

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

2011 Natural Gas State Program Evaluation

for

GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Document Legend PART:

- O -- Representative Date and Title Information
- A -- Progress Report and Program Documentation Review
- B -- Program Inspection Procedures
- C -- Program Performance
- D -- Compliance Activities
- E -- Incident Investigations
- -- Damage Prevention
- G -- Field Inspections
- H -- Interstate Agent State (If Applicable)
- I -- 60106 Agreement State (If Applicable)



2011 Natural Gas State Program Evaluation -- CY 2011 Natural Gas

State Agency: Georgia Rating:

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

Date of Visit: 05/21/2012 - 05/25/2012

Agency Representative: Michael C. Nantz, Director, Facilities Protection Unit

Jeff Baggett, Gas Safety Inspector Chris Swann, Gas Safety Inspector

PHMSA Representative: Glynn Blanton, USDOT/PHMSA State Programs

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

Name/Title: Mr. Tim Echols, Chairman

Agency: Georgia Public Service Commission

Address: 244 Washington Street, SW City/State/Zip: Atlanta, Georgia 30334

INSTRUCTIONS:

Complete this evaluation in accordance with the Procedures for Evaluating State Pipeline Safety Program. The evaluation should generally reflect state program performance during CY 2011 (not the status of performance at the time of the evaluation). All items for which criteria have not been established should be answered based on the PHMSA representative's judgment. 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 then the maximum points, include a brief explanation in the space provided for general comments/regional observations. If a question is not applicable to a state, select NA. Please ensure all responses are COMPLETE and ACCURATE, and OBJECTIVELY reflect state program performance. Increasing emphasis is being placed on 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.

Field Inspection (PART G):

The field inspection form used will allow different areas of emphasis to be considered for each question. Question 13 is provided for scoring field observation areas. In completing PART G, the PHMSA representative should include a <u>written summary</u> which thoroughly documents the inspection.

Scoring Summary

PARTS		Possible Points	Points Scored
A	Progress Report and Program Documentation Review	10	9
В	Program Inspection Procedures	15	15
C	Program Performance	43	37
D	Compliance Activities	14	14
E	Incident Investigations	9	9
F	Damage Prevention	8	8
G	Field Inspections	12	12
Н	Interstate Agent State (If Applicable)	0	0
I	60106 Agreement State (If Applicable)	0	0
TOTAI	LS	111	104
State R	ating		93.7

PART A - Progress Report and Program Documentation Review

Points(MAX) Score

1

Accuracy of Jurisdictional Authority and Operator/Inspection Units Data - Progress

Report Attachment 1 (A1a)

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

Conducted a review of their work papers, files and other data to confirm the operators and inspection units were correct and match Attachments 1, 2 & 3 in the 2011 Natural Gas base Grant Progress Report. GPSC uses the location of natural gas facilities in each county by operator as an inspection unit. No issues were noted or found.

Review of Inspection Days for accuracy - Progress Report Attachment 2 (A1b)

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

In the review of Georgia Public Service Commission (GPSC) data base and work papers found an error in the number for Damage Prevention Activities shown in attachment 2. The number reported was total tickets reported by Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act (GUFPA) personnel for damage prevention. This number is not inspection person days and should not have been reported in this attachment. Therefore, one point was deducted.

Accuracy verification of Operators and Operators Inspection Units in State - Progress 1

Report Attachment 3 (A1c)

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

Reviewed and compared Attachment 3 of the 2011 Natural Gas Base Grant Progress Report with GPSC's database, files and work papers. Verification of information found no areas of concern.

Were all federally reportable incident reports listed and information correct? - Progress 1

Report Attachment 4 (A1d)

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

In 2011, three incidents were reported in Attachment 4 of the 2011 Natural Gas Base Grant Progress Report for GPSC. Verification of the incidents was checked via ODES/Pipeline Data Mart. Two of the three incidents were determined to not be a reportable event. No issues were noted in this section of the review.

5 Accuracy verification of Compliance Activities - Progress Report Attachment 5 (A1e) 1
Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

A review and verification of Attachment 5 of the 2011 Natural Gas Base Grant Progress Report compliance activities matched the records kept by GPSC. The calculation of probable violations to be corrected at the end of the year was verified by using the probable violations carried over from the previous year plus violations found less number corrected during the year. The number was correct.

A high number of carryover violations continue to increase. GPSC may concern taking steps to reduce this number in the current year.

6 Were pipeline program files well-organized and accessible? - Progress Report 2 2
Attachment 6 (A1f, A4)

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, a review of their data base indicated all inspection reports, accident investigations and other relative information on the operator was well organized and accessible. In future filing of Attachment 6, please include additional information about the database program and the Pipeline Safety Inspection Program manual.

Was employee listing and completed training accurate and complete? - Progress Report 1
Attachment 7 (A1g)

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

A review of Attachment 7 of the 2011 Natural Gas Base Grant Progress Report for GPSC found employees listed and their qualification categories were correct. The information listed by GPSC matched their personnel files maintained by the Program Manager.

8 Verification of Part 192,193,198,199 Rules and Amendments - Progress Report Attachment 8 (A1h)

1

1

1

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

GPSC has automatic adoption of the pipeline safety regulations and a damage prevention law with a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each violation. However, a review of GPSC Rules and Regulations indicate the civil penalty amount for violations of the Pipeline Safety Regulations are not the same as PHMSA. In CY 2013 all civil penalty amounts must be \$100,000 to a maximum amount of \$1.0 million to insure a two point award in this section of the evaluation.

List of Planned Performance - Did state describe accomplishments on Progress Report in detail - Progress Report Attachment 10 (H1-3)

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, a description was provided on Attachment 10 of the 2011 Natural Gas Base Grant Progress Report. Additionally, GPSC stated, "they have developed a by-county listing which identifies all counties in the state and shows the number of operators by type and category. This information is applied as one measurement of ranking in the annual risk assessment. Pipeline safety inspectors have started to provide training on pipeline emergency response during training classes for fire chiefs and state fire trainers at the GA Public Safety Training Center."

NOTE: The breakdown of units is currently being re-evaluated by the State Program Director to include the miles of main and number of facilities (i.e. taps, regulator stations, emergency valves) that are in each county.

10 General Comments:

Info OnlyInfo Only

Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

A.2 In the review of Georgia Public Service Commission (GPSC) data base and work papers found an error in the number for Damage Prevention Activities shown in attachment 2. The number reported was total tickets reported by Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act (GUFPA) personnel for damage prevention. This number is not inspection person days and should not have been reported in this attachment. Therefore, one point was deducted.

Total points scored for this section: 9 Total possible points for this section: 10



1	Standard Inspections (B1a) Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1	2		2
Yes Insp	or Notes: s, a review of GPSC Pipeline Safety Inspection Program Manual indicated this item is locate pection Procedures. The procedures for frequencies or risk based methods to schedule standare 6, under Standard Inspection Time Frames.			
2	IMP Inspections (including DIMP) (B1b)	1		1
Yes	Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5 or Notes: s, GPSC Pipeline Safety Inspection Program Manual page 10-11 address this procedure on II procedures identify frequencies of inspections which are listed on page 7, once each 60 more		OIMP in:	spections.
3	OQ Inspections (B1c) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5	1		1
	or Notes: s, this item is located on page 11, item 5 in their Pipeline Safety Inspection Program docume	nt.		
4	Damage Prevention Inspections (B1d) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5	1		1
	or Notes: s, this item is located on page 11, item 7 in their Pipeline Safety Inspection Program docume	nt.		
5	On-Site Operator Training (B1e) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5	1		1
	or Notes: s, this item is located on page 10, item C, 2 in GPSC Pipeline Safety Inspection Program doc	ument		
6	Construction Inspections (B1f) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5	1		1
	or Notes: s, this item is located on page 10; item C, 1 in GPSC Pipeline Safety Inspection Program doc	rument.		
7	Incident/Accident Investigations (B1g) Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1	2		2
	or Notes: s, this item is located on page 11, item C, 6 in GPSCr Pipeline Safety Inspection Program do	cument.		
8	Does inspection plan address inspection priorities of each operator, and if necessary each unit, based on the following elements? (B2a-d, G1,2,4) $Yes = 6 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-5$	6		6
	a. Length of time since last inspection	Yes 💿	No 🔾	Needs Improvement
	b. Operating history of operator/unit and/or location (includes leakage, incident and compliance activities)	Yes •	No 🔾	Needs Improvement
	c. Type of activity being undertaken by operators (i.e. construction)	Yes •	No 🔾	Needs Improvement

DUNS: 110305872

Needs Improvement

No 🔘

Locations of operators inspection units being inspected - (HCA's, Geographic

areas, Population Density, etc)

	Total points s Total possible			
No	areas of concern were noted or found in this section of the review.			
	or Notes:			
	Info Only = No Points			
9	General Comments:	Info On	lyInfo O	nly
Yes	s, these items are addressed in GPSC's Pipeline Safety Inspection Program procedures manu	al on pag	ges 3-6.	
Evaluate	or Notes:			•
	f. Are inspection units broken down appropriately?	Yes 💿	No 🔾	Needs Improvement
	Operators and any Other Factors)			
	Damage, Corrosion, Natural Forces, Outside Forces, Material and Welds, Equipment,	Yes 💿	No 🔾	Needs Improvement
	e. Process to identify high-risk inspection units that includes all threats - (Excavation			NY 1

DUNS: 110305872 2011 Natural Gas State Program Evaluation

1	Was ratio of Total Inspection person-days to total person days acceptable? (Director of State Programs may modify with just cause) Chapter 4.3 (A12) $Yes = 5 No = 0$	5	5
	A. Total Inspection Person Days (Attachment 2): 2841.50		
	B. Total Inspection Person Days Charged to the Program (220 X Inspection Person Years) (Attachment 7): 220 X 6.75 = 1485.00		
	Ratio: A / B 2841.50 / 1485.00 = 1.91		
	If Ratio >= 0.38 Then Points = 5, If Ratio < 0.38 Then Points = 0 Points = 5		

Evaluator Notes:

We deducted 2,123 damage prevention inspection days from total number inspection days shown in attachment 2 because they were not pipeline safety inspection days. They were found to be damage prevention tickets reported by Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act (GUFPA) to the GPSC.

- A. Total inspection person days number is 2841.5 2123 = 718.5.
- B. Total inspection person days charged to the program $220 \times 6.75 = 1,485$.

A/B = 718.5/1485 = 0.4838. This number exceeds the 0.38 requirement. Therefore, five points is awarded.

2	Guid	each inspector and program manager fulfilled the T Q Training Requirements? (See lelines for requirements) Chapter 4.4 (A8-A11, G19) = 5 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-4	5		2
	a.	Completion of Required OQ Training before conducting inspection as lead?	Yes 💿	No 🔾	Needs Improvement
	b. lead?	Completion of Required DIMP*/IMP Training before conducting inspection as *Effective Evaluation CY2013	Yes 🔘	No 🔾	Needs Improvement
	c.	Root Cause Training by at least one inspector/program manager	Yes •	No 🔾	Needs Improvement
	d.	Note any outside training completed	Yes	No 🔘	Needs Improvement

Evaluator Notes:

A review of Attachment 7 showed all inspectors have not completed the required training. It was found Joshua Lairsey did not complete the Hazwoper training course. Alan Towe and John McCarter did not complete the Gas IMP training courses to be the lead inspectors. Needs improvement and therefore, three points were deducted due to failure to complete the mandatory Hazwoper and Gas IMP training courses.

3 Did state records and discussions with state pipeline safety program manager indicate 2 adequate knowledge of PHMSA program and regulations? Chapter 4.1,8.1 (A5)

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes

Yes, a verbal discussion with Mike Nantz indicated he has a good working knowledge about the Guidelines for States Participating in the Pipeline Safety Program, how to monitor inspection and enforcement actions of inspections performed by his agency and an understanding on the submission of the pipeline safety grant application, certification (Base Grant Progress Report) and year end payment request. Mr. Nantz was previously employed with the Kentucky Public Service Commission in the pipeline safety division prior to coming to the GPSC. Please note, program manager will have a period of five years from date of appointment to complete T&Q training courses as described in Appendix C of the "2012 Guidelines for States Participating in the Pipeline Safety Programs".

Did state respond to Chairman's letter on previous evaluation within 60 days and correct 2 or address any noted deficiencies? (If necessary) Chapter 8.1 (A6-7)

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes:

PHMSA State Program letter to GPSC Chairman Stan Wise dated July 27, 2011 did not require a response to Zach Barrett, Director PHMSA State Programs.

Yes	or Notes: s, GPSC held a pipeline safety seminar in Macon, Georgia on April 11-15, 2011. The number dred individuals representing the majority of the operators in Georgia.	of attende	ees was over two
6	Did state inspect all types of operators and inspection units in accordance with time intervals established in written procedures? Chapter 5.1 (B3) $Yes = 5 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-4$	5	5
Evaluato	or Notes:		
	s, a review of Attachment 1 in 2011 Natural Gas Base Grant Progress Report and office recore inspected in CY 2011 and in accordance with time intervals described in GPSC inspection		1 21
7	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 (B4-5) Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1	2	2
	or Notes:	Ailidian Na	tumal Can Contama
Atla	eview of 2011 inspection documents for City of Toccoa Natural Gas Department, Elberton U anta Gas Company and twenty-five other operators indicated all code requirements were revipection forms used by GPSC inspector staff.		
8	Did the state review operator procedures for determining if exposed cast iron pipe was examined for evidence of graphitization and if necessary remedial action was taken? (NTSB) Chapter 5.1 (B7) $Yes = 1 No = 0$	1	1
Yes perf	or Notes: s, this item is located on page 18 of the federal gas distribution standard inspection form whice forming an inspection. GPSC also has a Commission order that requires each operator to example been exposed. If graphitization is found the pipeline must be replaced.		
9	Did the state review 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) (NTSB) Chapter 5.1 (B8) Yes = 1 No = 0	1	1
Evaluato	or Notes:		
	s, this item is listed on page 4 of the federal gas distribution standard inspection form used by	GPSC sta	ff members.
10	Did the state review 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? (NTSB) Chapter 5.1 (B9) Yes = 1 No = 0	1	1
Evaluato	or Notes:		
	s, this item is listed and checked on page 5 of the federal gas distribution standard inspection	form.	
11	Did the state review 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? Chapter 5.1 (B10,E5) Yes = 1 No = 0	1	1
	or Notes: s, this item is located on the standard comprehensive inspection form (PHMSA Form 2) unde	r both the	Failure

Investigation Procedures and Operations and Maintenance Performance and Records. Additionally, GPSC Rule 515-9-4-.05

Did State hold PHMSA TQ Seminar in Past 3 Years? Chapter 8.5 (A3)

5

2

2

states, "all facility owners and operators are required to report third party damages to the GUFPA section, where reported damages are evaluated on an on-going basis". Data from GUFPA and the Utilities Protection Center is compared and reviewed annually for risk-ranking. Reporting of GUFPA damages is an inspection item on the GPSC rules inspection checklist.

Has the state reviewed Operator Annual reports, along with Incident/Accident reports, for 2 accuracy and analyzed data for trends and operator issues? Data Initiative (G6-9,G16)

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, this item is accomplished during the GPSC annual risk ranking as described in Pipeline Safety Inspection Program Manual under the section entitled, "Procedures for Determining Inspection Priorities" and in the States Risk Ranking Spreadsheet.

Did state input all applicable OQ, IMP inspection results into federal database in a timely manner? This includes replies to Operator notifications into IMDB database. Chapter 5.1 (G10-12)

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes:

A review of PHMSA Operator Qualification Database on May 14, 2012 indicated thirty-three inspections were uploaded into the database. However, a review of attachment 2 and discussion with Program Manager indicated not all reports have not been uploaded. One point was deducted.

Has state confirmed intrastate transmission operators have submitted information into

NPMS database along with changes made after original submission? (G14)

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, this item is located in PHMSA Standard Inspection Report of a Gas Transmission Pipeline form used by the GPSC inspectors. A review of the National Pipeline Mapping System website verified all Georgia operators have submitted information and updated recent changes.

Is the state verifying operators are conducting drug and alcohol tests as required by regulations? This should include verifying positive tests are responded to in accordance with program. 49 CFR 199 (I1-3)

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, this item is accomplished during inspection of the operator's drug and alcohol programs. Additionally, the GPSC is currently working to implement a commission rule requiring an annual submission of this information from all operators. They plan to gather this information through an on-line web based system.

16 Is state verifying operators OQ programs are up to date? This should include verification of any plan updates and that persons performing covered tasks (including contractors) are properly qualified and requalified at intervals determined in the operators plan. 49 CFR 192 Part N (I4-7)

2 2

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, this item is accomplished during the standard OQ inspection.

Is state verifying operator's gas transmission integrity management programs (IMP) are up to date? This should include a previous review of IMP plan, along with monitoring progress on operator tests and remedial actions. In addition, the review should take in to account program review and updates of operators plan(s). 49 CFR 192 Subpart 0 (I8-12) Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes:

No, this item was not performed in CY2011. A review of PHMSA Gas Transmission Integrity Management website found the last entry made by GPSC was on October 27, 2009 pertaining to the Southern Company. Two points were deduction due to the failure to perform and enter information in a timely manner.

0

A review of Attachment 1 indicated 15 intrastate operators are located in the State of Georgia. All operators need to have a Protocol "A" inspection performed and uploaded into the PHMSA database.

Is state verifying operator's gas distribution integrity management Programs (DIMP)?

This should include a review of DIMP plans, along with monitoring progress. In addition, the review should take in to account program review and updates of operators plan(s). 49 CFR 192 Subpart P

Info Only = No Points

Info OnlyInfo Only

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, GPSC is currently submitting the completed inspection form/check list to Chris McLaren, PHMSA State Programs via email.

Is state verifying operators Public Awareness programs are up to date and being followed. State should also verify operators have evaluated Public Awareness programs for effectiveness as described in RP1162. 49 CFR 192.616 (I13-16)

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

2

2

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Evaluator Notes:

Yes. All operators are scheduled on a 5-year plan for a Public Awareness Program audit. Two state pipeline inspectors, Lynn Buffington and Alan Towe, attended T&Q pipeline awareness training in August, 2011. Following this training, they performed three PAP inspections in 2011. GPSC has 25 operators scheduled for PAP inspections during 2012.

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). (G20-21)

1

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, this item is on the GPSC state facility protection web site at http://fp.psc.state.ga.us/ and the Commissions Docket Search page.

Did state execute appropriate follow-up actions to Safety Related Condition (SRC)
Reports? Chapter 6.3 (B6)

NA

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

No safety related condition reports were submitted in CY2011. This information was verified in the Safety Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) website.

Did the State ask Operators to identify any plastic pipe and components that has shown a record of defects/leaks and what those operators are doing to mitigate the safety concerns? (G13)

1

1

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes:

Yes. This issue is addressed under 192.617 on the standard inspection form. However, since this item is receiving added emphasis by PHMSA GPSC added this item as a stand-alone question on their inspection form.

Did the state participate in/respond to surveys or information requests from NAPSR or PHMSA? (H4)

Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5

Evaluator Notes

Yes. The Program Manager responded to all NAPSR surveys and inquiries from PHMSA State Programs on Base Grant Progress Report and Financial grant awards.

24 General Comments:

Info OnlyInfo Only

Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

C.1 We deducted 2,123 damage prevention inspection days from total number inspection days shown in attachment 2 because they were not pipeline safety inspection days. They were found to be damage prevention tickets reported by Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act (GUFPA) to the GPSC.



A. Total inspection person days number is 2841.5 - 2123 = 718.5.

B. Total inspection person days charged to the program $220 \times 6.75 = 1,485$.

A/B = 718.5/1485 = 0.4838. This number exceeds the 0.38 requirement. Therefore, five points is awarded. In the future, do not include damage tickets in attachment 2.

C.2 A review of Attachment 7 found all inspectors have not completed the required training. It was found Joshua Lairsey did not complete the Hazwoper training course. Alan Towe and John McCarter did not complete the Gas IMP training courses to be the lead inspectors. Three points were deductions due to failure to complete the mandatory Hazwoper and Gas IMP training courses.

C. 13 A review of PHMSA Operator Qualification Database on May 14, 2012 indicated thirty-three inspections were uploaded into the database. However, a review of attachment 2 and discussion with Program Manager indicated not all reports have not been uploaded. One point was deducted.

C.17 No, this item was not performed in CY2011. A review of PHMSA Gas Transmission Integrity Management website found the last entry made by GPSC was on October 27, 2009 pertaining to the Southern Company. Two points were deduction due to failure to perform and enter information in a timely manner.

Total points scored for this section: 37 Total possible points for this section: 43

1

4

		resolution of a probable violation? Chapter 5.1 (B12-14, B16, B1h) Yes = 4 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-3			
		a. Procedures to notify an operator (company officer) when a noncompliance is	Yes •	No ()	Needs
		identified b. Procedures to routinely review progress of compliance actions to prevent delays or			Improvement Needs
_		breakdowns	Yes •	No 🔾	Improvement
Eva	a. Ye the o viola taker the v 17, C comp	r Notes: es, this is identified in GPSC Pipeline Safety Inspection Program Manual on page 16, and list following procedures are taken after discovery of a probable violation. Verbal and written coperator of the alleged probable violation(s). Operators are given the opportunity to responditions. Follow up steps in making corrections to the probable violations and verification that it is monitored. The operator may request an informal meeting with the Director or a ruling fivolation. Written notification to the company officer about probable violations and inspection Completed Inspection Reports. A review of inspection reports for calendar year 2011 found pany officer. es, this is addressed in the Pipeline Safety Inspection Program manual page 18, Section 4, R	ommuni to the w correcti from the on report reports v	cation is ritten no on action Commis s is liste vere beir	provided to tification of n has been ssion about d on page ng sent to the
	2	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 (B11,B18,B19)	4		4
Eva	luato	Yes = 4 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-3 a. Were compliance actions sent to company officer or manager/board member if municipal/government system? r Notes:	Yes •	No 🔾	Needs Improvement
	A rai	ndom review of the 2011 inspection reports for Atlanta Gas Light Company, City of Toccoarton Utilities Natural Gas System, Dalton Utilities and Eastman Housing Authority indicate pany officer or board member.			
	3	Did the state issue compliance actions for all probable violations discovered? (B15) $Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1$	2		2
Eva	Yes, taker Atlar Robi Tri-C Gord	r Notes: a random selection of inspection reports for the following operators were reviewed and ind by GPSC after a violation was cited. hta Gas Light Company LNG facility, City of Fort Gaines Gas System, City of Adel Gas De ins Gas Department, City of Camila Gas System, City of Richland Gas Department, City of County Natural Gas Department, City of Buford Gas Department, City of Madison Natural don Apartments, AGL Headquarters, Savannah Technical College, City of Cartersville Gas I bridge Gas Department. No issues were found in this review.	epartmen Blakely Gas Syst	it, City o Gas Der em, Fair	f Warner partment, burn &
	4	Did compliance actions give reasonable due process to all parties? Including "show cause" hearing if necessary. (B17, B20) $Yes = 2 No = 0$	2		2
г.	14	, N. A			

Does the state have written procedures to identify steps to be taken from the discovery to

Yes, a review of 2011 inspection reports where a violation was cited indicated the operator was given due process to correct the violation or request a hearing. In 2011, no show cause hearings were requested by the operators cited for non-compliance.

5 Is the program manager familiar with state process for imposing civil penalties? Were civil penalties considered for repeat violations (with severity consideration) or violations resulting in incidents/accidents? (describe any actions taken) (B27)

2

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, Mike Nantz is familiar with GPSC Rules and Regulations on imposing civil penalties for non-compliance with the

2

pipeline safety regulations. In Docket number 35665, AGLC's incident at 13809 East Cherokee Drive on June 7, 2011, the program manager has recommended a civil penalty in the amount of \$705,000 for two violations found.

6 Can the State demonstrate it is using their enforcement fining authority for pipeline safetyInfo OnlyInfo Only violations? (new question)
Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, Docket number 35665, AGLC's incident at 13809 East Cherokee Drive on June 7, 2011 is a good example of enforcement fining authority. GPSC has issued a civil penalty against Atlanta Gas Light Company in the amount of \$705,000 for two violations found during their investigation of the incident.

7 General Comments:

Info OnlyInfo Only

Info Only = No Points

Evaluator Notes:

No areas of concern were noted in this section of the evaluation.

Total points scored for this section: 14 Total possible points for this section: 14



1	Does state have adequate mechanism to receive and respond to operator reports of incidents, including after-hours reports? And did state keep adequate records of Incident/Accident notifications received? Chapter 6 (A2,D1-3) Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1	2		2
	a. Acknowledgement of MOU between NTSB and PHMSA (Appendix D)	Yes 🧿	No 🔾	Needs Improvement
.	b. Acknowledgement of Federal/State Cooperation in case of incident/accident (Appendix E)	Yes 🤄) No (Needs Improvement
GP des disc and	or Notes: SC Pipeline Safety Inspection Program manual on page 19, under "Procedures for receiving cribes how GPSC staff will respond to all incidents and telephonic calls. The information was cussion with Program Manager and inspectors determined they were familiar with the MOU the Federal/State Cooperation agreement located in the 2011 Guidelines For States Participal gram.	s very betwee	description	ve. A and PHMSA
2	If onsite investigation was not made, did state obtain sufficient information from the operator and/or by other means to determine the facts to support the decision to not go on-site? Chapter 6 (D4) $Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5$	1		1
In 2	or Notes: 2011, there were three incidents reported to the GPSC Pipeline Safety Office. All three incide SC inspectors and a separate report of their findings on each incident was released.	ents we	ere invest	igated by
3	Were all incidents investigated, thoroughly documented, and with conclusions and recommendations? (D5) Yes = 3 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1-2	3		3
	a. Observations and document review	Yes 🧿	No 🔾	Needs Improvement
	b. Contributing Factors	Yes 🧿	No O	Needs Improvement
	c. Recommendations to prevent recurrences when appropriate	Yes 🧿	No O	Needs Improvement
	or Notes: s, all three incidents reported in 2011 was investigated thoroughly and documented with find	ings of	f facts.	Improvement
4	Did the state initiate compliance action for violations found during any incident/accident investigation? (D6) $Yes = 1 No = 0$	1		1
Yes	or Notes: s, in Docket number 35665, AGLC's incident at 13809 East Cherokee Drive on June 7, 2011, commended a civil penalty in the amount of \$705,000 for two violations found.	the pr	ogram ma	anager has
5	Did the state assist region office by taking appropriate follow-up actions related to the operator incident reports to ensure accuracy and final report has been received by PHMSA? (validate report data from operators concerning incidents/accidents and investigate discrepancies) Chapter 6 (D7) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5	1		1
	or Notes:			
Yes	s, GPSC received several calls and responded to their request.			

Evaluat Ye

6 Does state share lessons learned from incidents/accidents? (sharing information, such as: 1 at NAPSR Region meetings, state seminars, etc) (G15)

Yes = 1 No = 0

Evolutor Notos:

Yes, information on incidents/accidents was shared with their state partners at the NAPSR Southern Region meeting and other related state seminars.

Info OnlyInfo Only



Evaluator Notes:

No issues found in this section of the review.

Total points scored for this section: 9 Total possible points for this section: 9



Has the state reviewed 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? NTSB (E1)

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

Evaluator Notes:

Yes, this item is listed separately on GPSC rules inspection check list, page 2 of 2. This information is also listed in GPSC Pipeline Safety Inspection Program manual located on page 10.

Did the state inspector check to assure the pipeline operator is following its written procedures pertaining to notification of excavation, marking, positive response and the availability and use of the one call system? (E2)

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

2

2

2

Evaluator Notes:

Yes. Damage prevention is inspected during comprehensive audits. Under state law and GPSC rules, all facility owners and operators are required to not only be a member of the state UPC, but must also investigate all third-party damages to determine if there were any violations of the law. As a part of the annual risk ranking process Staff compares all reported damages to both the Utility Protection Center and GUFPA against the operators DOT 7100 1.1 annual reports to verify compliance. In addition, GUFPA staff reviews reported gas damages for issues which should be investigated further by a pipeline safety inspector.

Did the state encourage and promote practices for reducing damages to all underground facilities to its regulated companies? (i.e. such as promoting/adopting the CGA Best Practices encouraging adoption of the 9 Elements, etc.) (E3)

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

2

2

2

Evaluator Notes:

Yes. GPSC adopted the Common Ground Alliance Best Practices under Commission Rule 515-9-6-.01. This adoption occurred on October 14, 2009 and became effective to all natural gas operators on November 3, 2009.

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? (This can include DIRT and other data shared and reviewed by the pipeline safety program) (E4,G5)

Yes = 2 No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1

2

Evaluator Notes:

Yes. This information is reviewed annually for the purposes of risk ranking in GPSC inspection program.

General Comments:Info Only = No Points

Info OnlyInfo Only

Evaluator Notes:

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

Total points scored for this section: 8 Total possible points for this section: 8



1	-	or, Inspector, Location, Date and PHMSA Representative y = No Points	Info Onlyli	nfo Only
		of Operator Inspected: Thomson Gas Department		
		of State Inspector(s) Observed: uffington, Senior Pipeline Safety Investigator		
		on of Inspection: on, Georgia		
	Date of May 24	Inspection:		
-	Glynn l	of PHMSA Representative: Blanton, USDOT/PHMSA State Programs		
A s		tural gas inspection was performed. The following individuals were presented: Ment and Rodney Dunway, Gas Helper.	r. Chuck Ca	ason, Gas
2		e operator or operator's representative notified and/or given the opportunity to be during inspection? (F2) $N_0 = 0$	1	1
Yes		of Thomson was notified one month in advance of the scheduled standard inspect s Superintendent by Lynn Buffington, Senior Gas Safety Investigator.	ion visit. Th	ne notification was
3	used as	inspector use an appropriate inspection form/checklist and was the form/checklist a guide for the inspection? (New regulations shall be incorporated) (F3) No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1	t 2	2
Yes	or Notes: s, Lynn Bu	offington, Senior Gas Safety Investigator used the federal standard inspection form was recorded and entered into the form located on his laptop computer	to conduct	the inspection. All
4		inspector thoroughly document results of the inspection? (F4) No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1	2	2
Yes		ector asked several questions and requested information from the Gas Superintend ds as he proceeded through the inspection form.	ent on com	pliance with the
5		inspector check to see if the operator had necessary equipment during inspection uct tasks viewed? (Maps,pyrometer,soap spray,CGI,etc.) (F5)	1	1
	or Notes:	of Thomson provided their Operations & Manual Procedures and Emergency Plan	ns for review	w during the audit.
6	evaluat	inspector adequately review the following during the field portion of the state ion? (check all that apply on list) (F7) No = 0 Needs Improvement = 1	2	2
	a.	Procedures	\boxtimes	
	b.	Records	\boxtimes	
	c.	Field Activities		
	d.	Other (please comment)		

Evaluator Notes:

This was a standard inspection with a review of office records and manuals. The field portion of the inspection was scheduled the next week.





C.

Tapping

D.	Valve Maintenance	
E.	Vault Maintenance	
F.	Welding	
G.	OQ - Operator Qualification	
H.	Compliance Follow-up	
I.	Atmospheric Corrosion	
J.	Other	\boxtimes
ator Notes:		

Evalu

This was a standard office records review. No outside field inspection was performed during this visit but was scheduled the following week. It was anticipated a leak survey, valve, odorization, cathodic protection and regulator station reviews would be conducted to insure compliance with the pipeline safety regulations.

> Total points scored for this section: 12 Total possible points for this section: 12



PART	H - Interstate Agent State (If Applicable)	oints(MAX)	Score
1 Evaluator	Did the state use the current federal inspection form(s)? (C1) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5 Notes:	1	NA
2 Evaluator	Are results documented demonstrating inspection units were reviewed in accordance "PHMSA directed inspection plan"? (C2) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5 Notes:	with 1	NA
3 Evaluator	Did the state submit documentation of the inspections within 60 days as stated in its la Interstate Agent Agreement form? (C3) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5 Notes:	atest 1	NA
4 Evaluator	Were probable violations identified by state referred to PHMSA for compliance? (NC PHMSA representative has discretion to delete question or adjust points, as appropria based on number of probable violations; any change requires written explanation.) (C Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5 Notes:	te,	NA
5 Evaluator	Did the state immediately report to PHMSA conditions which may pose an imminent safety hazard to the public or to the environment? (C5) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5 Notes:	1	NA
6 Evaluator	Did the state give written notice to PHMSA within 60 days of all probable violations found? (C6) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5 Notes:	1	NA
7 Evaluator	Did the state initially submit documentation to support compliance action by PHMSA probable violations? (C7) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5 Notes:	on 1	NA
8	General Comments: Info Only = No Points	Info Onlyli	nfo Only



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

Evaluator Notes:

PAR'	Γ I - 60106 Agreement State (If Applicable) Poi	nts(MAX)	Score
			27.
1	Did the state use the current federal inspection form(s)? (B21)	1	NA
Evoluet	Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5		
	or Notes: SC does not have a 60106 Agreement with PHMSA.		
	SC does not have a 60106 Agreement with Privisa.		
2	Are results documented demonstrating inspection units were reviewed in accordance wire state inspection plan? (B22) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5	th 1	NA
Evaluate	or Notes:		
	SC does not have a 60106 Agreement with PHMSA.		
3	Were any probable violations identified by state referred to PHMSA for compliance? (NOTE: PHMSA representative has discretion to delete question or adjust points, as appropriate, based on number of probable violations; any change requires written explanation.) (B23)	1	NA
Evoluet	Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5		
	or Notes:		
	SC does not have a 60106 Agreement with PHMSA.		
4	Did the state immediately report to PHMSA conditions which may pose an imminent safety hazard to the public or to the environment? (B24) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5	1	NA
Evaluate	or Notes:		
GP	SC does not have a 60106 Agreement with PHMSA.		
5	Did the state give written notice to PHMSA within 60 days of all probable violations found? (B25) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5	1	NA
Evaluate	or Notes:		
	SC does not have a 60106 Agreement with PHMSA.		
6	Did the state initially submit adequate documentation to support compliance action by PHMSA on probable violations? (B26) Yes = 1 No = 0 Needs Improvement = .5	1	NA
Evaluate	or Notes:		
GP	SC does not have a 60106 Agreement with PHMSA.		
7	General Comments:	Info Onlyli	nfo Onl
	Info Only = No Points		

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

Evaluator Notes:

GPSC does not have a 60106 Agreement with PHMSA.