



The  
Pipeline Safety Program  
Of the  
Office of Regulatory Staff  
Of  
South Carolina



THE PIPELINE SAFETY PROGRAM IS RE-CERTIFIED  
ANNUALLY BY THE PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS  
MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION,  
AND IS A PARTICIPATING MEMBER OF THE  
NAPSAR ORGANIZATION.



*Representing the interests of all of South  
Carolina's Energy Consumers*



## About our Program

The Pipeline Safety Program has jurisdiction over:

- Operators of Natural Gas Systems
- Landfill recapturing facilities and pipelines
- Liquefied Natural Gas Facilities (LNG)
- Certain Liquefied Petroleum Facilities (LPG)
- Lateral Lines from Interstate Transmission Pipelines

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Our trained Pipeline Safety inspectors perform on-site inspections to verify and enforce compliance with the Federal DOT 49 CFR Pipeline Safety regulations, as well as the SC Public Service Commission's regulations governing gas system operators. Our staff also provides:

- Operator training and guidance
- Presentations to civic and industry groups or organizations
- Interpretational guidance
- Additional guidance in achieving full compliance with the regulations

- Regulatory code updates
- Participate in various support association and committee activities to enhance general Pipeline Safety efforts in the state and region

The gas operators in SC have an impressive safety record. They are well aware of the potential safety hazards associated with natural gas and hazardous liquid pipelines. They are very knowledgeable concerning proper safety precautions, as well as required operations and maintenance procedures which are necessary for them to deliver their commodity to their customers as safely and efficiently as possible. Many organizations, volunteer groups, and associations work alongside federal and state regulators to try and insure the utmost safety is achieved within the gas industry throughout SC.

## Here are some quick facts about

### Natural Gas...

- ✓ The flammable range of gas in air is from a lower explosive limit (LEL) of about 4% to an upper explosive limit (UEL) of about 15%
- ✓ The natural gas we use everyday contains about 92% Methane, which is very similar to gas emitted and re-captured from old landfills
- ✓ Natural gas is colorless, odorless, non-toxic when it is extracted from the ground, but has an odor added to it that smells like rotten eggs so that it is readily detectible
- ✓ Natural gas is lighter than air, therefore it will rise (or vent) to the utmost area possible
- ✓ Natural gas follows the path of least resistance.



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### Our Staff:

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