



**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
P.O. BOX 304260  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-4260

CYNTHIA LEE ALMOND, PRESIDENT

LUKE D. BENTLEY IV, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JEREMY H. ODEN, COMMISSIONER, PLACE 1

CHRIS V. BEEKER, III, COMMISSIONER, PLACE 2

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 28, 2026

**TO:** President Cynthia Lee Almond  
Commissioner Jeremy H. Oden  
Commissioner Chris V. Beeker, III.

**FROM:** Jonathan M Kimbril, Director *JMK*  
Gas Pipeline Safety Division

**SUBJECT:** Agenda for May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Commission Meeting

The following items will be presented to the Commission during the regular May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Commission Meeting.

**GAS PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION ACTIVITIES**  
**March 2026**

**Inspections**

During the month of March, a total of fifty-eight (58) inspections were conducted utilizing one hundred and nineteen (119) person-days. The inspections are as follows:

|                         |                             | STANDARD INSPECTION | CONSTRUCTION | OPERATOR QUALIFICATION | PUBLIC AWARENESS | IMP / DIMP | CONTROL ROOM MGMT | INCIDENT / ACCIDENT | DRUG & ALCOHOL | FOLLOW-UP | OTHER |              |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------|-------|--------------|
| GAS PIPELINE SYSTEMS    | PRIVATE                     |                     | 6            |                        |                  |            |                   |                     | 2              | 3         |       | <b>TOTAL</b> |
|                         | MUNICIPAL                   | 6                   | 10           | 1                      |                  | 2          |                   |                     | 3              | 12        |       |              |
|                         | MASTER METER                | 5                   |              | 1                      |                  |            |                   |                     |                |           |       |              |
|                         | LIQUID PROPANE (LP)         |                     |              |                        |                  |            |                   |                     |                |           |       |              |
|                         | LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG) |                     | 1            |                        |                  |            |                   |                     |                |           |       |              |
|                         | INTRASTATE TRANSMISSION     | 1                   |              |                        |                  |            |                   |                     |                | 1         |       |              |
|                         | GAS GATHERING               |                     |              |                        |                  |            |                   |                     |                | 3         |       |              |
|                         | OFFSHORE GAS                |                     |              |                        |                  |            |                   |                     |                |           |       |              |
| LIQUID PIPELINE SYSTEMS | REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS  | 1                   |              |                        |                  |            |                   |                     |                |           |       |              |
|                         | CRUDE OIL                   |                     |              |                        |                  |            |                   |                     |                |           |       |              |
|                         | HVL FLAMMABLE / TOXIC       |                     |              |                        |                  |            |                   |                     |                |           |       |              |
|                         | CARBON DIOXIDE              |                     |              |                        |                  |            |                   |                     |                |           |       |              |
|                         | BIOFUEL                     |                     |              |                        |                  |            |                   |                     |                |           |       |              |
| <b>TOTALS</b>           |                             | <b>13</b>           | <b>17</b>    | <b>2</b>               |                  | <b>2</b>   |                   |                     | <b>5</b>       | <b>19</b> |       | <b>58</b>    |

## Enforcement Actions

From the fifty-eight (58) inspections shown above, seven (7) enforcement letters were issued citing thirty-four (34) non-compliance items. There were six (6) non-compliance items corrected during the month of March.

## Training

One (1) operator/contractor training session was conducted in March, covering possible variations of combinations of the following: polyethylene (PE) plastic fusion, fire response (FR), and regulatory (CFR) training.

- 3/18/2026 Southern Directional PE 43 Personnel Trained

## Incidents / Accidents

There were eight (8) state reportable incidents, and zero (0) federal incidents reported during the month of March.

- 3/12/2026 Huntsville Utilities – A contractor struck a 2-inch natural gas service line, damaging approximately four feet of pipe, which required replacement. There was no active 811 locate ticket at the time of the incident.
- 3/18/2026 Florence Gas – A structure fire caused a wall to collapse onto a gas meter, resulting in damage. The origin of the fire was determined not to be related to a gas leak.
- 3/24/2026 Florence Gas – A natural gas farm tap was discovered on fire. The fire was determined to have originated at the farm tap. A gas company employee, along with the fire department, used water suppression to control the situation and shut off the gas flow. The employee sustained first-degree burns to the wrist but did not require medical attention. Repairs have since been completed.
- 3/24/2026 Marshall County Gas District – A contractor struck a 10-inch transmission main during directional boring. Marshall County Gas District installed a welded repair sleeve to restore the line. The contractor had an active 811 locate ticket but failed to pothole utilities to confirm depth prior to excavation.
- 3/2/2026 East Central AL Gas District – A leak was discovered on a main within the system. The damage appeared to have been caused by a previously unreported line strike. The leak required multiple days to locate and repair. The incident was reported following media coverage.
- 3/7/2026 Spire AL – Montgomery – A gas leak was reported to Spire. The fire department arrived on scene prior to Spire personnel and began excavation

efforts until Spire crews arrived to perform repairs. The leak was successfully repaired, and the area was made safe for residents to return. The incident was considered reportable due to media presence.

- 3/13/2026 Southeast Gas – A concerned citizen reported the smell of gas to the Gas Pipeline Safety division. Southeast Gas dispatched a crew to perform a leak survey; however, no leaks were identified on their system in the reported area.
- 3/25/2026 Southeast Gas – A contractor struck a gas main during directional boring operations while pulling back. The strike created a hole approximately the size of a quarter in the main. Southeast Gas reduced system pressure and completed a welded repair.

### Miscellaneous

The Gas Pipeline Safety (GPS) Division received its annual audit from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration State Programs group. The audit process spans two weeks. During the first week, auditors conduct a comprehensive review of records and documentation obtained from required inspections performed throughout the previous year. This review also includes the program's annual progress report, which is evaluated as part of the overall records and documentation assessment and showed no deficiencies. This portion of the audit accounts for approximately 50% of the total score for both the hazardous liquid and natural gas programs.

The second week of the audit is conducted in the field, where auditors observe inspectors performing both natural gas and hazardous liquid inspections. This allows auditors to verify that inspectors are asking appropriate questions, reviewing the correct documentation, and thoroughly evaluating areas of concern or potential noncompliance.

At the conclusion of the audit, it was determined that the Alabama program would receive full marks, losing zero points. The natural gas program achieved a score of 100 out of 100 possible points, while the hazardous liquid program scored 96 out of 96 possible points.

Additionally, the Gas Pipeline Safety Division attended the National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives Regional Meeting held in Savannah. This meeting provides an opportunity for state programs to share efforts to improve inspections and regulatory processes, as well as to discuss strategies for adapting to potential future regulations proposed by PHMSA. Alabama entered the meeting as Vice Chair and has since assumed the role of Chair for the upcoming year. In this capacity, Alabama will host the NAPSRS Regional Meeting in 2027.