



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 9, 2024

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Murray:

Division F of the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Pub. L. 118-42) (the Act), directed the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to update the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of a pilot program to test and validate existing pipeline leak prevention and mitigation technologies within 180 days of the enactment of the Act (170 Cong. Rec. S1873 (2024)).

In its Fiscal Year 2024 Pipeline Safety Research and Development Core Program solicitation (located at <https://sam.gov/opp/c91f0fc86aad4f16acbd0780d230f694/view>), PHMSA requested research proposals that would identify the most effective and promising technologies; establish testing protocols; develop implementation strategies; and conduct field validations to enhance pipeline safety and inform future industry practices for preventing and managing leaks on pipeline systems. The solicitation closed on June 14, 2024.

On September 30, 2024, PHMSA awarded two projects being developed at Colorado State University (CSU) responsive to the congressional mandate in the Act to create a pilot program to test and validate existing pipeline leak prevention and mitigation technologies. The first project, "Partnership to Advance Pipeline Leak Detection Methods," will enable developers of innovative leak detection solutions for gas pipelines to test their solutions at CSU's Methane Emissions Technology Evaluation Center. The second project, "Practical Protocols for Pipeline Leak Detection," will extend and formalize advanced leak detection methods for natural gas and hydrogen-natural gas blends by first assessing current methods and then formulating approaches to select the appropriate methods based on operating and environmental conditions.

If you require any additional information, please contact Matt Sonneborn, Director of Governmental, International, and Public Affairs, by phone at 202-366-4831 or by e-mail at matt.sonneborn@dot.gov.

The Honorable Patty Murray

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A similar letter has been sent to the Vice Chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations; the Chair and Ranking Member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies; the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Appropriations; and the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies.

Sincerely,

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Tristan H. Brown
Deputy Administrator



U.S. Department
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**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 9, 2024

The Honorable Susan Collins
Vice Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Vice Chairman:

Division F of the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Pub. L. 118-42) (the Act), directed the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to update the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of a pilot program to test and validate existing pipeline leak prevention and mitigation technologies within 180 days of the enactment of the Act (170 Cong. Rec. S1873 (2024)).

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The Honorable Susan Collins

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Sincerely,

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Tristan H. Brown
Deputy Administrator



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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
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December 9, 2024

The Honorable Brian Schatz
Chair
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Schatz:

Division F of the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Pub. L. 118-42) (the Act), directed the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to update the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of a pilot program to test and validate existing pipeline leak prevention and mitigation technologies within 180 days of the enactment of the Act (170 Cong. Rec. S1873 (2024)).

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The Honorable Brian Schatz

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Tristan H. Brown
Deputy Administrator



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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

December 9, 2024

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing,
and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ranking Member Hyde-Smith:

Division F of the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Pub. L. 118-42) (the Act), directed the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to update the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of a pilot program to test and validate existing pipeline leak prevention and mitigation technologies within 180 days of the enactment of the Act (170 Cong. Rec. S1873 (2024)).

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The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith

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Tristan H. Brown
Deputy Administrator



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December 9, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole:

Division F of the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Explanatory Statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Pub. L. 118-42) (the Act), directed the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to update the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of a pilot program to test and validate existing pipeline leak prevention and mitigation technologies within 180 days of the enactment of the Act (170 Cong. Rec. S1873 (2024)).

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The Honorable Tom Cole

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Tristan H. Brown
Deputy Administrator



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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
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December 9, 2024

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member DeLauro:

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The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro

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Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
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Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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December 9, 2024

The Honorable Mike Quigley
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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