



## OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC)

Meeting Minutes: Pipeline Safety Division

**Wednesday, February 5, 2026**

**09:08 a.m. – (Pacific Time)**

123 East Anapamu Street

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

**Virtual Meeting**

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*\*This document provides collective minutes of the Annual Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee meeting held on February 5, 2026.*

Web Address: [Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee | OSFM](#)

### **Attendees (In Person)**

- Doug Allen
- Errin Briggs
- Jim Hosler
- Wendy Collins
- Joshua Cleaver
- Vickie Sakamoto
- Esmeralda Macedo
- Valerie Jackson

### **Attendees (Remote)**

- Katie Sanders
- Robert Distaso
- Janice Van Mullem

## **I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION**

The Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at **9:08 a.m.** Committee members and staff introduced themselves. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

## **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed by unanimous vote with no opposition.

### **III. TELECONFERENCE PARTICIPATION REMINDER**

Members were reminded of the Bagley-Keene Act teleconference participation requirements, including camera use when available or providing a technical reason if unable to appear on camera. No members reported technical limitations.

### **IV. PROGRAM UPDATE – INLINE INSPECTION (ILI) REGULATIONS**

The Committee and staff discussed that current regulations do not require in-line inspection (ILI) for all pipelines. Under the proposed regulations, pipelines would be required to be capable of accommodating in-line inspection tools. Staff clarified that hydrostatic testing represents a snapshot in time, while ILI provides longer-term integrity and condition data. The discussion also included clarification of tool selection and assessment intervals, including the use of ultrasonic tools for certain pipeline configurations, such as buried and insulated pipelines. Staff confirmed that the draft regulations being submitted for public notice do not incorporate the feedback provided by the Committee at the previous meeting, and that those comments may be resubmitted during the formal public comment period. Staff provided an update on the publication timeline and process for the proposed Inline Inspection (ILI) regulations. The proposed regulations would require operators to implement ILI tool programs. Public notice is scheduled for publication, with a one-year adoption window. Additional public comment periods may be provided depending on substantive changes. Staff explained that ILI provides forward-looking integrity information such as crack and corrosion detection and offers more comprehensive insight than hydrostatic testing alone. The proposed regulations apply to hazardous liquid pipelines under the Office of the State Fire Marshal's jurisdiction, including crude oil and carbon dioxide pipelines.

### **V. 2026 PIPELINE SAFETY SEMINAR**

Staff announced the 2026 Pipeline Safety Seminar to be held at the Long Beach Hilton on June 2, 2026.

Agenda highlights include:

- Regulations update
- Hydrostatic test program and SB 237
- OSFM portal

- Failure investigations
- Integrity management
- PFAS update

Attendance at the prior seminar was approximately 400 participants with over 30 vendors.

## **VI. RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT**

Chief Foster announced his retirement, effective July 9. Plans were shared to introduce his replacement at the upcoming conference. The recruitment posting is currently active.

## **VII. COMMITTEE PER DIEM AND EXPENSES**

Staff provided clarification regarding per diem authorization for volunteer committee members under Title 19. Volunteer members may be eligible for per diem reimbursement. Coordination will be handled through Rachel Long and Chief Collins. Members employed by organizations were reminded to consider conflict-of-interest and employer support requirements.

- **Action Item:**  
Rachel Long and Joshua Cleaver will provide clarification on per diem eligibility and the filing process under Title 19.

## **VIII. ADOPTION OF THE PSAC CHARTER**

The Committee considered the Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee Charter. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the Charter. The motion passed unanimously with no opposition, both in person and online.

## **IX. PROGRAM GOALS AND PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS**

Staff reviewed program goals, inspection targets, performance metrics, and organizational values.

Highlights included:

- A 100% PHMSA review score two years ago
- A target of 85 inspection days per engineer annually
- Approximately 1,500–1,700 inspection days per year statewide
- California's inspection requirements exceed those of other states due to SB 295

Core values emphasized included integrity, honesty, accuracy, and open communication.

## **X. LEGAL UPDATE – ILI REGULATIONS**

Staff provided a legal update regarding the ILI notice and comment process and noted that ongoing litigation limits discussion of certain matters. The Committee was advised that PSAC is not involved in litigation decisions. The public comment process and Office of Administrative Law review requirements were explained.

## **XI. CO<sub>2</sub> EMERGENCY RULEMAKING UPDATE**

Staff provided an update on the emergency rulemaking process for carbon dioxide pipeline regulations pursuant to SB 614. A small, targeted working group was formed due to the compressed timeline. The working group includes representatives from industry, local government agencies with permitting authority, public interest organizations, and other stakeholders.

The Committee was informed of the following key regulatory concepts under development:

- Prohibition on converting existing hazardous liquid pipelines to carbon dioxide service
- Prohibition on the use of used pipe for carbon dioxide pipelines

### **Jurisdiction and Permitting Clarification for CO<sub>2</sub> Facilities**

Staff clarified that the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) has jurisdiction over pipeline safety and operational components, including pumps, compressors, valves, and associated pipeline safety systems. Local authorities having jurisdiction retain permitting and fire code authority for construction and facilities. Both state and local requirements apply.

### **Use of New and Existing Pipe for CO<sub>2</sub> Pipelines**

Staff clarified that the proposed regulations prohibit the use of previously used pipeline for new CO<sub>2</sub> transportation pipelines. Discussion also addressed how internal station piping and existing facility piping may be treated when connected to a transportation pipeline, provided applicable engineering and safety standards are met.

- Consideration of odorants for carbon dioxide pipelines, with potential impacts on pipeline integrity

## **Odorant and Detection Discussion**

The Committee and staff discussed that Senate Bill 614 does not mandate the use of an odorant, but requires the feasibility, safety, and effectiveness of odorants to be evaluated. Staff noted that potential odorants may affect pipeline integrity and operations. The discussion included consideration of future reviews of available research and documentation of the basis for any decision not to require odorization.

- Safety-based requirements addressing design, materials, location, impact areas, land movement, emergency response, contaminants, operations, and maintenance

The emergency rulemaking process includes a five-day public comment period when notified by the Office of Administrative Law. Draft materials will be posted online, and the Office of the State Fire Marshal will continue to update stakeholders as permitted under notice requirements.

## **Public Comment – CO<sub>2</sub> Emergency Regulations**

Multiple members of the public and stakeholder organizations provided formal comments regarding the draft CO<sub>2</sub> emergency regulations. Topics included pipeline siting and least-risk routing, protection of sensitive receptors, emergency response planning in rural and underserved communities, odorant feasibility and research, inspection frequency and third-party verification, vapor dispersion and plume modeling, acceptable risk criteria, shutdown authority prior to rupture, public access to incorporated standards, and public engagement requirements. Staff acknowledged the comments and confirmed that they will be considered during the emergency rulemaking process and future regulatory updates.

## **XII. Open Forum – Pipeline and Refinery System Trends**

During the open forum, a committee member raised discussion regarding declining intrastate crude oil pipeline systems, refinery closures, impacts on fuel supply, increased reliance on marine imports, potential interstate pipeline proposals, and broader market implications. Staff provided general context regarding state energy transition policies, infrastructure trends, and regulatory considerations.

### **Sensitive Receptors and Design Standards**

Discussion included design and operational considerations for pipeline segments located near sensitive receptors and within emergency planning zones, including increased design standards, additional safety features, and enhanced detection and isolation measures.

### **Action Items:**

- Staff will share the OSFM website link and confirm stakeholder contact requests for electronic notifications.
- An internal process will be established for handling notification requests through a shared pipeline notification email with redundancy.

Monthly working group meetings are planned through approximately May, with the goal of submitting the emergency regulatory package for internal review and subsequent approval prior to submission to the Office of Administrative Law. An additional PSAC meeting is anticipated in the May–June timeframe to review the draft prior to submission.

### **XIII. NEXT MEETING**

The next PSAC meeting will be held on May 14, 2026 in Long Beach.

Meeting information will be posted on the Office of the State Fire Marshal website.

### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.