

INGAA Action Plan to Build Confidence in Pipeline Safety

In December 2010, INGAA's board of directors established a board-level task force to signal its commitment to improving the industry's safety performance and restoring public confidence in natural gas pipelines. In March 2011, INGAA members formally adopted a set of Guiding Principles for pipeline safety, which included a primary goal of zero incidents – a perfect record of safety and reliability for the nation's onshore natural gas transmission pipelines. In July 2011, INGAA members agreed to a multi-faceted action plan to achieve this aggressive safety goal.

INGAA Member Action Plan

- 1. Expand Risk Management beyond High Consequence Areas (HCAs):** INGAA members commit to apply integrity management principles – currently required only for the six percent of natural gas transmission pipeline located within highly populated areas – to the entire transmission system operated by INGAA members. This expansion will be focused on population within the Potential Impact Radius (PIR) along the pipeline. INGAA members will expand the program to 90 percent of the population within the PIR by 2020, and 100 percent by 2030.
- 2. Corrosion Anomaly Management:** INGAA members commit to managing all corrosion anomalies found during inspection—both inside and outside of HCAs—in accordance with technically based consensus standards.
- 3. Demonstration of Fitness for Service on Pre-Regulation Pipelines:** INGAA members commit to a systematic validation of records and maximum allowable operating pressure for their pipelines in highly populated areas that pre-date federal regulation. The process will address National Transportation Safety Board recommendations issued in the wake of the San Bruno, California, pipeline accident to evaluate and ensure the safety of member pipelines.
- 4. Pipeline Isolation and Response:** INGAA members commit to developing processes and technology to enhance the protection of people and property located adjacent to a pipeline, including setting a response-time goal of one hour from incident recognition to the start of valve-closure procedures in highly populated areas.
- 5. Integrity Management Communication and Data:** INGAA members commit to improving data collection and analysis, converting this data into meaningful industry information and communicating it to stakeholders.
- 6. Implementation of the Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance (PIPA) Guidance:** INGAA members commit to building an active coalition of INGAA member representatives to implement PIPA recommended practices. Members also commit to collaborating with PIPA stakeholders to increase awareness and adoption of PIPA recommended best practices.
- 7. Evaluate, Refine and Improve Threat Assessment and Mitigation:** INGAA members commit to enhancing threat assessment by completing a comprehensive review of consensus threat and mitigation standards, and conducting critical, in-depth reviews of significant threats and root-cause analysis of incidents.
- 8. Implement Management Systems across INGAA Members:** INGAA members commit to leading the gas transmission industry in improving management systems, pipeline integrity and system reliability through an explicit effort to develop a culture of continuous improvement.
- 9. Stakeholder Engagement and Emergency Response:** INGAA members commit to finding new and innovative ways to inform and engage stakeholders, including emergency responders, public officials, consumer and safety advocates and members of the public living in the vicinity of pipelines.

INGAA Member Companies

- » Alliance Pipeline Ltd.
- » Boardwalk GP, LLC
- » CenterPoint Energy
- » Columbia Pipeline Group
- » Cheniere Energy, Inc
- » Dominion
- » DTE Pipeline Company
- » El Paso Corporation
- » Enbridge Energy Company, Inc.
- » EQT Corporation
- » Iroquois Pipeline Operating Company
- » Kinder Morgan
- » National Fuel Gas Company
- » National Grid
- » ONEOK Partners
- » Pacific Gas & Electric Company
- » Panhandle Energy
- » Questar Pipeline Company
- » Sempra Pipelines and Storage
- » Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline
- » Spectra Energy
- » TransCanada Corporation
- » Transwestern Pipeline Company LLC
- » Williams Gas Pipeline Company
- » Williston Basin Interstate Pipeline Co.