

September 16, 2019

Karen Lynch, Agreement Officer's Representative  
 Dwayne Cross, Agreement Administrator  
 U.S. Department of Transportation  
 Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration  
 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE  
 Washington, D.C. 20590



Dear Karen and Dwayne:

On September 29, 2017, the U. S. Department of Transportation/ Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) awarded The Center for Rural Development (The Center) a technical assistance grant to deliver the AWR 302: Pipeline Security for Rural Communities course to requesting jurisdictions across the nation. The award, specifically Award # 693JK31742005, was for the delivery of this course to fourteen communities that were on the wait list for the training. This is the Final Semi-Annual Progress Report for this award.

The Center, working with The All Hazards Training Center of the University of Findlay (UF), initiated the project upon receipt of the notice of the award. The Center and UF prioritized the communities requesting the training in the order they were placed on the wait list. Working from the wait list, The Center and UF contacted the State Administrative Agency from each requesting state and scheduled the dates and locations for the training. As of the date of this report, all 14 deliveries have been completed. The following table details the trainings:

Date	City	State	Completions	Pretest	Posttest	KSA Impact
2/15/2018	Lawrenceville	GA	19	93%	98%	6%*
2/22/2018	Valparaiso	IN	18	95%	97%	2%*
6/14/2018	Aberdeen	SD	22	63%	86%	36%
6/20/2018	Midland	TX	36	68%	88%	30%
7/28/2018	Friedens	PA	16	59%	84%	43%
8/10/2018	Rocky Mount	VA	25	59%	88%	49%
8/11/2018	Rocky Mount	VA	13	57%	84%	47%
8/13/2018	Christiansburg	VA	11	69%	89%	29%
8/18/2018	Lockhart	TX	13	59%	89%	51%
8/28/2018	Rancho Mirage	CA	17	60%	92%	53%
10/26/2018	Clay	NY	19	64%	92%	44%
11/2/2018	Bismarck	ND	13	68%	87%	28%
2/23/2019	Jasper	TX	11	57%	88%	54%
5/10/2019	Grand Rapids	MN	24	68%	89%	31%
<b>Total</b>			<b>257</b>	<b>67% Avg</b>	<b>89% Avg</b>	<b>36% Avg</b>

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After the first trainings there was concern with the low percentage of knowledge increase of 4% compared to the 20% experienced in the past. The Center discussed this concern with the University of Findlay to determine what may be the cause of this low percentage of increase. Typically, this results from one of two issues: flawed testing instruments or targeting the wrong audience. It was the belief of The Center and UF that it was the latter as the testing instruments have been effective in the past. Our marketing efforts were adjusted to target a more appropriate student base.

Level I Evaluations were conducted immediately following the trainings. Of the 257 students provided the training, 200 completed the evaluations. The evaluations indicated students' estimated their Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (KSA) increased an average of 50% after receiving the training.

Students also rated the training as follows:

Topic	Average Rating (out 5 points possible)
The course provided the knowledge and skills I need to accomplish the job for which I am receiving this training	4.3
Based on the training received, I am likely to apply the skills I learned from this course	4.4
Overall, the course met my needs and expectations	4.5
I would recommend this course to my peers	4.5

To summarize, The Center, has completed 14 deliveries of AWR 302, as proposed, with a total of 257 completions. The knowledge increase for participants has averaged 36% as determined from comparing the pre and post-tests. The cost per completion averaged \$332.30 based on \$6,100 per delivery.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [llawson@centertech.com](mailto:llawson@centertech.com) or by phone at 606-677-6000.

Sincerely,



Lonnie Lawson  
President & CEO

LL/vh