

**Public Meeting**  
**on**  
**Operator Qualification**

**Atlanta, GA**

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# Public Meeting on Operator Qualification: Purpose

- Wrap Up the Discussion on **Protocols** and Inspection Approach
- Resolve (or Assign to the **Standard Development Process**) Outstanding Issues
- Discuss Continuing Actions to Address **OQ** Issues

# Meeting Content

- **Inspection-Support Protocols and Their Intended Use**
- **Industry and Regulatory Reaction to Initial OQ Inspections**
- **White Paper on Reevaluation Intervals**

# Meeting Content

- Status of Small Operator Guidance
- Outstanding Issues
- Future Plans (Including Standard Development)

# Accomplishments to Date

- Developed a Constructive Working Relationship (Industry, Regulators, & Public) based on Mutual Respect and Shared Understanding of **Issues**
- Agreed on Role of National Consensus Standard in Increasing Assurance of **Qualified** Pipeline Personnel

# Accomplishments to Date

- Finalized Inspection **Protocols** and Inspection Approach to Address Major OQ Issues Covered in the Rules
- Identified the Need for, and Began Work on **Guidelines for Small Operators**

# Areas Requiring **Continuing** Interaction

- Development of Small Operator Guidance
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Key Definitions

# Areas Requiring Continuing Interaction

- Preparing Input to **Supplementary Guidance**
  - Support for Reevaluation Intervals
  - Documentation Needs
  - Span-of-Control Guidance
  - Others?

# Longer-Term Plans

- Complete Supplementary Guidance (06/03)
- Reset Meeting to Review Protocols and Initial Application (07/03)

# Longer-Term Plans

- Complete Computer-Based Training (CBT) (08/03)
- Complete National Consensus Standard ASME B31.12 (06/04)