



Arkansas
Public Service Commission



PSC Gas and Pipeline Safety Update Ensuring Safe and Reliable Systems

Arkansas Gas Association

Annual Conference

September 12, 2016

Presented By: John P. Bethel

Arkansas Public Service Commission

- Mission is to ensure that public utilities provide safe, adequate and reliable utility service at a reasonable price



Common Goals

- Thanks for the work you do
- Safe operations are critical
- Reliable service is critical
- Efficient operation supports reasonably priced service



Reliability & Resilience

- Reliable Service Is Critical
- Resilience and Recovery
- Routine Maintenance and Monitoring





What Can Utilities and Operators Do?



Replace Older Vintage Mains and Services

- Main Replacement Programs
- Distribution Integrity Management Plans



Company Actions

- 3 Operators Have Commission Approved Main Replacement Plans



Damage Prevention

- Meter Relocation Programs
- Increase Public Awareness
- Improve Protection of Exposed Facilities



Company Actions

- 2 Operators Have A Commission Approved Meter Relocation Program
- Right Of Way Maintenance
- Public Awareness Programs

811 Call Before You Dig

- Dial 811
- It's the law
- Arkansas One Call
- Public Safety



System Identification

- Properly Identify Facilities



System Protection

- Protect Above Ground Facilities



System Assessment

- Regular Inspections
- Regular Evaluations
- Routine Maintenance



Employee Engagement

- Educate Employees
- Educate Contractors
- Critical Participants



What Can the Regulator Do?



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Code Adoption, Education & Enforcement

- Establish and Maintain Code
- Regular Inspections by PSO
- Education of Operators
- Probable Violations
- Sanctions When Warranted



One Call Enforcement

- Work With Operators and One Call
- Work With Prosecutors and City Attorneys
- Civil Penalties Issued in 2015 –
- Civil Penalties Collected - \$30,000 (\$25,000 & \$5,000)
- Alternative Enforcement Action – Donate \$50,000 to ArkUPS to purchase Ground Penetrating Radar Equipment

Support Public Awareness Efforts

- Promote National Safe Digging Month
- Promote 811 Day
- Place 811 Decals on Vehicles
- Provide One Call Links on Web Page



The End

- www.arkansas.gov/psc
- 501-682-2051
- Questions?



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