

2018 Pipeline R&D Forum



September 11-12, 2018
Baltimore, MD



Closing Remarks/Next Steps & Adjournment

Drue Pearce

Deputy Administrator, DOT/PHMSA



Closing Remarks by Drue Pearce, Deputy Administrator, DOT/PHMSA

Thanks so much for this opportunity to wrap things up, and also to many for the time and effort involved in putting this forum together. We at PHMSA are committed to Research and Development efforts, because they are essential to our mission to protect people and the environment by advancing the safe transportation of energy and other hazardous materials that are essential to our daily lives.

Thanks to all of you who have seen this forum through to the very end. As we all saw in the working group reports, the evidence of your hard work is already apparent. There are many people and organizations whose efforts made this event come together. I will get to those thank you-s in just a moment. First, I would like to say a few things about what I think we all accomplished here.

In these two days, we have all had a chance to develop consensus on the technical gaps and challenges for future research to enhance safety and efficiency. The mission of safety requires that we pursue innovation, and that we ensure that promising new technologies are implemented quickly and smoothly.

The purpose of this forum is to leverage expertise for pipeline safety challenges and ensure that our efforts are not duplicative. On those accounts, the event has been a success. There are other benefits we see here as well, such as newly formed or developed partnerships, welcoming tomorrow's leaders into the process, and moving forward our own understanding of these challenges.

I am eager to report back to PHMSA that this forum has inspired many new public/private research partnerships. PHMSA Administrator Skip Elliott has stated time and again that innovation and new technology is a driver of the Administration's dual focus to improve safety and reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens – so I know that he will be encouraged by that report.



Next Steps

- **REMINDER: All presentations to be posted shortly at:**
<https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/rd/workshops.htm>
- **PHMSA will solicit based from the forum output starting later this fall**
- **Solicitations will be released in both:**
 - <https://www.FBO.gov> for the CORE Program Fall 2018
 - <https://www.grants.gov> for CAAP Winter 2019
 - So get registered and be prepared!



Thanks to the Organizers!

- **The 2018 R&D Forum Steering Committee**
 - PHMSA
 - American Gas Association
 - American Petroleum Institute
 - American Public Gas Association
 - Interstate Natural Gas Association of America
 - National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives
 - National Institute of Standards and Technology
 - Northeast Gas Association/NYSEARCH
 - Operations Technology Development
 - Pipeline Research Council International



Thanks to the Participants!

- The Key Challenges Speakers
- The CAAP Universities, the students and principle investigators
- Working Group Leaders
- PHMSA Technical Reps in the working groups
- Working Group Presenters
- Janice Morgan for general support



Thank You Audience/Safe Travels!

- To all of you for your time and effort!
- We are together making a difference!
- Please complete the forum survey and drop it off at the registration desk
- Safe travels going home!

