

**2013-2014 TAG: DTPH56-13-G-PHPT02**  
**Allentown, PA**  
**Midterm Report**  
**May 1, 2014**

**Article III. Expected Program Outputs:**

- 1. Develop/expand the work product of Award #DTPH56-13-G-PHPT02 to facilitate a National Mayors' Council on Pipeline Safety**
- 2. Change risk exposure, improve safety culture through shared responsibility and collaboration**
- 3. Research/outreach into how to expand partnerships to provide long term dedicated funding for a National Mayors' Council which will:**
  - a. eliminate disenfranchisement caused by fiscal or size retractions to mayoral organizations allowing large and small city mayor participation and**
  - b. promote participation at local levels of Leagues of Cities and Business Councils**
- 4. Organize/conduct the first national Mayors' on Pipeline Safety Conference**
- 5. Research/define/create scholarships for underserved mayors to attend Conferences**
- 6. Build Industry partnerships by extending (Organization) membership to Industry and other government organizations in order to broaden 1) recommendation input and 2) the breadth of expertise available to the Council**
- 7. Attend the PST Conference for outreach, education and networking**
- 8. Continue the work begun by Grant Award #DTPH56-13-G-PHPT02 (MCPS) by working with government, NGOs, legislators and the public to:**
  - a. Write white papers /position papers to promote stronger safety standards**
  - b. Testify before Congress in order to facilitate stronger safety standards**
  - c. Actively participate in Office of Pipeline Safety's Standards and Rulemaking process through Council consensus**

This Mid Term Report will serve to demonstrate the Project has met the established statement of work by actual accomplishments for the mid term period October 1, 2013 - April 30, 2014 by addressing Statements of Work #1, 2, 3, 6 & 7. Statements of Work #4, 5 and 8 will be addressed in the second half of the Project.

The Project has remained in compliance with the budget and has developed and expanded the work product of Award #DTPH56-13-G-PHPT02, in chronologic order as follows:

**Attend the Pipeline Safety Trust Conference for outreach, education and networking:**

Mayor Pawlowski, San Bruno City Manager Connie Jackson, San Bruno Vice Mayor, Irene O'Connell, and Pipeline Safety Coalition Executive Director, Lynda Farrell attended the November 2013 PST Conference for outreach, education and networking. Mayor Pawlowski provided a Keynote presentation of "The Need for a Mayors' Council on Pipeline Safety."

Additionally, the Project leveraged travel and participation in the PST Conference by bringing influential members of Labor a MCPS private meeting. Attending were:

**Rick S. Terven Sr: Executive Vice President, United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States, Canada and Australia (UA)**

**Lance Albin, United Association, International Representative**

**David Barnett, United Association, Special Representative, Pipeline & Gas Distribution; Blue Green Alliance**

**Charlie D. Rittenhouse, President, UWUA Local 69, AFL-CIO, Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO Executive Board Member, UWUA-IUGC Gas Coordinator**

**Dr. Simona Perry, Board Member, Pipeline Safety Coalition**

**Rick Kessler, Board Member, Pipeline Safety Trust**

**The meeting was chaired by Mayor Pawlowski, City Manager Connie Jackson, San Bruno Vice Mayor, Irene O'Connell and PSC Executive Director, Lynda Farrell.**

**The meeting was held at the PST conference facilities for time and cost effective grant management but also brought members of Labor to the PST conference, further leveraging networking and education.**

**As a result of this meeting, UA General President, William Hite sent a personal letter of thanks noting that as the "leading trade organization in pipeline construction and maintenance, [the UA] is committed to continuously enhancing the industry and lives of our members [and that UA] represents 370,000 highly skilled men and women in the piping industry...[and that] We strongly share [MCPS] concerns and believe that the safety of our workers and communities should be a top priority for our industry." (See attachment UA)**

**Additionally, this meeting resulted in discussions for a collaborative effort for a National MCPS Conference in partnership with Labor Unions/BlueGreen Alliance and other outreach. The underlying premise of labor partnership is that, as with firefighters and EMS, UA members are often first responders and deserve the safest working environment possible. Expressed shared goals include:**

- 1) Create a system of open communications between cities**
- 2) Define & develop pipeline safety protocols specific to our cities**
- 3) Educate cities about their state regulators**
- 4) Provide networking and education**
- 5) Craft policy and position papers on pipeline safety issues**
- 6) Safety is our first priority.**

**As result of this introductory meeting and continued MCPS dialogue with Charlie D. Rittenhouse, President, UWUA Local 69, AFL-CIO, Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO Executive Board Member, UWUA-IUGC Gas Coordinator, the MCPS has been invited to introduce and discuss MCPS at the UWUA September 2014 Gas Conference. As the conference is being held September 9, 2014, the 4th anniversary of the San Bruno explosion, Mayor Ruane will not be able to participate in person but will send a message to the conference. Mayor Pawlowski and Lynda Farrell will attend on behalf of MCPS.**

**Although not a dedicated MCPS Conference, the venue will supplement that goal.**

***Expand membership and promote shared responsibility through collaboration:* with membership additions of:**

- Labor: United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States, Canada and Australia - Utility Workers Union of America - AFL-CIO - United Association Union of Plumbers, Fitters, Welders & HVAX Service Techs**

- Elected officials
  - Counsel
  - Firefighters
  - Non Government organizations
  - Government organizations
  - Citizens
  - NTSB: cannot be listed on website but is a participating team player
- Please see [website](#) for membership listings

Mayor Pawlowski's participation as a speaker in the February 2014 Blue Green Alliance [Green Jobs Good Jobs Conference](#) facilitated budding partnerships. The Project secured a key speaking engagement at the conference, where Mayor Pawlowski provided a snap shot of the MCPS. BGA President, David Foster, UA Executive Vice President, Rick S. Terven Sr, UA Director of Energy, James Moss and BGA Director of Infrastructure Programs, Rob McCullough devoted time during the conference to meet with Mayor Pawlowski and Lynda Farrell regarding development of working relationships with MCPS. David Foster expressed a synergy of goals between MCPS and BGA in relation to regulations, shut off valves and need for qualified labor. BGA seeks the growth of America's economy through US jobs and US made pipes, thereby achieving a safer infrastructure. The Project will reconvene with Mr. Foster in the second half of the project's work.

Developing partnerships portends many opportunities:

**Labor:** (UA) The United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States, Canada and Australia alone spends over \$100 million annually on training programs efforts involving approximately 100,000 journeymen and apprentices in over 400 local training facilities at any given time. Gas pipeline specific training is notably lacking. Collaboration with the UA Point of Contact, David Barnett and Director of Energy, James Moss was initiated by the Project during participation in the February 2014 Blue Green Alliance - Green Jobs Good Jobs Conference. Noted by all partners is the intent for community education on methane leaks in order to incentivize community action by awareness of leaks, cost to the consumer and climate change.

**AFL-CIO:** Dr. Bill Jillian, Santa Clara law professor with 40 years experience in energy, including legal advisor to SCA PUC, will be working with MCPS regarding the many hazards that remain unregulated and aide in drafting white papers /position papers to promote stronger safety standards, testifying before Congress in order to facilitate stronger safety standards and actively participating in the Office of Pipeline Safety's Standards and Rulemaking process through Council consensus.

**AFL-CIO:** Mr Carl Wood, National Director Government & Regulatory Affairs; Oceanside, CA and former PUC Commissioner has discussed the need to for state by state commissioner recommendations and will meet with the Project during the aforementioned San Bruno meeting in an advisory capacity.

**AFL-CIO:** Brad Markell, Executive Director of the [Industrial Union Council](#), (AFL-CIO),DC was introduced to the MCPS and requested to meet about MCPS as an important entry point for the type of political input AFL-CIO is trying to establish with partners. The meeting is scheduled for the second phase of the Project.

The Project continues to expand outreach by utilizing the partnership/membership efforts begun with the UA of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States, Canada and Australia the Project, the Blue Green Alliance and Local Unions in

outreach to mayors across the nation. Additionally, outreach and development of enrollment of mayors was internally initiated by creation of a database of mayors of cities which have had a gas pipeline incident over the past 10 years. Outreach by Mayors Pawlowski and Ruane is underway via phone/email/letter with an introduction to the MCPS website. Specific outreach by Mayors Pawlowski and Ruane was made to New York Mayor de Blasio after the East Harlem explosion.

Meeting dates to reconvene in MCPS in San Bruno with founding member to review and gather input, enhance membership registration drives and define committees for implementation of the MCPS strategic plan are being vetted for June/July agendas.

Definition of outreach efforts to elected officials was compiled in the first stage of the Project. Outreach will commence in the second phase of the Project and will include, but not limited to:

1. Congresswoman Jackie Speier: CA
2. Senator Leno: CA
3. Representative Lori Erlich: MA
4. US Senator Bob Casey: PA
5. Senator Lisa Baker: PA

*Work with government, NGO, legislators to write white papers /position papers to promote stronger safety standards, testify before Congress to facilitate stronger safety standards and actively participate in Office of Pipeline Safety's Standards and Rulemaking process*

Legislative initiatives being vetted include:

US DOT Secretary Anthony Foxx called for a greater effort on pipeline safety in an address to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners in Washington, DC. Foxx said the nation should not wait to "mobilize around the next tragedy, our goal...is to work with all our stakeholders, public and private, proactively to prevent the next event..."with regard to pipeline safety, "The truth is, there is still pipeline in operation today that [was] buried way back in the 19th century. And the reality is, we can't deliver twenty first century energy on a nineteenth century system...More than ever, America is relying on its pipelines and relying on them to be safe." Foxx went on to laud regulators in states that have accelerated pipeline replacement programs since the San Bruno explosion.

Senator Mark Leno: Comprehensive Leak Reduction Strategy

HR1900 - expediting new pipeline permits

Senator Casey: increased funding for the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and its pipeline safety program in the President's fiscal 2015 budget for PHMSA to oversee and maintain the safety of our national interstate pipeline system

Automatic Shut off Valve initiatives

Replacement of Aging Infrastructure Initiatives

Inadequacies of state by state infrastructure regulation

**Attachment: UA: President Hite**



Founded 1889

**United Association** of Journeymen and Apprentices of the  
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada

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General Office File Reference:WPH

**William P. Hite**  
*General President*

**Mark McManus**  
*General Secretary-Treasurer*

**Stephen E. Kelly**  
*Assistant General President*

December 10, 2013

Ms. Lynda K. Farrell  
Executive Director  
Pipeline Safety Coalition  
331 Norwood Rd.  
Downingtown, PA 19335

Dear Ms. Farrell,

On behalf of the United Association, I want to thank you for meeting with Executive Vice President Rick Terven, International Representative Lance Albin, and Special Representative Dave Barnett recently regarding our nation's pipeline system and the important work the Mayor's Council is doing to promote pipeline safety. Right now, our energy infrastructure in the United States is aging, even crumbling, in some areas. Investment in our nation's pipelines, some of which are more than 100 years old, will strengthen public health, safety and quality of life for future generations.

As the leading trade organization in pipeline construction and maintenance, we are committed to continuously enhancing the industry and the lives of our members. The United Association represents 370,000 highly skilled men and women in the piping industry and we train our members with safety at the forefront. Our Standard for Safety program is an inherent part of the ongoing training that goes with being a UA member. We strongly share your concerns and believe that the safety of our workers and communities should be a top priority for our industry.

Thanks again for hosting last month's Mayor's Council for Pipeline Safety and for including the United Association as part of these discussions in New Orleans. Working together and combining our efforts, we will accomplish a great deal.

With warm regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

William P. Hite  
General President

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