



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
PIPELINE SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA

This document provides collective minutes of the Annual Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee meeting held on September 24, 2025 from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

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

Attendees

- Esmeralda Mercado
- Katie Sanders
- Josh Cleaver
- Doug Allen
- Wendy Collins
- Robert Distaso
- Errin Briggs
- Janice Van Mullen
- Chris Fox
- Valerie Jackson

CALL TO ORDER

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Chief Hosler introduces the 2025 PSAC Meeting.

ROLL CALL AND QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Chief Hosler introduces the members and attendees and calls the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

No comments were received.

Robert motioned to approve and Esmeralda seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved.

PROGRAM UPDATES

Pipeline Safety Division Program updates were presented by Chief Hosler, who reported that the Pipeline Safety Division (PSD) once again achieved 100% inspection compliance in 2024, with a total of 1,108 inspection days across multiple categories, including design and construction, operator training, integrity management, operator qualifications, investigations, and compliance. Accident totals for 2024 were lower than in prior years, with seven reported and four significant, and corrosion, previously the leading cause of leaks, has decreased. PHMSA audit results, penalty actions, and compliance efforts were also shared. The PERI Program, which began in 2019 to train first responders on pipeline emergencies, has advanced into building a training trailer with live pipe and plans for future virtual training. Wendy Collins also reported ongoing outreach through Firescope.

Additionally, the Pipeline Safety Seminar reached record attendance, with 422 registrations and 364 participants. Chief Hosler expressed appreciation for the team and announced his retirement in July 2026.

The committee then approved the proposed Pipeline Safety Advisory Committee Charter, which will be posted publicly. Hosler outlined program goals and expectations, emphasizing compliance with federal and state law while fostering collaboration with operators. He stressed the importance of proactive engagement, consultation, and transparency, ensuring the program remains strong after his retirement.

Legal Update by (Joshua Cleaver)

Legal updates were provided by Joshua Cleaver. He referenced ongoing litigation involving Sable and outlined recent legislation. SB 614 on CO2 pipelines, a multi-year effort, requires emergency regulations by July 1, 2026. The bill mandates high-purity CO2 standards, new pipelines only, emergency planning zones, and public mapping of those zones. A working group will be formed in 2026 to develop these regulations, with recruitment beginning later this year. Questions from members clarified that emergency regulations are exempt from the standard 45-day comment period due to urgency, but amendments may follow normal legislative processes. AB 237, which strengthens hydrotesting requirements for idle pipelines, takes effect in January. SB 804 on hydrogen pipelines, though not yet passed, remains under consideration as a two-year bill and could assign investigative and regulatory authority over hydrogen transport lines.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

New business included discussion of proposed OSFM inline inspection (ILI) regulations. Draft rules require all segments to accommodate ILI tools, with high-risk pipelines inspected every five years. Validation digs and specific thresholds for anomalies were outlined, with members debating terminology and pressure-reduction standards. Suggestions were made for clarifying language, ensuring flexibility, and providing operators with the option to develop alternative safety or operational plans in consultation with OSFM. The draft regulations will undergo public comment periods, with implementation potentially beginning in 2026 which is several years ahead of PHMSA.

OPEN FORUM

During the open forum, Valerie Jackson requested more discussion on CO2's future, and Chris Fox raised questions regarding spike testing and the Sable restart. Cleaver confirmed the restart plan is under ongoing but offered no timeframe.

ADJOURN

The committee concluded by discussing future meeting dates. While Hosler suggested September or October 2026, Cleaver recommended early February to align with CO2 regulations. The group unanimously agreed to meet on February 5, 2026, in Santa Barbara, with Long Beach as a backup location. The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 AM.