STATE OF ALABAMA
ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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CYNTHIA LEE ALMOND, PRESIDENT
JEREMY H. ODEN, COMMISSIONER, PLACE 1
CHRIS V. BEEKER, III, COMMISSIONER, PLACE 2

LUKE D. BENTLEY IV, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

DATE: **October 27, 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 November 3rd, 2026, Commission Meeting**

The following items will be presented to the Commission during the regular November 3rd, 2026, Commission Meeting.

GAS PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION ACTIVITIES
September 2026

Inspections

During the month of September, the Gas Pipeline Safety Division conducted a total of eighty-two (82) inspections, utilizing one hundred and fifty-three (153) inspector person-days.

The inspections conducted during the month are as follows:

		STANDARD INSPECTION	CONSTRUCTION	OPERATOR QUALIFICATION	PUBLIC AWARENESS	IMP / DIMP	CONTROL ROOM MGMT.	INCIDENT / ACCIDENT	DRUG & ALCOHOL	FOLLOW-UP	OTHER	TOTAL
GAS PIPELINE SYSTEMS	**PRIVATE**	**1**	**4**						**1**			
	MUNICIPAL	**10**	**4**	**1**	**3**	**4**			**6**	**26**		
	MASTER METER									**5**		
	LIQUID PROPANE (LP)											
	LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG)											
	INTRASTATE TRANSMISSION	**4**		**2**		**2**			**2**	**1**		
	GAS GATHERING									**2**		
	OFFSHORE GAS											
LIQUID PIPELINE SYSTEMS	**REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS**	**1**							**1**			
	CRUDE OIL	**2**										
	HVL FLAMMABLE / TOXIC											
	CARBON DIOXIDE											
	BIOFUEL											
TOTALS		**18**	**8**	**3**	**3**	**6**	**0**	**0**	**10**	**34**	**0**	**82**

Enforcement Actions

From the eighty-two (82) inspections conducted during the month of September, nine (9) enforcement letters were issued, citing a total of thirty (30) non-compliance items. Of violations issued fifteen (15) non-compliance items were cited for the first time, and fifteen (15) were repeat violations cited consecutively. During the month of September, Gas Pipeline Safety also verified the correction of twenty-seven (27) previously identified non-compliance items.

Training

During the month of September, the Gas Pipeline Safety Division conducted three (3) operator and contractor training sessions. Training sessions may address a single topic or combine multiple topics based on the specific needs of the operator or contractor. Topics may include polyethylene plastic fusion, fire response, and applicable regulatory requirements contained in the Code of Federal Regulations.

➢ 9/1-3/2026	ANGA Fall workshop	PE	22	Personnel Trained
		FR	32	Personnel Trained
➢ 9/16/2026	Pickens County Gas	PE	9	Personnel Trained
➢ 9/22/2026	Sylacauga Gas	PE	22	Personnel Trained

Incidents / Accidents

During the month of September, the Gas Pipeline Safety Division received notification of four (4) potential incidents. Following completion of the investigations to date, two (2) incidents were determined to meet the applicable criteria for State reporting. The remaining two (2) incidents were determined either to be outside the Division's jurisdiction or not to meet the applicable reporting thresholds. At this time, none of the four reported notifications have been determined to meet the criteria for Federal reporting under the Commission's jurisdiction.

- 9/7/2026 Spire Alabama – Montgomery - Spire Alabama reported a leak on a three-inch steel main that appeared to have been struck by lightning. The affected main was located beneath a sidewalk near a bridge and was positioned alongside several other steel pipelines, which made it difficult to quickly access and secure the leak. Spire Alabama isolated the affected section of main by closing the appropriate valves, stopping the flow of natural gas to the damaged segment. ***This incident met the applicable criteria for State reporting.***

- 9/15/2026 Spire Gulf – Spire Gulf was notified after a member of the public observed bubbles in Mobile Bay near one of its pipeline crossings and reported the condition to the National Response Center. Spire Gulf inspected the area and found no evidence of a natural gas leak. The company also determined that its pipeline was located north of the reported bubbling. On September 16, 2026, the U.S. Coast Guard confirmed that the bubbling came from a non-jurisdictional source associated with a Honeywell facility conducting an air purge of an industrial hot-

water line. ***This incident did not meet the applicable criteria for State or federal reporting.***

- 9/16/2026 Spire Alabama – Birmingham – Spire was notified that a contractor had struck one of its gas mains. While excavating to expose the damaged main and make repairs, Spire personnel struck an underground electrical line, which ignited the escaping natural gas. No injuries occurred, and the gas main was repaired. ***This incident met the applicable criteria for State reporting.***

- 9/21//2026 Spire Alabama – Opelika – A contractor struck a six-inch gas main with an excavator. An active Alabama 811 ticket was in place, and the gas main had been properly marked. The contractor's actions were determined to be in violation of applicable State damage prevention requirements. Spire completed the necessary repairs and returned the main to service. ***This incident did not meet the applicable criteria for State reporting.***

Miscellaneous

Gas Pipeline Safety (GPS) Division personnel attended the National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR) National Meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. This annual conference brings together state pipeline safety programs to discuss regulatory concerns, PHMSA grant requirements, potential regulatory changes, and issues requiring federal clarification.

NAPSR committees provide annual reports on their activities, accomplishments, and ongoing initiatives. Most committees meet monthly throughout the year. These reports allow member states to review developments, raise concerns, and identify opportunities for additional committee participation.

During the conference, GPS Director **Jonathan Kimbril was nominated and elected NAPSR Secretary, effective October 1, 2026**. This begins a four-year leadership progression through Secretary, Vice President, President, and Past President.

This position provides Alabama with a greater voice in NAPSR leadership and communications with PHMSA. It also provides GPS with a seat on the NAPSR Grant Allocation Committee, allowing participation in discussions concerning federal grant funding, eligible expenditures, and evaluation criteria used during annual PHMSA state program evaluations.

GPS Section Supervisors expressed interest in serving on other NAPSR committees as positions became available. Their participation would expand their technical expertise and provide opportunities to contribute to discussions influencing future regulations and state program requirements.

Overall, increased NAPSR involvement strengthens Alabama's representation nationally, supports professional development, and provides greater input into decisions affecting pipeline safety regulations and federal funding.