

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

## 2022 Hazardous Liquid State Program Evaluation

for

### PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WEST VIRGINIA

# 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



# 2022 Hazardous Liquid State Program Evaluation -- CY 2022 Hazardous Liquid

State Agency: West Virginia Rating:

Agency Status: 60105(a): Yes 60106(a): No Interstate Agent: Yes

**Date of Visit:** 07/24/2023 - 07/28/2023 **Agency Representative:** Mary Friend **PHMSA Representative:** David Appelbaum

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

Name/Title: Charlotte R. Lane,, Chairman

**Agency:** Public Service Commission of West Virginia

**Address:** 201 Brooks St.

City/State/Zip: Charleston, WV 25301

### **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 2022 (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**

<b>PARTS</b>		Possible Points	<b>Points Scored</b>
A	Progress Report and Program Documentation Review	0	0
В	Program Inspection Procedures	15	15
C	State Qualifications	10	10
D	Program Performance	50	37
E	Field Inspections	15	15
F	Damage prevention and Annual report analysis	6	6
G	Interstate Agent/Agreement States	0	0
TOTAL	S	96	83
State Rating			86.5



# PART A - Progress Report and Program Documentation Review

Points(MAX) Score

Were the following Progress Report Items accurate? (\*items not scored on progress Info Only Info Only report)

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:** 

All aspects of the HL progress report appear to be accurate and compliant with PHMSA guidelines.

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



5

4

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

a. Standard Inspections, which include Drug/Alcohol, CRM and Public

Awareness Effectiveness Inspections

- b. IMP Inspections
- c. OQ Inspections
- d. Damage Prevention Inspections
- e. On-Site Operator Training
- f. Construction Inspections (annual efforts)

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

- a. Section B has types of inspections which include standard, D&A, CRM and PAPEI
- b. Section B-5 addresses IMP and DIMP inspections which give guidance to inspectors on how to conduct IMP plan inspections.
- c. Section B-4 and 5 addresses Operator Qualification inspections which gives guidance to inspectors when conducting OQ inspections. Section 5 addresses OQ Plan reviews.
- d. Section 5 addresses PAPEI and damage prevention inspections.
- e. Section 7.2 addresses the need for Operator Training.
- f .Section B-3 addresses construction inspections which gives guidance to inspectors to perform construction inspections.
- g. N/A
- 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

- a. Length of time since last inspection
- b. 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:**

- a. Length of time since last inspection. Have a 5 year interval preferably 2 year for standard inspections. b. Operating History of operator.
- c. Type of activities undertaken by the operator(i.e. Construction, replacements, etc)
- d. Location of operator units is taken into consideration.
- e. Annual report data and information which include damages, age of pipe, materials, etc.
- f. Yes, units are broken down appropriately.
- 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

- a. Procedures to notify an operator (company officer) when a noncompliance is identified
- b. Procedures to routinely review progress of compliance actions to prevent delays or breakdowns
- c. Procedures regarding closing outstanding probable violations

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

Yes, Section C Post Inspection Activities addresses compliance activities undertaken by WV PSC after completion of an inspection. The procedures address 30 and 90 day requirements and step by step actions to complete compliance actions. Appendix A addresses the timeline for processing cases. All other requisite steps are sufficiently outlined in procedures.



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

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:**

Section D has detailed procedures for accident/incident investigations and a mechanism to receive incident notifications. The WVPSC has an emergency number which is monitored 24/7 by the on call GPSD inspector, which is rotated on a monthly basis(generally) Procedures include the gathering of sufficient information to make decision to go onsite or not.

5 General Comments:

Info Only Info Only

3

3

Info Only = No Points

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

On a few occasions, the PSC has injected language in their procedures that is superfluous and unnecessary. The PM advised this was by design to address personnel matters where an inspector complained that procedures were ambiguous. PHMSA recommended the PSC address personnel issues in a different forum and provide written procedures per PHMSA guidelines.

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



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:** 

Yes. All lead inspectors and Program Manager have met the requisite training requirements.

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

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**Evaluator Notes:** 

Yes, the PM is sufficiently knowledgeable of the pipeline safety program and regulations.

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



10

0

10

2

2

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

- a. Standard (General Code Compliance)
- b. Public Awareness Effectiveness Reviews
- c. Drug and Alcohol
- d. Control Room Management
- e. Construction (did state achieve 20% of total inspection person-days?)
- f. OQ (see Question 3 for additional requirements)
- g. IMP (see Question 4 for additional requirements)

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

Dominion Energy (aka BHEGT&S, aka Eastern Gas Transmission and Storage, OPID 2714) was due to have an Integrity Management inspection by September 2022. Inspection not completed until July 2023 - five-point deduction.

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

- a. Standard (General Code Compliance)
- b. Public Awareness Effectiveness Reviews
- c. Drug and Alcohol
- d. Control Room Management
- e. Construction
- f. OQ (see Question 3 for additional requirements)
- g. IMP (see Question 4 for additional requirements)

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

A review of randomly selected 2022 inspection files found all applicable portions of the forms were completed appropriately, and all other requirements in the question appear satisfactory.

\*PHMSA recommends the PSC add to the inspection form an area to ensure verification that operators are using calibrated testing equipment.

- 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 Part 195 Subpart G
  - Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

Yes, the WVPSC utilizes IA to perform and document most inspections. Reviewed randomly selected OQ inspections to verify that OQ Programs are being reviewed for compliance.

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 Part 195 Subpart F & G

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

a. Are the implementation plans of the state's large/largest operators(s) being reviewed annually to ensure they are completing full cycle of the IMP process?

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

Reviewed randomly selected inspection reports to verify IMP inspections are conducted by the WVPSC. IMP is also discussed through the year with quarterly meetings with larger operators or during meetings.



2

5 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

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

- Operator records of previous accidents and failures including reported thirdparty damage and leak response to ensure appropriate operator response as required by 195.402; and
- 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;

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

NTSB questions are documented in the operator description form which is periodically sent to operators for updating. NTSB questions are also discussed with operators during quarterly meetings and seminars.

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

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

NTSB and ADB questions are documented in the operator description form which is periodically sent to operators for updating. NTSB and ADB questions are also discussed with operators during quarterly meetings and seminars.

7 (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

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2

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

- Were compliance actions sent to company officer or manager/board member if municipal/government system?
- b. Were probable violations documented properly?
- Resolve probable violations c.
- d. Routinely review progress of probable violations
- Did state issue compliance actions for all probable violations discovered? e.
- f. Can state demonstrate fining authority for pipeline safety violations?
- Does Program Manager review, approve and monitor all compliance actions? (note: Program Manager or Senior Official should sign any NOPV or related enforcement action)
- Did state compliance actions give reasonable due process to all parties? Including "show cause" hearing, if necessary.
- Within 30 days, conduct a post-inspection briefing with the owner or operator outlining any concerns
- 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:**

None of the compliance actions discovered in CY 2022 (there were two) have had a letter drafted and sent to a company officer. Concurrently, none of these probable violations have been resolved. (affects "a" and "c" above.) Additionally, the same deficiencies identified in last year's evaluation have not been resolved, notwithstanding the Chairman's response letter that indicated they would be settled. Eight-point deduction when considering the totality of the of circumstances described above (i.e., number of deficiencies, systemic deficiencies (>25%), recurrence of deficiencies).

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

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

- 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?
- 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?
- 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:** 

No reportable accidents for HL in 2022.

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

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

**Evaluator Notes:** 

PSC met the timeline requirements for this question.

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

**Evaluator Notes:** 

Seminars conducted in April 2023 - no issues.

Has state confirmed transmission operators have submitted information into NPMS Info Only Info O

**Evaluator Notes:** 

Three operators have mileage differences that need to be reconciled. Program had evidence that matters are being addressed.

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).

Did state execute appropriate follow-up actions to Safety Related Condition (SRC)

1

1

1

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

**Evaluator Notes:** 

Holds quarterly meetings with our larger operators. May also use email or industry organizations for communication purposes.

parposes.

Reports? Chapter 6.7 Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

13

State had no HL SRCRs in 2022

Was the State responsive to:

1 1

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1

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

a. Surveys or information requests from NAPSR or PHMSA; and

b. PHMSA Work Management system tasks?

**Evaluator Notes:** 

No issues for HL

15 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.

1

**Evaluator Notes:** 

Union Carbide Chemicals issued a waiver for installation of valves in Feb 2017. No additional conditions exist. Reviewed Waiver, there are no special provisions.

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

Info Only Info Only

**Evaluator Notes:** 

Yes, reviewed inspection reports electronically with no issues

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

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**Evaluator Notes:** 

No apparent issues

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

**Evaluator Notes:** 

No issues

19 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.

Info Only Info Only

Info Only = No Points

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

**Evaluator Notes:** 

Program continues to promote SMS.

20 General Comments: Info Only = No Points

Info Only Info Only

**Evaluator Notes:** 

Total points scored for this section: 37 Total possible points for this section: 50



1	Operator,	Inspector, Location, Date and PHMSA Representative (enter specifics into the	Info Only Info Only
	comments	s box below)	
	Info Only =	No Points	
	a.	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?
- c. Was pipeline operator or representative present during inspection?
- d. Effort should be made to observe newest state inspector with least experience

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

An OQ inspection was conducted on Williams on 6/8/2023. The OQ was last done in CY 2019.

Girija Bajpayee, who is fully qualified, permormed the inspection and was supported by Mary Friend. Edgar Rodriguez, a regulatory compliance specialist, represented Williams.

2 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) Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

Inspection was performed in IA

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

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?)
- d. Other (please comment)
- Was the inspection of adequate length to properly perform the inspection?

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

Inspectors sufficiently satisfied all relevant aspects of this question.

From your observation did the inspector have adequate knowledge of the pipeline safety 2 program and regulations? (Evaluator will document reasons if unacceptable) Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

#### **Evaluator Notes:**

Inspectors are proficient with program responsibilities

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

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Question was satisfied. Feedback was provided as the inspection progressed.

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 a.
  - What did the inspector observe in the field? (Narrative description of field b. 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:** 

This was an office inspection - no issues

7 General Comments:

Info Only = No Points

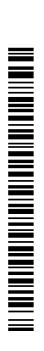
**Evaluator Notes:** 

No concerns with Section E

Info Only Info Only

Total points scored for this section: 15

Total possible points for this section: 15



1 Has the state reviewed Operator Annual reports, along with Incident/Accident reports, for 2 accuracy and analyzed data for trends and operator issues.

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

**Evaluator Notes:** 

Program did an excellent job assessing damage ratios and data pertaining to the GDAR. There are limited (to no) issues with excavation damage to HL lines in the State - full credit.

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)

2

2

2

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

**Evaluator Notes:** 

There are limited (to no) issues with excavation damage to HL lines in the State - full credit.

3 Has the state reviewed the operator's annual report pertaining to Part D - Excavation Damage?

Info Only Info Only

Info Only = No Points

- 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.)?

**Evaluator Notes:** 

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?

2

2

- Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1
  - 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.
  - d. Has the state verified the operator is appropriately focusing damage prevention education and training to address the causes of excavation damages?

**Evaluator Notes:** 

As identified in F-1, the program did a good job answering this question.

5 General Comments: Info Only Info Only

Info Only = No Points

**Evaluator Notes:** 

Program continues to assert they have no responsibility for "damage prevention." PHMSA reminded the PM that the PSC is entirely responsible for ensuring regulated operators are complying with their obligations under the State's one-call law, and those directly affecting pipeline safety regulations.

Total points scored for this section: 6

Total possible points for this section: 6



### **PART G - Interstate Agent/Agreement States**

Points(MAX) Score

Were all inspections of interstate pipelines conducted using the Inspection Assistant program for documenting inspections?

Info Only = No Points

Info Only Info Only

**Evaluator Notes:** 

WV PSC is not an interstate agent and does not have a 60106 agreement with PHMSA.

2 If inspections were conducted independent of a PHMSA team inspection was notice of allInfo Only Info Only identified probable violations provided to PHMSA within 60 days?

Info Only = No Points

**Evaluator Notes:** 

WV PSC is not an interstate agent and does not have a 60106 agreement with PHMSA.

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:** 

WV PSC is not an interstate agent and does not have a 60106 agreement with PHMSA.

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:** 

WV PSC is not an interstate agent and does not have a 60106 agreement with PHMSA.

5 Did the state take direction from and cooperate with PHMSA for all incident investigations conducted on interstate pipelines?

Info Only = No Points

Info Only Info Only

Evaluator Notes:

WV PSC is not an interstate agent and does not have a 60106 agreement with PHMSA.

6 General Comments:

Info Only Info Only

Info Only = No Points

**Evaluator Notes:** 

WV PSC is not an interstate agent and does not have a 60106 agreement with PHMSA.

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

