

Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance (PIPA)

The Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance (PIPA) is a stakeholder initiative led and supported by the U.S. Department of

Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

PIPA's goal is to improve safety for the communities that surround large-diameter, high-pressure transmission pipelines.



PIPA works toward this goal by promoting effective communication among stakeholders, raising awareness of pipelines, and sharing recommended practices to reduce pipeline risks to the public.

Main Points

- PIPA's goal is to improve safety for the communities that surround high-pressure transmission pipelines.
- PIPA's recommended practices are intended to complement existing regulations or laws.
- PIPA helps communities make risk-informed decisions for land-use planning and development adjacent to pipelines.
- PIPA is led and supported by PHMSA.

Pipeline Rights-of-Way Easements

Rights-of-way easements are corridors around pipelines where development is restricted or prohibited. These easements enhance the safety of communities near pipelines by reducing construction-related damage, and ensuring operator access to pipelines to inspect, maintain or respond to any emergency.

However, pipeline companies and safety regulators have little influence on development and activity outside of, but adjacent to, pipeline easements. These land use responsibilities normally fall on local and state government through their planning, zoning and permitting authorities.

Consensus Recommended Land-Use Planning Practices

In 2007, approximately 130 stakeholder representatives began working together to develop recommendations for all stakeholders concerning land-use practices near existing transmission pipeline infrastructure.

Their efforts led to consensus recommended practices that will increase safety for people who live in communities near pipelines.

Risk-Informed Land-Use Decisions

PIPA encourages decision makers and stakeholders to work closely with pipeline operators during the land-use planning process. Operators can provide governments and developers the specific characteristics of each pipeline, allowing all those involved to make risk-informed decisions about the type and layout of developments and activities permitted near pipeline easements.

PIPA Recommendations Complement Existing Laws and Regulations

PIPA's recommended best practices are intended to complement – not override – existing regulations, laws, zoning restrictions, ordinances and other current requirements that address land use planning and development in areas near transmission pipelines.

INGAA fully supports and actively participates in PIPA.

Everyone Benefits from Natural Gas Pipelines

- Almost 100 percent of natural gas is transported by pipelines.
- Pipelines transport fuel to the industries that make our products and create our jobs.
- The energy needs of more than 100 U.S. military installations are met through natural gas transmission pipelines.