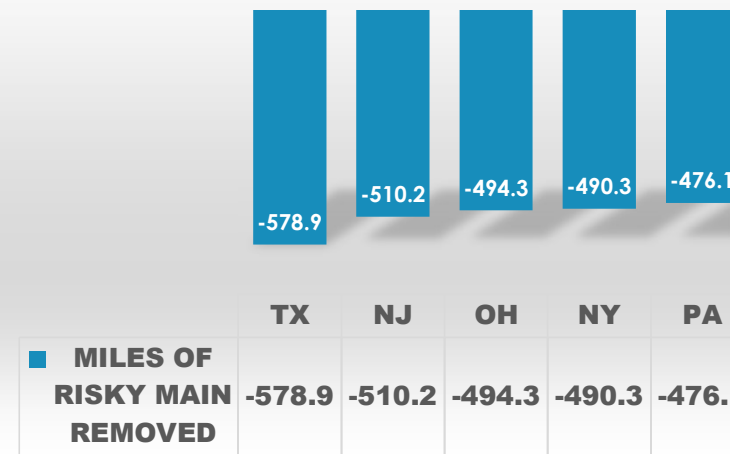
**Nationwide
Analysis**



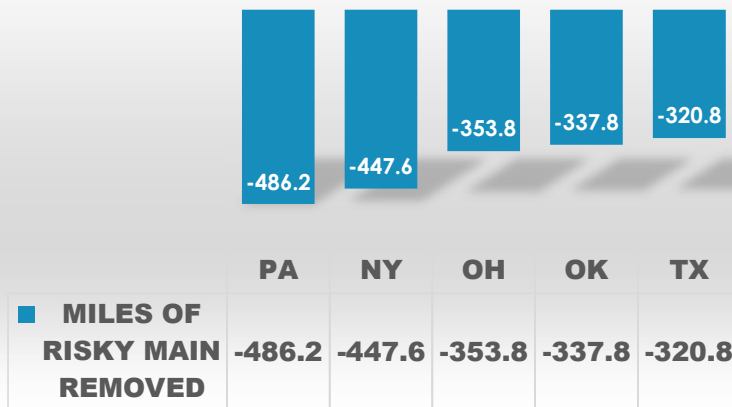
Nationwide Analysis

*Risky main, for the purpose of this analysis: unprotected bare steel, unprotected coated steel, cathodically protected bare steel, cast/wrought iron, ductile iron, and reconditioned cast iron.

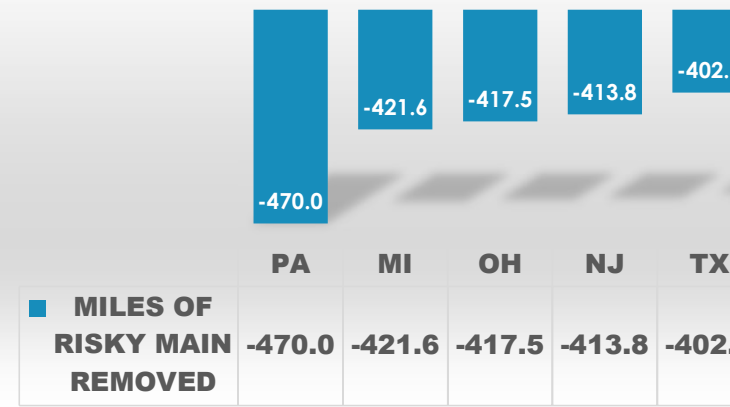
TOTAL RISKY MAIN REMOVED
2019



TOTAL RISKY MAIN REMOVED
2020

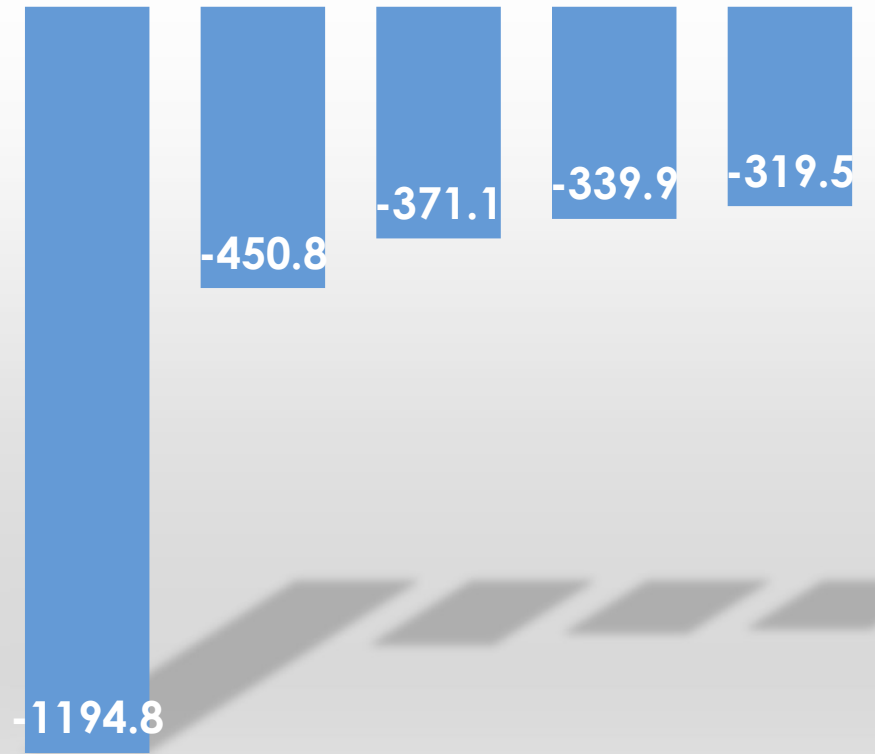


TOTAL RISKY MAIN REMOVED
2021



**Nationwide
Analysis**

TOTAL RISKY MAIN REMOVED 2022



	TX	NY	MI	PA	OH
MILES OF RISKY MAIN REMOVED	-1194.8	-450.8	-371.1	-339.9	-319.5

- ▶ **Most recent:**
 - ▶ **NOPR published in FR May 18, 2023**
 - ▶ **Comments due July 17th.**
 - ▶ **Titled: Gas Pipeline Leak Detection and Repair**
 - ▶ **Congress mandated in PIPES Act of 2020 to reduce methane emissions from new and existing:**
 - ▶ **Gas Transmission**
 - ▶ **Distribution**
 - ▶ **Gathering(A, B & C)**
 - ▶ **UNGS**
 - ▶ **LNG facilities.**

► **Gas Pipeline Leak Detection and Repair**

- Leak Survey frequencies increased outside Business District
- Annual Leak survey for leak prone pipe or Non-CP
- Increased for transmission and gathering
- Increase minimum patrolling for transmission and Type A gathering
- Introduce annual patrolling for B and C gathering
- Methane leak surveys on LNG facilities
- Advanced Leak Detection Equipment standards
- Identify, locate, classify, and repair ALL leaks.
- Leak classification and repair schedules based on severity of public safety and environmental risks.
- Mitigation of intentional emissions-blowdowns
- Minimize release from pressure relief and limiting devices

► **Gas Pipeline Leak Detection and Repair**

- Procedures
- Reporting requirements:
 - Reporting of gas releases outside of the definition of an incident
 - Annual report include # and grade of all leaks detected and repaired. Also estimated emissions.
- NPMS mapping reporting for A, B and C gathering
- Expand “hazard” to include environmental harm
 - But not for IM, Subpart O or Subpart P.
- LNG-
 - QTRLY methane leak survey of non-tank equipment
 - Detection equipment criteria
 - Annual reporting of methane leaks and repairs

PHMSA

► **Transmission Pipelines and Distribution Centers:**

- PHMS not expected to change regulation
- NAPSR has been in discussion
- PHMSA's intent was "No Change", just clarification
- Expect interpretations and possibly FAQs.

► **Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grants Grants:**

- Available to Municipal and Co-ops
- Round 2 in now open
- Closes July 24th
- Round 1: Pennsylvania received 2 grants for a total of just over \$15 Million. PGW and Chambersburg
- [PHMSA FY 2022 Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Awards.pdf \(dot.gov\)](#)

► **CO2 Public Meeting- May 31 and June 1st.**

- Safety expectations for pipeline operators.
- General state of CO₂ pipeline infrastructure – current mileage and forecasts.
- Federal and state jurisdictions and authorities.
- Public awareness, engagement, and emergency notification.
- Emergency equipment, training, and response.
- Dispersion modeling.
- Safety measures to address other constituents besides CO₂ in CO₂ pipelines.
- Leak detection and reporting.
- Geohazards.
- Conversion to service.
- Environmental justice.

PHMSA

► **Changes:**

► Stay of enforcements- RIN 2

► On December 6, 2022, PHMSA issued a notice of enforcement discretion stating PHMSA would not seek to enforce many of the Final Rule's provisions with respect to existing transmission lines (i.e., those in-service as of the August 24, 2022, publication date of the Final Rule) for nine additional months (until February 24, 2024) to come into compliance with many of the Final

► April 17th- PHMSA has now determined that the same rationale merits the exercise of enforcement discretion for certain of the Final Rule's new requirements to pipelines that enter into service after the Final Rule's publication date, or will enter into service during the period of this enforcement discretion. Specifically, PHMSA will exercise its inherent enforcement discretion to refrain from taking enforcement action alleging violations of the Final Rule's requirements — except for certain regulatory amendments discussed below — for nine additional months (i.e., from the effective date of the Final Rule on May 24, 2023, to February 24, 2024) against operators of onshore gas transmission pipelines that enter into service³ between August 24, 2022 (the publication date of the Final Rule), and the expiration of this enforcement discretion on Rule's provisions to facilitate operator compliance and implementation efforts. In addition, prior to February 24, 2024, PHMSA will not enforce updated O&M manuals to account for those provisions that do not otherwise require operator action before that time.

► Removed gathering from Valve Rule –court decision

► PHMSA will be clarify court ruling in Federal Register

Training and Highlights

- ▶ **Pipeline Safety attended a valve rule workshop in Oklahoma City**
- ▶ **Pipeline Safety part of national team for gathering - created FAQs**
- ▶ **Pipeline Safety is preparing for the annual Safety Seminar to be held at the Penn State in State College, PA on September 6th and 7th.**
- ▶ **MAOP Reconfirmation Inspections**
- ▶ **Pipeline Safety attended UNGS meeting-Colorado**
- ▶ **IDEA Steam Conference/Training- Texas**
- ▶ **Con Edison Steam Training- NY**
- ▶ **Common Ground Alliance- Florida**
- ▶ **Other trainings including Appalachian Corrosion Short Course, Liberty Bell Corrosion**



Thank you