

# 2013 NAPSRS SOUTHERN REGION MEETING

MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA

April 22 – 26, 2013

State of State Report for  
GEORGIA



# State Program General

- Number of operators
  - ✓ 2012 year end total - **232**
  - ✓ Number of additions since 2011 - **0**
  - ✓ Number of deletions since 2011 - **1**
    - Transmission Operators – **8**
    - Distribution Operators – **86**
    - Master Meters - **122**
- Number of inspectors
  - ✓ 2012 year end total – **11**
  - ✓ Change from year end 2011 - **0**



# Enforcement Statistics 2012

- Number of non-compliances found in 2012: **136**
- Number of non-compliances resolved in 2012: **308**
- Number of 2012 issues carried over: **495**



# Top 5 Enforcement Issues in 2012

- 1) Written plans and procedures outdated or inadequate.
- 2) Public Awareness Programs
- 3) Operator Qualification (Training)
- 4) External Corrosion Control Monitoring
- 5) Emergency Plans outdated or inadequate



# 2012 Pipeline Asset Statistics

## ➤ Intrastate Gas

- ✓ Transmission mileage – *1,285*
- ✓ Distribution mileage – *43,268*
- ✓ Number of services – *2,007,001*



# Incidents

- Total number of incidents during CY 2012: *0*
  - ✓ 2012 year end total reportable to state: *0*
  - ✓ 2012 year end total reportable to PHMSA: *0*.
  - ✓ Total incidents change from 2011: -3





# Safety Issues

- Top safety issues in your State:
  - Introduction of legislation to weaken state damage prevention efforts.
  - Actions taken to address issue:
    - # 1: Commissioners communicated concerns to the major utilities.
    - # 2: Continue to work with state utility legislative committee to address concerns.



# Major Construction Activity

- Construction Activity #1: Savannah Area
  - ✓ Description: Replacement of 93 miles of bare/ineffectively coated steel, which is no longer in a suitable defined utility easement/ROW.
  - ✓ Comments: Beginning 2012.
  
- Construction Activity #2: AGLC Vintage Plastic
  - ✓ Description: Replacement of vintage plastics, with a focus on Aldyl-A.
  - ✓ Comments: Company planning to begin replacement project in 2013.
  
- ✓ AGLC Stride Programs: 24" steel from Forsyth-Cherokee LNG (completed in 2012); 24" steel Riverdale-Dekalb County east beltline.



# Damage Prevention Update

- Will your state's one call exemptions, if any, affect your state's one call grant funding?
  - No, not as currently written
- Changes to statutes:
  - During the last legislative session there were efforts by excavators and utility contractor associations to weaken the existing dig law.
  - Proposed legislative changes were held after resistance from a majority of utility owner/operators.



# Workload Issues

- Are there any external factors that are impacting your ability to accomplish your inspection work-plan? *No.*



# Compendium

➤ Compendium link: <http://napsr.org/>

## Georgia

State Page Last Revised: September 2011

Key Stats State Agency

Georgia Public Service Commission

Facilities Protection Unit

Web <http://www.psc.state.ga.us>

Regulated Intrastate Pipeline Systems – 94 / 86 Distribution / 8 Transmission

Regulated Master Meter Operators - 122

Regulated LNG Systems - 5

Regulated Hazardous Liquid Systems - 0

Quantity of State Pipeline Safety Initiatives that exceed CFR 190-199 - 11



# Comments on your state's Compendium page

- Accuracy of the 2011 data – *Yes.*
- Needed updates – *Yes (revised Rule 515-9-1-.06)*
- Most significant areas (2 or 3) where your state exceeds Part 192. (Please discuss)
  - ✓ County-Wide Safety Plan Requirement
  - ✓ Grade leaks 1, 2, or 3 (GPTC Guidance)
  - ✓ Report gas incidents same as PHMSA thresholds; Operators required to define “significant events” for their system and provide training for their personnel
- Are those areas important and have they been helpful in improving safety? *No specific performance type measurements, but opinion is yes.*



# Compendium Comments Continued

- Are other areas are being studied for additional state rulemaking? *None at this time.*



# Data Collection and/or Program Metrics

- What data are you collecting that you find useful?
  - *Mileage, make-up of system materials, numbers of services / valves / regulators by county*
- What metrics are you using to measure your pipeline safety program?
  - *Risk model by operator and unit.*



# 2012 Highlights

- Audited by PHMSA and DOT/OIG
  - Audit was conducted during June 2012
  - Follow-up phone calls requesting additional information or explanations of provided data continued through January 2013.



# 2013 Outlook

- Enhance inspector training through continuing education.
- Continue to evaluate Program performance to identify areas needing improvements or change in focus.
- Continue to work with the PHMSA Emergency Responders Working Group.
- Creating new transparency programs to better assist Commissioners, PHMSA, operators, etc.

