



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

NM PIPELINE SAFETY BUREAU

## 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:** New Mexico

**Agency Status:**

**Date of Visit:** 06/28/2021 - 07/01/2021

**Agency Representative:** Jason Montoya, Pipeline Safety Bureau Chief

**PHMSA Representative:** Agustin Lopez, State Evaluator

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

**Name/Title:** Stephen Flischmann, Chairman

**Agency:** New Mexico Public Regulation Commission

**Address:** 1120 Paseo De Peralta

**City/State/Zip:** Santa Fe, NM 87504

**Rating:**

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

## 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  
15  
10  
50  
15  
10  
0

0  
15  
10  
47  
15  
10  
0

### TOTALS

100 97

**State Rating** ..... 97.0

## 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. Verified information with PDM and Annual Reports and have no issues.
- b. Reviewed Attachment 2 data with NMPRC consolidated data sheet to verify inspection activity data.
- c. Verified operator data with Annual Reports and attachment 3 seems to be accurate.
- d. Verified incidents with PDM and all reportable incidents were listed and investigated by the NMPRC. There is one incident from 2019 involving New Mexico Gas Company that is still ongoing.
- e. Verified compliance actions with NMPRC data and found no issues. Carryovers were accurate and have increased due to covid pandemic and retirement of supervisor.
- f. NMPRC keeps electronic records.
- g. Verified staff training and qualifications with TQ Blackboard.
- h. The NMPRC has adopted all required federal regulations.
- i. NMPRC submitted their performance goals and damage prevention initiatives.

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<br>Yes = 5 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-4   | 5 | 5 |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Standard Inspections, which include Drug/Alcohol, CRM and Public Awareness Effectiveness Inspections</li><li>b. TIMP and DIMP Inspections (reviewing largest operator(s) plans annually)</li><li>c. OQ Inspections</li><li>d. Damage Prevention Inspections</li><li>e. On-Site Operator Training</li><li>f. Construction Inspections (annual efforts)</li><li>g. LNG Inspections</li></ul> |   |   |

### Evaluator Notes:

- a. Section 1, VII of the Standard Operating Procedures has guidance for state inspectors on how to perform standard inspections. The procedure includes pre and post inspection activities. Section 3 gives guidance to inspectors on how to perform standard and specialized inspections (VII) which include Drug & Alcohol, CRM and PAP inspections.
- b. Section 1, VII of the Standard Operating Procedures has guidance for state inspectors on how to perform standard inspections. The procedure includes pre and post inspection activities. Section 3 gives guidance to inspectors on how to perform standard and specialized inspections (VII) which include DIMP and IMP.
- c. Section 1, VII of the Standard Operating Procedures has guidance for state inspectors on how to perform standard inspections. The procedure includes pre and post inspection activities. Section 3 gives guidance to inspectors on how to perform standard and specialized inspections (VII) which include OQ inspections.
- d. Section 1, VII of the Standard Operating Procedures has guidance for state inspectors on how to perform standard inspections. The procedure includes pre and post inspection activities. Section 3 gives guidance to inspectors on how to perform standard and specialized inspections (VII) which include Damage Prevention inspections.
- e. Section 1, VII of the Standard Operating Procedures has guidance for state inspectors on how to perform standard inspections. The procedure includes pre and post inspection activities. Section 3 gives guidance to inspectors on how to perform standard and specialized inspections (VII) which include operator training.
- f. Section 1, V.I. and Section 2, IX has procedures for conducting construction inspections.
- g. There are no regulated LNG facilities in NM.

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 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<br>Yes = 4 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-3  | 4 | 4 |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Length of time since last inspection</li><li>b. Operating history of operator/unit and/or location (includes leakage, incident and compliance activities)</li><li>c. Type of activity being undertaken by operators (i.e. construction)</li><li>d. Locations of operator's inspection units being inspected - (HCA's, Geographic area, Population Centers, etc.)</li><li>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)</li><li>f. Are inspection units broken down appropriately?</li></ul> |   |   |

### Evaluator Notes:

- Section 1, V and VI has procedures to determine inspection priorities which include history, compliance actions, length of last inspection, internal/external operating events, mergers, etc. Inspection units are broken down appropriately.

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|---|---|---|---|
| 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<br>Yes = 3 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-2                                      | 3 | 3 |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Procedures to notify an operator (company officer) when a noncompliance is identified</li><li>b. Procedures to routinely review progress of compliance actions to prevent delays or breakdowns</li></ul> |   |   |

- c. Procedures regarding closing outstanding probable violations

Evaluator Notes:

- a. Section 1, VIII(B) has procedures to notify company/gov't official of non compliance.  
b. Section 1, VIII has compliance procedures which requires to routinely follow up on open compliance actions to avoid breakdowns.  
c. Section 1, VIII has procedures on closing outstanding probable violations.

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| <b>4</b> | (Incident/Accident Investigations) Does the state have written procedures to address state actions in the event of an incident/accident? | 3 | 3 |
|----------|--|---|---|

Yes = 3 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-2

- a. Mechanism to receive, record, and respond to operator reports of incidents, including after-hours reports  
b. 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:

- a. Section 2 and PSB Policy 10-004 has mechanism and procedures that address the reporting and investigation of incidents/accidents.  
  
b. Section 2 and PSB Policy 10-004 has mechanism and procedures that address the reporting and investigation of incidents/accidents which includes the gathering of sufficient information if decision is made not to go on site.

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|----------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>5</b> | General Comments: | Info Only Info Only |
|----------|-------------------|---------------------|
- Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

The NMPRC is mainly complying with Part B of the Evaluation.

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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<br>Yes = 5 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-4  | 5 | 5 |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Completion of Required OQ Training before conducting inspection as lead</li><li>b. Completion of Required DIMP/IMP Training before conducting inspection as lead</li><li>c. Completion of Required LNG Training before conducting inspection as lead</li><li>d. Root Cause Training by at least one inspector/program manager</li><li>e. Note any outside training completed</li><li>f. Verify inspector has obtained minimum qualifications to lead any applicable standard inspection as the lead inspector (Reference State Guidelines Section 4.3.1)</li></ul> |   |   |

Evaluator Notes:

- a. Yes, reviewed randomly selected inspection reports to verify that lead inspectors were qualified.
- b. DIMP/IMP lead inspectors have the required training.
- c. There are no jurisdictional LNG facilities in NM.
- d. Several inspectors have taken the Root Cause Training course.
- e. There was no outside training in 2020.
- f. Inspectors have obtained qualifications to lead applicable inspections.

- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| 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<br>Yes = 5 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-4 | 5 | 5 |
|---|--|---|---|

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, Mr. Jason Montoya is very knowledgeable of the pipeline safety program and regulations.

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|---|--|-----------|-----------|
| 3 | General Comments:<br>Info Only = No Points | Info Only | Info Only |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|

Evaluator Notes:

The NMPRC is mainly complying with Part C of the Evaluation.

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<br>Yes = 5 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-4  | 5 | 3 |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Standard (General Code Compliance)</li><li>b. Public Awareness Effectiveness Reviews</li><li>c. Drug and Alcohol</li><li>d. Control Room Management</li><li>e. Part 193 LNG Inspections</li><li>f. Construction (did state achieve 20% of total inspection person-days?)</li><li>g. OQ (see Question 3 for additional requirements)</li><li>h. IMP/DIMP (see Question 4 for additional requirements)</li></ul> |   |   |

### Evaluator Notes:

Reviewed Large operator inspection data to verify inspection units are meeting the inspection intervals per the NMPRC Procedures. Due to the covid pandemic and shutdown of the state, there were some inspections that were started in 2020 but completed in 2021.

The NMPRC is not meeting the required construction inspection days which is 20% of total inspection days calculated in the SICT. The NMPRC had a total of 16 days which is about 3% of total time. PHMSA understands that travel was restricted in 2020 due to the pandemic shutdown so there was only a 2 point deduction instead of 4.

- |   |   |    |    |
|---|---|----|----|
| 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?<br>Yes = 10 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-9 | 10 | 10 |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Standard (General Code Compliance)</li><li>b. Public Awareness Effectiveness Reviews</li><li>c. Drug and Alcohol</li><li>d. Control Room Management</li><li>e. Part 193 LNG Inspections</li><li>f. Construction</li><li>g. OQ (see Question 3 for additional requirements)</li><li>h. IMP/DIMP (see Question 4 for additional requirements)</li></ul>  |    |    |

### Evaluator Notes:

The NMPRC utilizes PHMSA equivalent forms to document the inspections. Reviewed randomly selected inspection reports to verify the completion of the applicable portions of the forms. The inspections reports were complete along with notes and records/field activities.

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| 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<br>Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1 | 2 | 2 |
|---|--|---|---|

### Evaluator Notes:

Yes, the NMPRC is conducting OQ inspections to verify operator OQ Plans meet the regulations. Reviewed randomly selected inspection reports and NMPRC inspection list to verify completion of OQ Inspections

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| 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<br>Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1 | 2 | 2 |
|---|---|---|---|

- 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:

Yes, the NMPRC conducted IMP/DIMP inspections to verify operator IMP/DIMP plans. Reviewed randomly selected IMP/DIMP inspections to verify IMP/DIMP inspections are being performed by the NMPRC.

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| 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Operator procedures for determining if exposed cast iron pipe was examined for evidence of graphitization and if necessary remedial action was taken;</li> <li>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);</li> <li>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;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>f. Operator procedures for considering low pressure distribution systems in threat analysis?</li> <li>g. Operator compliance with state and federal regulations for regulators located inside buildings?</li> </ol> | 2 | 2 |
|---|---|---|---|

Evaluator Notes:

The NMPRC added an Addendum sheet to the inspection form which include NTSB and ADB questions to verify with each operator. New questions are added to the Addendum whenever they posted.

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|---|---|---|---|
| 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:

The NMPRC added an Addendum sheet to the inspection form which include NTSB and ADB questions to verify with each operator. New questions are added to the Addendum as they are posted.

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|---|--|----|---|
| 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Were compliance actions sent to company officer or manager/board member if municipal/government system?</li> <li>b. Were probable violations documented properly?</li> <li>c. Resolve probable violations</li> <li>d. Routinely review progress of probable violations</li> <li>e. Did state issue compliance actions for all probable violations discovered?</li> <li>f. Can state demonstrate fining authority for pipeline safety violations?</li> </ol> | 10 | 9 |
|---|--|----|---|

- 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
- 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:**

Yes, reviewed randomly selected inspections to verify compliance action procedures are being followed. The NMPRC properly documents and resolves compliance actions and routinely reviews the progress of compliance cases. During the evaluation, there was one instance which compliance actions took about 7 months from the completion of the inspection to issuing a compliance action. The inspection involved was the DIMP inspection of the Village of Corona. The inspection was completed on July 2019 but the NOPV was not issued until February 2020. In discussions with NMPRC staff this was due to the departure of the Pipeline Safety Supervisor.

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<b>8</b>	(Incident Investigations) Were all federally reportable incidents investigated, thoroughly documented, with conclusions and recommendations?	10	10
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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:**

Yes all reportable incidents were investigated by the NMPRC. There is one incident that occurred in 2019 involving New Mexico Gas Company which is the investigation is still ongoing.

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<b>9</b>	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
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Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

**Evaluator Notes:**

Yes, the NMPRC responded within the 60 day requirement.

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<b>10</b>	Did State conduct or participate in pipeline safety training session or seminar in Past 3 Years? Chapter 8.5	Info Only	Info Only
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Info Only = No Points

**Evaluator Notes:**

Yes, the NMPRC co-host a yearly seminar with the LDNR and also have New Mexico Common Ground Alliance and NM 811 Conferences yearly.

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<b>11</b>	Has state confirmed transmission operators have submitted information into NPMS database along with changes made after original submission?	Info Only	Info Only
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Info Only = No Points

**Evaluator Notes:**

Yes, inspection forms cover the NMPS submittals by operators.

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| <b>12</b> | 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).<br>Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5 | 1 | 1 |
|-----------|--|---|---|

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, NMPRC website has pipeline safety information and also participate in conferences.

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

Evaluator Notes:

The NMPRC conducted a follow-up inspection of NM Gas SRCR 20-183325 during IMP inspection. The NMPRC also works in WMS to update information.

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

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, the NMPRC responds to PHMSA and NAPSRS surveys and requests. Keep WMS tasks updated.

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

Evaluator Notes:

NMPRC has no current waivers that require follow up action.

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|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| <b>16</b> | Were pipeline program files well-organized and accessible?<br>Info Only = No Points | Info Only | Info Only |
|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, all records were reviewed electronically with no issues.

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

Evaluator Notes:

Discussed the need for construction days to be updated on the SICT to meet the 20% requirement.

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

Evaluator Notes:

Discussed Performance Metrics the NMPRC. The NMPRC reviews the performance metrics for negative trends and check for accuracy of annual reports. The leak and damages per 1,000 tickets leak data are on a good trend.

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|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| <b>19</b> | Did the state encourage and promote operator implementation of Pipeline Safety Management Systems (PSMS), or API RP 1173? This holistic approach to improving pipeline safety includes the identification, prevention and remediation of safety hazards.<br>Info Only = No Points<br>a. <a href="https://pipelinesms.org/">https://pipelinesms.org/</a> | Info Only | Info Only |
|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|

- b. Reference AGA recommendation to members May 20, 2019

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, have discussed with operators and will add question to the inspection form Addendum.

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**20** General Comments:

Info Only Info Only

Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

Issues Identified:

D.1-The NMPRC is not meeting the required construction inspection days which is 20% of total inspection days calculated in the SICT. The NMPRC had a total of 16 days which is about 3% of total time. PHMSA understands that travel was restricted in 2020 due to the pandemic shutdown so there was only a 2 point deduction instead of 4.

D.7- During the evaluation, there was one instance which compliance actions took about 7 months from the completion of the inspection to issuing a compliance action. The inspection involved was the DIMP inspection of the Village of Corona. The inspection was completed on July 2019 but the NOPV was not issued until February 2020. In discussions with NMPRC staff this was due to the departure of the Pipeline Safety Supervisor.

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Total points scored for this section: 47  
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:

New Mexico Gas Company  
James Stanovcak- NMPRC Lead Inspector  
Virtual Inspection  
April 5-9, 2021  
Agustin Lopez- State Evaluator

- Inspector conducted a compliance follow-up inspection of a past IMP inspection.
- The last inspection was in 2020.
- Yes, pipeline operator representatives were at the inspection.
- Mr. James Stanovcak has not been evaluated in the recent past.

- 
- 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 was using the IMP Protocols to guide him during 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:

- Procedures pertaining to the inspection were reviewed by the inspector.
- Records pertaining to the inspection were reviewed by the inspector.
- There was no field inspection conducted during the virtual inspection due to the pandemic.
- Mr. Stanovcak conducted a compliance follow-up inspection of a past IMP Inspection. He verified compliance actions were addressed and being implemented.
- Yes the inspection was adequate in length.

- 
- 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:

Yes, Mr. James Stanovcak had knowledge of the pipeline safety program and regulations.

- 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, Mr. James Stanovcak concluded the inspection with an exit interview. There were no probable violations identified.

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- 6 Was inspection performed in a safe, positive, and constructive manner ? Info Only Info Only  
Info Only = No Points  
a. No unsafe acts should be performed during inspection by the state inspector  
b. What did the inspector observe in the field? (Narrative description of field observations and how inspector performed)  
c. Best Practices to Share with Other States - (Field - could be from operator visited or state inspector practices)  
d. Other

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, the inspection was conducted in a safe, positive and constructive manner.

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

Evaluator Notes:

Mr. James Stanovcak conducted a very thorough inspection. He reviewed procedures and records to verify compliance with a previous inspection. He concluded with an exit interview with operator management.

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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**

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

**Evaluator Notes:**

The NMPRC review and analyze Annual Report and incident data to risk rank their operators. Data is kept in the Large Operator report.

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|----------|--|---|---|
| <b>2</b> | 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)<br>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)<br>Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1 | 2 | 2 |
|----------|--|---|---|

**Evaluator Notes:**

Discussed the verification of third party data submitted by operators to assure operators are minimizing the recurrence of incidents. The NMPRC works with their Damage Prevention section to review and analyze data.

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

**Evaluator Notes:**

The NMPRC has enforcement over Damage Prevention and conducts investigations of pipeline damages. The NMPRC reviews annual reports Part D to check for trends or concerns. Data is kept in their Large Operator consolidated spreadsheets.

- |          |   |   |   |
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| <b>4</b> | 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?<br>Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1 <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. What stakeholder group is causing the highest number of damages to the pipelines? Operator, contractor, locating company or public.</li><li>b. Has the state verified the operator is appropriately focusing damage prevention education and training to stakeholders causing the most damages?</li><li>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.</li><li>d. Has the state verified the operator is appropriately focusing damage prevention education and training to address the causes of excavation damages?</li></ol> | 2 | 2 |
|----------|---|---|---|

**Evaluator Notes:**

The NM 811 collects the data and the NMPRC receives the data for trends. In addition the NMPRC reviews the Performance Metrics in PRIMIS to verify damages and look for negative trends.

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**5** General Comments:

Info Only Info Only

Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

The NMPRC is mainly complying with Part F of the Evaluation.

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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:

The NMPRC does not have an Interstate Agent Agreement nor a 60106 Certification.

- 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:

The NMPRC does not have an Interstate Agent Agreement nor a 60106 Certification.

- 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:

The NMPRC does not have an Interstate Agent Agreement nor a 60106 Certification.

- 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:

The NMPRC does not have an Interstate Agent Agreement nor a 60106 Certification.

- 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:

The NMPRC does not have an Interstate Agent Agreement nor a 60106 Certification.

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

Evaluator Notes:

The NMPRC does not have an Interstate Agent Agreement nor a 60106 Certification.

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