



What's new at NAPSR

Phil Sher, NAPSR Chairperson

National Meeting Plans

The NAPSR National Meeting is set for August 27-31, 2007 in Mystic CT. The days will be filled with meetings, presentations and discussion of the important pipeline safety issues. Issues include technical concerns about how determine adequate levels public safety, how to deliver that level of safety, and how to measure that level of safety. Other items will include the Federal-State interface; Congressional actions; base grant funding level and State needs, data collection, one-call programs, one-call grants and damage prevention grants

Scheduled Federal speakers include Krista Edwards, PHMSA Deputy Administrator, Stacey Gerard, PHMSA Assistant Administrator and Chief Safety Officer, Jeff Wiese, PHMSA Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety, Tom Fortner Director, Pipeline Safety State Programs, Richard Sanders, PHMSA Manager, Training and Qualification, and Jack Fox, Department of Homeland Security General Manager for Pipeline Security.

Industry representatives, including Lori Traweek (AGA), Phil Bennett (AGA), Bert Kalisch (APGA) and John Erikson (APGA) will also make presentations.

The meeting will also include a presentation on the Connecticut Call Before You Dig program.

NAPSR National Meeting- August 27-31 Mystic CT

811 Campaign Roll Out May 1

The 811 One-Call notification campaign roll-out on May 1 in Washington, DC was an overwhelming success.

In addition to the anticipated PHMSA officials - Administrator Vice Admiral Thomas Barrett, USCG (Ret.), Deputy Administrator Krista Edwards, Assistant Administrator and Chief Safety Officer Stacey Gerard, and Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety Jeff Wiese - Secretary of Transportation Mary E. Peters was in attendance.



NAPSR representatives included National Chairperson Philip Sher (CT), Legislative Committee Chairperson Paul Metro (PA), Administrative Manager George Mosinskis and program manager Don Ledversis (RI).

Representatives of various industry groups and individual pipeline and other utility owners, contractors' organizations and individual contractors and other interested parties were in attendance.

Common Ground Alliance led the roll-out and placed the 1st official call to 811.

It's NOT All About Money

Our number one priority is public safety. It takes money to provide for public safety

It has been an action-packed year filled with Reauthorization and Appropriations. In the PIPES Act of 2006, Congress giveth a maximum reimbursement of 80%. However, authorizations are only promises and may be of value to us in the future.

Now the issue is Appropriations – the actual assignment of funds to be spent. As of now, Congress giveth only enough money for approximately 40% reimbursement. NAPSR is fighting hard to increase that amount in conjunction with NARUC, and we are making a gallant fight. Whether we will have **any** success this year remains to be seen. Funding levels **MUST** be a major priority next year and in future years.

The regulatory burden has increased and States have responded to that increase. States have reached into their own treasuries to fund additions to the pipeline safety programs to meet those burdens. We need Congress to reach into the Federal treasury to pay their fair share.

Our number one priority is safety. The affect of inadequate Federal funding could undermine the valiant efforts of the States. This is a battle we must win in order to continue to provide a safe energy system to serve our citizens now and in the future.