



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC 20590

2020 Gas State Program Evaluation

for

NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Document Legend

PART:

- O -- Representative, Dates and Title Information
- A -- Progress Report and Program Documentation Review
- B -- Program Inspection Procedures
- C -- State Qualifications
- D -- Program Performance
- E -- Field Inspections
- F -- Damage prevention and Annual report analysis
- G -- Interstate Agent/Agreement States



2020 Gas State Program Evaluation -- CY 2020

Gas

State Agency: North Dakota

Agency Status:

Date of Visit: 06/28/2021 - 07/02/2021

Agency Representative: Caleb Simburger, Gas Pipeline Safety Program Manager & Inspector

PHMSA Representative: David Appelbaum, State Evaluator

Commission Chairman to whom follow up letter is to be sent:

Name/Title: Brian Kroshus, Chairman

Agency: NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Address: 600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 408

City/State/Zip: Bismark, ND 58505

Rating:

60105(a): Yes **60106(a):** No **Interstate Agent:** Yes

INSTRUCTIONS:

Complete this evaluation in accordance with the Evaluator Guidance for conducting state pipeline safety program evaluations. The evaluation should generally reflect state program performance during CY 2020 (not the status of performance at the time of the evaluation). A deficiency in any one part of a multiple-part question should be scored as "Needs Improvement." Determine the answer to the question then select the appropriate point value. If a state receives less than the maximum points, include a brief explanation in the appropriate notes/comments section. If a question is not applicable to a state, select NA. Please ensure all responses are COMPLETE and ACCURATE, and they OBJECTIVELY reflect the state's program performance for the question being evaluated. Increasing emphasis is being placed on how the state pipeline safety programs conduct and execute their pipeline safety responsibilities (their performance). This evaluation, together with selected factors reported in the state's annual progress report attachments, provide the basis for determining the state's pipeline safety grant allocation.

Scoring Summary

PARTS

Possible Points Points Scored

A	Progress Report and Program Documentation Review
B	Program Inspection Procedures
C	State Qualifications
D	Program Performance
E	Field Inspections
F	Damage prevention and Annual report analysis
G	Interstate Agent/Agreement States

0	0
15	15
10	10
50	45
15	15
10	10
0	0

TOTALS

100 95

State Rating **95.0**

PART A - Progress Report and Program Documentation Review

Points(MAX) Score

- 1 Were the following Progress Report Items accurate? (*items not scored on progress report) Info Only Info Only
- Info Only = No Points
- a. Stats On Operators Data - Progress Report Attachment 1
 - b. State Inspection Activity Data - Progress Report Attachment 2
 - c. List of Operators Data - Progress Report Attachment 3*
 - d. Incidents/Accidents Data - Progress Report Attachment 4*
 - e. Stats of Compliance Actions Data - Progress Report Attachment 5*
 - f. List of Records Kept Data - Progress Report Attachment 6 *
 - g. Staff and TQ Training Data - Progress Report Attachment 7
 - h. Compliance with Federal Regulations Data - Progress Report Attachment 8
 - i. Performance and Damage Prevention Question Data - Progress Report Attachment 10*

Evaluator Notes:

- a. Reviewed progress report with Pipeline Datamart. NDPSC is a 60105 certificated state and has total jurisdictional authority on all natural gas, LNG and gathering systems. They have 23 operators and 22 units. PR was missing a 1.6 mile transmission line recently added to the Nesson Gathering System (OPID 39033), which will be added in a supplemental PR submission.
- b. Inspection History list from Program Manager (PM) confirm inspection days for each type of inspection matched attachment 2.
- c. Compared operators listed in attachment 3 to Pipeline Datamart (PDM). Information on operator names and ID numbers seem correct.
- d. No incidents occurred in CY 2020.
- e. Information in attachment 5 appeared correct.
- f. No issues. Records listed in previous year match current year filing.
- g. Attachment 7 appeared accurate.
- h. ND has automatic adoption authority.
- i. Attachment 10 appears appropriate and thorough.

Total points scored for this section: 0
Total possible points for this section: 0



PART B - Program Inspection Procedures

Points(MAX) Score

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Do written procedures address pre-inspection, inspection and post inspection activities for each of the following inspection types: Chapter 5.1
Yes = 5 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-4 | 5 | 5 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Standard Inspections, which include Drug/Alcohol, CRM and Public Awareness Effectiveness Inspectionsb. TIMP and DIMP Inspections (reviewing largest operator(s) plans annually)c. OQ Inspectionsd. Damage Prevention Inspectionse. On-Site Operator Trainingf. Construction Inspections (annual efforts)g. LNG Inspections | | |

Evaluator Notes:

Yes. Updated procedures (August 26, 2020) contain all the requisite elements to satisfy this question.

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Do written procedures address inspection priorities of each operator, and if necessary each unit, based on the following elements and time frames established in its procedures? Chapter 5.1
Yes = 4 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-3 | 4 | 4 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Length of time since last inspectionb. Operating history of operator/unit and/or location (includes leakage, incident and compliance activities)c. Type of activity being undertaken by operators (i.e. construction)d. Locations of operator's inspection units being inspected - (HCA's, Geographic area, Population Centers, etc.)e. Process to identify high-risk inspection units that includes all threats - (Excavation Damage, Corrosion, Natural Forces, Outside Forces, Material and Welds, Equipment, Operators and any Other Factors)f. Are inspection units broken down appropriately? | | |

Evaluator Notes:

Yes. Updated procedures (August 26, 2020) contain all the requisite elements to satisfy this question.

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | (Compliance Procedures) Does the state have written procedures to identify steps to be taken from the discovery to resolution of a probable violation? Chapter 5.1
Yes = 3 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-2 | 3 | 3 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Procedures to notify an operator (company officer) when a noncompliance is identifiedb. Procedures to routinely review progress of compliance actions to prevent delays or breakdownsc. Procedures regarding closing outstanding probable violations | | |

Evaluator Notes:

Yes. Updated procedures (August 26, 2020) contain all the requisite elements to satisfy this question.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 4 | (Incident/Accident Investigations) Does the state have written procedures to address state actions in the event of an incident/accident?
Yes = 3 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-2 | 3 | 3 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Mechanism to receive, record, and respond to operator reports of incidents, including after-hours reportsb. If onsite investigation was not made, do procedures require on-call staff to obtain sufficient information to determine the facts to support the decision not to go on-site. | | |

Evaluator Notes:

Yes. Updated procedures (August 26, 2020) contain all the requisite elements to satisfy this question.

Evaluator Notes:

Total points scored for this section: 15
Total possible points for this section: 15



PART C - State Qualifications

Points(MAX) Score

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Has each inspector and program manager fulfilled training requirements? (See Guidelines Appendix C for requirements) Chapter 4.4
Yes = 5 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-4 | 5 | 5 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Completion of Required OQ Training before conducting inspection as leadb. Completion of Required DIMP/IMP Training before conducting inspection as leadc. Completion of Required LNG Training before conducting inspection as leadd. Root Cause Training by at least one inspector/program managere. Note any outside training completedf. Verify inspector has obtained minimum qualifications to lead any applicable standard inspection as the lead inspector (Reference State Guidelines Section 4.3.1) | | |

Evaluator Notes:

The NDPSC had one inspector fully qualified throughout CY2020. Their other inspector satisfied the training mandates to be a gas inspector during the calendar year.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 2 | Did state records and discussions with state pipeline safety program manager indicate adequate knowledge of PHMSA program and regulations? Chapter 4.1,8.1
Yes = 5 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-4 | 5 | 5 |
|---|--|---|---|

Evaluator Notes:

Program manager has just a couple years in the position with no prior pipeline experience. However, PM has done an exceptional job obtaining the required training and field experience in a short time. PM has processed a number of NOPV's, a few of which involved issuing a civil penalty. Full credit issued.

- | | | | |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|
| 3 | General Comments:
Info Only = No Points | Info Only | Info Only |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|

Evaluator Notes:

Total points scored for this section: 10
Total possible points for this section: 10



PART D - Program Performance

Points(MAX) Score

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Did state inspect all types of operators and inspection units in accordance with time intervals established in written procedures? Chapter 5.1
Yes = 5 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-4 | 5 | 0 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Standard (General Code Compliance)b. Public Awareness Effectiveness Reviewsc. Drug and Alcohold. Control Room Managemente. Part 193 LNG Inspectionsf. Construction (did state achieve 20% of total inspection person-days?)g. OQ (see Question 3 for additional requirements)h. IMP/DIMP (see Question 4 for additional requirements) | | |

Evaluator Notes:

All inspections were not completed within 60 days of established dates. A review of the records found that the PSC missed one inspection within the require timeframe. At time of evaluation, this inspection has not been completed.
MDU Hettinger Unit (Propane) - required completion date was 8/13/2020

- | | | | |
|---|---|----|----|
| 2 | Did inspection form(s) cover all applicable code requirements addressed on Federal Inspection form(s)? Did State complete all applicable portions of inspection forms? Chapter 5.1. Do inspection records indicate that adequate reviews of procedures, records and field activities, including notes and the appropriate level of inspection person-days for each inspection, were performed?
Yes = 10 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-9 | 10 | 10 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Standard (General Code Compliance)b. Public Awareness Effectiveness Reviewsc. Drug and Alcohold. Control Room Managemente. Part 193 LNG Inspectionsf. Constructiong. OQ (see Question 3 for additional requirements)h. IMP/DIMP (see Question 4 for additional requirements) | | |

Evaluator Notes:

The NDPSC uses the federal inspection forms for its inspections. Upon a review of randomly selected 2020 inspection files all applicable portions of the forms were completed appropriately.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 3 | Is state verifying monitoring (Protocol 9/Form15) of operators OQ programs? This should include verification of any plan updates and that persons performing covered tasks (including contractors) are properly qualified and requalified at intervals established in the operator's plan. 49 CFR 192 Part N
Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1 | 2 | 2 |
|---|--|---|---|

Evaluator Notes:

The NDPSC spent 31.5 inspection person-days conducting OQ inspections. OQ plans were reviewed and field inspections conducted.

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | Is state verifying operator's integrity management Programs (IMP and DIMP)? This should include a review of plans, along with monitoring progress. In addition, the review should take in to account program review and updates of operator's plan(s). 49 CFR 192 Subpart P
Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1 | 2 | 2 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Are the state's largest operator(s) plans being reviewed annually to ensure they are completing the full cycle of the DIMP/IMP process?b. Are states verifying with operators any plastic pipe and components that have shown a record of defects/leaks and mitigating those through DIMP plan?c. Are the states verifying operators are including low pressure distribution systems in their threat analysis? | | |

Evaluator Notes:

The NDPSC spent 31 inspection person-days conducting IMP inspections, and demonstrated the largest operator(s) plans being reviewed annually to ensure they are completing the full cycle of the DIMP/IMP process. This was a deficiency last year but has since been corrected.

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | <p>Did the state review the following (these items are NTSB recommendations to PHMSA that have been deemed acceptable response based on PHMSA reviewing these items during the evaluation process): Chapter 5.1</p> <p>Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Operator procedures for determining if exposed cast iron pipe was examined for evidence of graphitization and if necessary remedial action was taken; b. Operator procedures for surveillance of cast iron pipelines, including appropriate action resulting from tracking circumferential cracking failures, study of leakage history, or other unusual operating maintenance condition? (Note: See GPTC Appendix G-18 for guidance); c. Operator emergency response procedures for leaks caused by excavation damage near buildings and determine whether the procedures adequately address the possibility of multiple leaks and underground migration of gas into nearby buildings Refer to 4/12/01 letter from PHMSA in response to NTSB recommendation P-00-20 and P-00-21; d. Operator records of previous accidents and failures including reported third-party damage and leak response to ensure appropriate operator response as required by 192.617; e. Directional drilling/boring procedures of each pipeline operator or its contractor to determine if they include actions to protect their facilities from the dangers posed by drilling and other trench less technologies; f. Operator procedures for considering low pressure distribution systems in threat analysis? g. Operator compliance with state and federal regulations for regulators located inside buildings? | 2 | 2 |
|---|---|---|---|

Evaluator Notes:

NDPSC utilizes the PHMSA forms which include the review of operators response procedures for leaks caused by excavation damage near buildings. NDPUC reviews incident reports during investigations and inspections to assure adequate operator response to incidents. North Dakota has no cast iron pipe.

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | <p>Did the State verify Operators took appropriate action regarding advisory bulletins issued since the last evaluation? (Advisory Bulletins Current Year)</p> <p>Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5</p> | 1 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|

Evaluator Notes:

Question is mostly embedded in the inspection forms. PM advised he would deploy a process to better ensure operators are receiving ADB's.

- | | | | |
|---|---|----|----|
| 7 | <p>(Compliance Activities) Did the state follow compliance procedures (from discovery to resolution) and adequately document all probable violations, including what resolution or further course of action is needed to gain compliance? Chapter 5.1</p> <p>Yes = 10 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Were compliance actions sent to company officer or manager/board member if municipal/government system? b. Were probable violations documented properly? c. Resolve probable violations d. Routinely review progress of probable violations e. Did state issue compliance actions for all probable violations discovered? f. Can state demonstrate fining authority for pipeline safety violations? g. Does Program Manager review, approve and monitor all compliance actions? (note: Program Manager or Senior Official should sign any NOPV or related enforcement action) h. Did state compliance actions give reasonable due process to all parties? Including "show cause" hearing, if necessary. i. Within 30 days, conduct a post-inspection briefing with the owner or operator outlining any concerns | 10 | 10 |
|---|---|----|----|

- j. Within 90 days, to the extent practicable, provide the owner or operator with written preliminary findings of the inspection. (Incident investigations do not need to meet 30/90-day requirement)

Evaluator Notes:

The NDPSC followed the their Pipeline Safety Program procedures for all Probable Violations, Warnings, Concerns, etc. Several operators were reviewed and all sub-bullet questions were answered satisfactorily. PHMSA did recommend the PSC enhance the documentation to the exit interview process to ensure the 30 day requirement is always met.

-
- | | | | |
|----------|--|----|----|
| 8 | (Incident Investigations) Were all federally reportable incidents investigated, thoroughly documented, with conclusions and recommendations? | 10 | 10 |
|----------|--|----|----|

Yes = 10 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-9

- a. Does state have adequate mechanism to receive and respond to operator reports of incidents, including after-hours reports?
- b. Did state keep adequate records of Incident/Accident notifications received?
- c. If onsite investigation was not made, did the state obtain sufficient information from the operator and/or by means to determine the facts to support the decision not to go on site?
- d. Were onsite observations documented?
- e. Were contributing factors documented?
- f. Were recommendations to prevent recurrences, where appropriate, documented?
- g. Did state initiate compliance action for any violations found during any incident/accident investigation?
- h. Did state assist Region Office or Accident Investigation Division (AID) by taking appropriate follow-up actions related to the operator incident reports to ensure accuracy and final report has been received by PHMSA?
- i. Does state share any lessons learned from incidents/accidents?

Evaluator Notes:

There were no DOT reportable incidents in ND in CY2020.

-
- | | | | |
|----------|--|---|---|
| 9 | Did state respond to Chairman's letter on previous evaluation within 60 days and correct or address any noted deficiencies? (If necessary) Chapter 8.1 | 1 | 1 |
|----------|--|---|---|

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, Chairman Kroshus' response letter to Zach Barrett was received on November 17, 2019. PHMSA's outbound letter was dated September 17, 2020, thus the State responded right at the 60-day time requirement.

-
- | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|
| 10 | Did State conduct or participate in pipeline safety training session or seminar in Past 3 Years? Chapter 8.5 | Info Only | Info Only |
|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|

Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

NDPSC held a seminar in April 2019 that had 107 attendees.

-
- | | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| 11 | Has state confirmed transmission operators have submitted information into NPMS database along with changes made after original submission? | Info Only | Info Only |
|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|

Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

State had a couple of discrepancies that were discussed. PM advised he would deploy a process to ensure a sufficient annual review of NPMS submissions and updates.

-
- | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|
| 12 | Does the state have a mechanism for communicating with stakeholders - other than state pipeline safety seminar? (This should include making enforcement cases available to public). | 1 | 1 |
|-----------|---|---|---|

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, the NDPSC has an open record system on their website where the public can view any cases issued by the NDPSC.

- 13** Did state execute appropriate follow-up actions to Safety Related Condition (SRC) 1 1
Reports? Chapter 6.3
Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

There were no SRCs in 2020

- 14** Was the State responsive to: 1 1
Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5
a. Surveys or information requests from NAPS or PHMSA; and
b. PHMSA Work Management system tasks?

Evaluator Notes:

No issues found with regard to these questions.

- 15** If the State has issued any waivers/special permits for any operator, has the state verified 1 1
conditions of those waivers/special permits are being met? This should include having the
operator amend procedures where appropriate.
Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

There is one waiver involving MDU which allows them to conduct atmospheric corrosion surveys every 4 years instead of 3 years but they have to conduct leak surveys every 4 years instead of 5. The waiver conditions are verified during inspections.

- 16** Were pipeline program files well-organized and accessible? Info Only Info Only
Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

There are no paper files kept in the office. All reports and correspondence is kept electronically. All NOPVs are viewable through the NDPSC website.

- 17** Discussion with State on accuracy of inspection day information submitted into State 3 3
Inspection Day Calculation Tool (SICT). Has the state updated SICT data?
Yes = 3 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-2

Evaluator Notes:

Discussed the accuracy of the inspection day information submitted into the SICT. The numbers entered for 2020 were met. PSC has tentative approval to add a third inspector.

- 18** Discussion on State Program Performance Metrics found on Stakeholder Communication Info Only Info Only
site.\ <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/states.htm?nocache=4805>
Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

Discussed the performance metrics which seem to be trending in a positive direction. Outstanding leaks, hazardous leaks and leaks repaired have all gone down in the total number which is a positive trend. In addition the damages per 1,000 has decreased in last several years. The NDPSC reviews and analysis annual reports for any dramatic changes from previous years and figure out what caused those changes.

- 19** Did the state encourage and promote operator implementation of Pipeline Safety 1 1
Management Systems (PSMS), or API RP 1173? This holistic approach to improving
pipeline safety includes the identification, prevention and remediation of safety hazards.
Info Only = No Points

- a. <https://pipelinesms.org/>
b. Reference AGA recommendation to members May 20, 2019

Evaluator Notes:

SDPSC had limited discussions with operators on PSMS in CY 2020, but is aware two of the larger operators are working towards this. PHMSA encouraged SDPSC to promote API 1173 and maintain better documentation to demonstrate compliance to this question.

20 General Comments:

Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

Info Only Info Only

Total points scored for this section: 45
Total possible points for this section: 50



PART E - Field Inspections

Points(MAX) Score

- 1 Operator, Inspector, Location, Date and PHMSA Representative (enter specifics into the comments box below) Info Only Info Only

Info Only = No Points

- What type of inspection(s) did the state inspector conduct during the field portion of the state evaluation? (i.e. Standard, Construction, IMP, etc)
- When was the unit inspected last?
- Was pipeline operator or representative present during inspection?
- Effort should be made to observe newest state inspector with least experience

Evaluator Notes:

On 6/29/2021 the NDPSC conducted an OQ and regulator/test field inspection on MDU at 1801 Amber Place SW, Mandan, ND. PHMSA participated virtually and both NDPSC inspectors were on site. This unit was previously inspected within required time intervals

- 2 Did the inspector use an appropriate inspection form/checklist and was the form/checklist used as a guide for the inspection? (New regulations shall be incorporated) 2 2

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, the inspector had an inspection form to use as a guide and to document the inspection.

- 3 Did the inspector adequately review the following during the inspection 10 10

Yes = 10 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-9

- Procedures (were the inspector's questions of the operator adequate to determine compliance?)
- Records (did the inspector adequately review trends and ask in-depth questions?)
- Field Activities/Facilities (did inspector ensure that procedures were being followed, including ensuring that properly calibrated equipment was used and OQ's were acceptable?)
- Other (please comment)
- Was the inspection of adequate length to properly perform the inspection?

Evaluator Notes:

Inspector was very thorough in all aspects of the audits performed.

- 4 From your observation did the inspector have adequate knowledge of the pipeline safety program and regulations? (Evaluator will document reasons if unacceptable) 2 2

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes:

Inspectors were very competent with pipeline safety regulations and inspection protocols.

- 5 Did the inspector conduct an exit interview, including identifying probable violations? (If inspection is not totally completed the interview should be based on areas covered during time of field evaluation) 1 1

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

Yes. Inspector performed a sufficient exit interview.

- 6 Was inspection performed in a safe, positive, and constructive manner ? Info Only Info Only

Info Only = No Points

- No unsafe acts should be performed during inspection by the state inspector
- What did the inspector observe in the field? (Narrative description of field observations and how inspector performed)
- Best Practices to Share with Other States - (Field - could be from operator visited or state inspector practices)

d. Other

Evaluator Notes:

Inspector performed all aspects of this audit in a safe manner.

7 General Comments:

Info Only Info Only

Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

No loss of points occurred in this section of the evaluation.

Total points scored for this section: 15
Total possible points for this section: 15



PART F - Damage prevention and Annual report analysis**Points(MAX) Score**

- | | | | |
|----------|--|---|---|
| 1 | Has the state reviewed Operator Annual reports, along with Incident/Accident reports, for accuracy and analyzed data for trends and operator issues.
Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1 | 2 | 2 |
|----------|--|---|---|

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, the NDPSC demonstrated a good understanding of their operator's annual reports and challenging their operators on root cause data entered in Part C and D of the AR.

- | | | | |
|----------|--|---|---|
| 2 | Has the state verified that the operators analyze excavation damages for the purpose of determining root causes and minimizing the possibility of a recurrence? (192.617)
Has the state verified that the operators have appropriately identified excavators who have repeatedly violated one-call laws and damaged their facilities. Have the operators taken steps to mitigate that risks? (192.1007)
Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1 | 2 | 2 |
|----------|--|---|---|

Evaluator Notes:

Program maintained sufficiently reviewed damage data to satisfy this question. PHMSA encouraged PM to dive deeper into the specific root causes of operator's excavation damages and challenge the accuracy of that data, and what the operators is doing to comply with other regulatory requirements.

- | | | | |
|----------|---|---|---|
| 3 | Has the state reviewed the operator's annual report pertaining to Part D - Excavation Damage?
Yes = 4 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-3 <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Is the information complete and accurate with root cause numbers?b. Has the state evaluated the causes for the damages listed under "One-Call Notification Practices Not Sufficient" (Part D.1.a)?c. Has the state evaluated the causes for the damages listed under "Locating Practices Not Sufficient" (Part D.1.b)? For each operator, does the state review the following?d. Is the operator or its locating contractor(s) qualified and following written procedures for locating and marking facilities?e. Is the operator appropriately requalifying locators to address performance deficiencies?f. What is the number of damages resulting from mismarks?g. What is the number of damages resulting from not locating within time requirements (no-shows)?h. Is the operator appropriately addressing discovered mapping errors resulting in excavation damages?i. Are mapping corrections timely and according to written procedures?j. Has the state evaluated the causes for the damages listed under "Excavation Practices Not Sufficient" (Part D.1.c)? | 4 | 4 |
|----------|---|---|---|

Evaluator Notes:

Program had a sufficient understanding of their excavation damage data. PHMSA advised the PM to continually assess and demonstrate they've reviewed operator's excavation damage data (specific to the questions above) and ensure damages are properly categorized based on apparent root cause.

- | | | | |
|----------|--|---|---|
| 4 | Has the agency or another organization within the state collected data and evaluated trends on the number of pipeline damages per 1,000 locate requests?
Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1 <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. What stakeholder group is causing the highest number of damages to the pipelines? Operator, contractor, locating company or public.b. Has the state verified the operator is appropriately focusing damage prevention education and training to stakeholders causing the most damages?c. Has the state evaluated which of the following best describes the reason for the excavation damages; i.e., operator or contractor not following written procedures, failure to maintain marks, failure to support exposed facilities, failure to use hand tools were required, failure to test-hole (pot hole), improper backfilling practices, failure to maintain clearance or insufficient excavation practices. | 2 | 2 |
|----------|--|---|---|

- d. Has the state verified the operator is appropriately focusing damage prevention education and training to address the causes of excavation damages?

Evaluator Notes:

Program has collected sufficient data to understand causes of excavation damage. North Dakota's 2020 damages per 1000 locates was just below the National Average of 2.5. State has been trending down (in the right direction) since 2014, with a steady decline in the number of damages per 1000.

5 General Comments:

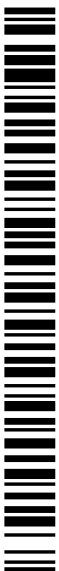
Info Only Info Only

Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

No issues requiring a loss of points were found during the evaluation visit.

Total points scored for this section: 10
Total possible points for this section: 10



PART G - Interstate Agent/Agreement States

Points(MAX) Score

- 1 Were all inspections of interstate pipelines conducted using the Inspection Assistant program for documenting inspections? Info Only Info Only
Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

N/A, the NDPSC is not an Interstate Agent

- 2 If inspections were conducted independent of a PHMSA team inspection was notice of all identified probable violations provided to PHMSA within 60 days? Info Only Info Only
Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

N/A, the NDPSC is not an Interstate Agent

- 3 If inspections were conducted independent of a PHMSA team inspection was PHMSA immediately notified of conditions which may pose an immediate safety hazard to the public or environment? Info Only Info Only
Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

N/A, the NDPSC is not an Interstate Agent

- 4 If inspections were conducted independent of a PHMSA team inspection did the state coordinate with PHMSA if inspections not were not included in the PHMSA Inspection Work Plan? Info Only Info Only
Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

N/A, the NDPSC is not an Interstate Agent

- 5 Did the state take direction from and cooperate with PHMSA for all incident investigations conducted on interstate pipelines? Info Only Info Only
Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

N/A, the NDPSC is not an Interstate Agent

- 6 General Comments: Info Only Info Only
Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

N/A, the NDPSC is not an Interstate Agent

Total points scored for this section: 0
Total possible points for this section: 0