



STATE OF ALABAMA
ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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CYNTHIA LEE ALMOND, PRESIDENT

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CHRIS V. BEEKER, III, COMMISSIONER, PLACE 2

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 30, 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 July 7th, 2026, Commission Meeting

The following items will be presented to the Commission during the regular July 7th, 2026, Commission Meeting.

GAS PIPELINE SAFETY DIVISION ACTIVITIES
May 2026

Inspections

During the month of May, a total of fifty-three (53) inspections were conducted utilizing one hundred and twenty-eight (128) 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		2									TOTAL
	MUNICIPAL	4	9			1		1	2	18		
	MASTER METER									3		
	LIQUID PROPANE (LP)											
	LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG)											
	INTRASTATE TRANSMISSION	6				1	1		1	1		
	GAS GATHERING	1								1		
	OFFSHORE GAS											
LIQUID PIPELINE SYSTEMS	REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS									1		
	CRUDE OIL											
	HVL FLAMMABLE / TOXIC											
	CARBON DIOXIDE											
	BIOFUEL											
TOTALS		11	11	0	0	2	1	1	3	24	0	53

Enforcement Actions

From the fifty-three (53) inspections shown above, five (5) enforcement letters were issued citing a total of thirty-four (34) non-compliance items. Of the thirty-four (34) non-compliance items cited, four (4) were issued for the first time, while thirty (30) were repeat violations that had been cited consecutively. During the month of May, thirteen (13) non-compliance items were corrected and verified by Gas Pipeline Safety.

Training

One (1) operator and contractor training session was conducted during the month of May. Training sessions may consist of a single training topic or a combination of multiple topics depending on the needs of the operator or contractor. Training topics may include polyethylene (PE) plastic fusion, fire response (FR), and regulatory requirements contained within the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). These training efforts are intended to enhance safety, improve regulatory compliance, and promote industry's best practices.

- 5/13/2026 Cullman-Jefferson Gas Dist. PE 14 Personnel Trained

Incidents / Accidents

Gas Pipeline Safety (GPS) received notification of four (4) potential incidents during the month of May. Following investigations, two (2) incidents were determined to be State-reportable and zero (0) were determined to be Federal-reportable incidents that were jurisdictional to the Commission. The remaining two (2) incidents were determined to be outside of GPS jurisdiction and were therefore not reportable to either the State or PHMSA. The incidents were initially submitted to Gas Pipeline Safety by the operators while investigations were ongoing, and final reportability determinations were made upon completion of the investigations.

- 5/13/2026 Spire Alabama – Montgomery – Following the replacement of a monitor regulator at Vaughn Road and Eastern Boulevard, the mechanic on-site was adjusting the pressure setting (27.5 psig set pressure) for a 25-psig system when the pressure rapidly increased to 33 psig, exceeding the reportable threshold. The pressure quickly returned to normal operating levels. Spire conducted a leak survey of the affected system and identified no reportable issues or damages. A post-incident review has been scheduled, and GPS requested follow-up information upon its completion.
- 5/14/2026 Clarke-Mobile Counties Gas District – A contractor operating a plow failed to expose and verify a located ¾-inch steel service line along Highway 56, resulting in the service being pulled from the no-blow fitting. The affected main section was isolated, repairs were completed, and the service line was pressure tested before being returned to service. X-ray and leak testing were also performed.

- 5/18/2026 PGP Operating – A release occurred on a Type R Gathering pipeline located in a Class 1 area. While the system is non-jurisdictional for safety standards, it remains subject to incident reporting requirements. The operator followed all applicable Operations and Maintenance and Emergency Procedures. The investigation determined that the pipeline had been installed over a section of sharp rock without adequate bedding material. Ground movement and stress from the pipe bend caused the rock to impinge on the pipe, resulting in a fracture approximately 1 inch long and 1/8 inch wide. The damaged section was repaired and properly bedded. Eighty percent (80%) of the welds associated with the repair were radiographically examined, and all inspected welds passed.
- 5/29/2026 Cullman-Jefferson Counties Gas District – The Alabama State Fire Marshal's Office contacted Gas Pipeline Safety regarding an explosion in which natural gas was believed to have been a contributing factor. GPS dispatched the Director, Northern Supervisor, and Central Supervisor to investigate. The preliminary investigation determined that the natural gas involved originated from customer-owned house piping and not from the operator's service lines or mains. Based on the information currently available, the event is not reportable. The incident remains under investigation by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

Miscellaneous

The Gas Pipeline Safety (GPS) Division is participating in the Alabama Public Awareness Cooperative Training (APACT) meetings held at 16 locations across the state from June through August. These meetings are designed to educate the public, emergency responders, and public officials on how to identify whether pipelines are present in their area, recognize the signs of a potential leak, and understand the appropriate actions to take during a pipeline-related emergency. The meetings are conducted at locations throughout the state and are scheduled outside of normal working hours to allow greater attendance by working individuals. A meal is also provided to encourage participation.

(GPS) has selected the location for the 2027 NAPSRS Southern Region Meeting, which will be hosted March 29 through April 2, 2027, at the Embassy Suites in Gulf Shores, Alabama. This meeting will provide Alabama with an opportunity to showcase the efforts being made by regulators, compliance personnel, and pipeline operators to enhance pipeline safety. It will also serve as a forum for sharing best practices, discussing emerging issues, and strengthening relationships among state and federal pipeline safety stakeholders.