



## January 2012 eBrief Print Version

### Headlines

[GPA comments on PHMSA ANPRM](#)

[Subpart W update](#)

[2012 Research Brochure is in the mail](#)

[Chapter news](#)

[2012 GPA Convention news](#)

[GPA/GPSA Calendar](#)

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### **GPA comments on PHMSA ANPRM**

GPA has submitted comments to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) on the Advanced Notice of proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM), Pipeline Safety: Safety of Gas Transmission Pipelines. While other trade associations filed responses to all of the ANPRM questions, given GPA's focus on gathering, committee chair Matt Norton led our Pipeline Safety Committee to specifically develop responses to Section O of the ANPRM regarding gas gathering.

With the current increase in domestic production and the resulting build-out of a new generation of gas gathering infrastructure, the focus of GPA members on safely moving this resource has never been greater. GPA believes that PHMSA should continue its "risk-based" approach to the safety regulation of gathering lines, and should carefully collect and assess more information before changing any substantive regulations.

View GPA's comments here: [http://www.gpaglobal.org/assets/qpaglobal/gpa/temp/GPA\\_PHMSA\\_Comments.pdf](http://www.gpaglobal.org/assets/qpaglobal/gpa/temp/GPA_PHMSA_Comments.pdf)

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### **Subpart W Update**

On Dec. 23, 2011, EPA published a final rule amending several aspects of Subpart W. Although leaders of GPA's Environmental Committee and GPA's Counsel for Environmental Affairs are still analyzing the final rule, it appears based on our initial review that EPA has made the changes that GPA requested, perhaps most importantly, sharpening and clarifying the definition of "onshore natural gas processing." EPA has asked that we provide a list of any remaining concerns with Subpart W by the end of this month. It appears that the current requirement for testing of compressor rod packing vents may be our only remaining significant issue.

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### **2012 Research Brochure is in the mail**

The 2012 GPA Cooperative Research Program brochure has been mailed to all GPA Official Representatives and members of the GPA Technical Committee.

The brochure breaks down the research budget and how research dues are assessed. It also provides descriptions of GPA's new and continuing research projects, along with a list of published and available GPA research.

We greatly appreciate the contributions toward this highly successful program. It has been estimated that for every dollar spent through GPA research, twelve dollars in cost savings have been realized by our industry. This is proof of that the cooperative approach shows a much greater return than any one company could realize through their internal research program.

GPSA Official Representatives should expect to receive a brochure and commitment form, which allows companies that also benefit from GPA research to contribute as they see fit. While contributions to the program are not mandatory for GPSA companies, it is highly encouraged. Together GPA and GPSA can make a difference in advancing the midstream industry. Participation in this program by both organizations is critical to keeping the

midstream industry on the leading edge of technological advancements.

For those interested in GPA's research activities, we encourage you to download the 2012 Research Brochure, which is now available on GPA's research page on the web site: [www.GPAGlobal.org/research](http://www.GPAGlobal.org/research).

If you are a GPSA company, or any other entity with a desire to contribute to this proven program that provides invaluable data to the midstream/processing industry, please contact [Kenny Wheat](#), GPA director of Technical Services.

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## Chapter News

### Houston GPA

Houston GPA announces its Young Professionals Happy Hour Event will be held Jan. 26 at Pub Fiction. This is a great networking opportunity, and we hope you'll consider attending. There is no charge for this event, but we do ask that you register if you plan to attend so we can get an accurate headcount. Visit [www.houstongpa.org](http://www.houstongpa.org) to register for this networking event.

### MidContinent GPA

MidContinent GPA (MCGPA) is giving its young professionals credit for taking its membership sign-ups, member profiles and event calendar online, which will simplify the task managing chapter members. Under Ryan Dillman's leadership, the group has chosen 123 Signup, an online event registration and membership management firm. Below are links for current members to update their member profiles and look at events. For those considering membership, there has never been a better time (or an easier way). See links below for specific information, and remember that these links will always be accessible from MCGPA's web page:  
<https://www.gpaglobal.org/chapters/midcontinent/>

- Membership Enrollment: <https://www.123signup.com/enroll?Org=mcgpa>
- Join Our Mailing List: <https://www.123signup.com/maillinglist?Org=mcgpa>
- Event Calendar & Registration: <https://www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=mcgpa>
- Change your Member Profile: <https://www.123signup.com/profile?Org=mcgpa>

### MCGPA meeting and dinner

MCGPA's first meeting and dinner will be held in Tulsa, Okla., at the Summit Club downtown on Feb. 7. **Kevin O' Sullivan, managing director of MIRATECH**, will talk to us about *Preparing and Strategizing for the Inevitable – More and Tighter Engine Emission Standards*, covering the following:

- What regulations are coming, or already here, that will rock my GPA world?
- What is NESHAP and does it affect my operations?
- What are the operating strategies being employed to be compliant?
- Litigation update – industry organizations versus the EPA – what's going on, when will we know the resolution and what might be the outcome?

For companies in the MidContinent region, we hope you will join us. Visit <https://www.gpaglobal.org/chapters/midcontinent/> for more information or to register.

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## 2012 GPA Convention, "Mapping Midstream's Future" April 15 - 18, 2012 \* New Orleans, Louisiana \* Hilton Riverside

Online registration is open for the 2012 GPA Convention. Please keep the following registration deadlines in mind:

### GPA & GPSA Members

By Feb 17 - \$490  
By March 17 - \$540  
After March 17 - \$590

### Non-Member Operators and Suppliers

By Feb 17 - \$615  
By March 17 - \$665  
After March 17 - \$715

### Registration and Hotel Information

Before you register, we encourage you to [check your company's membership status](#) because GPA and GPSA members save on registration. The fastest, easiest way to register is online:

[www.GPAGlobal.org/convention/register](http://www.GPAGlobal.org/convention/register). Your credit card information is protected in our secure online registration form.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside. The direct link to make hotel reservations online will appear after you have registered for the convention. To make reservations by phone, call the hotel directly and mention the Gas Processors Association to receive the conference hotel rates: toll free (800) HILTONS or (504) 556-3768.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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### **GPA/GPSA Calendar**

For event location and additional details about meetings listed below, visit: [www.GPAGlobal.org/calendar/](http://www.GPAGlobal.org/calendar/)

#### **February**

- 1-2 GPA Environmental Subcommittee Meeting
- 7 MidContinent GPA Dinner Meeting
- 8 Houston GPA Monthly JMC Education Session Luncheon
- 9 Rocky Mountain GPA Chapter Luncheon Meeting
- 10 Rocky Mountain GPA Ski Outing
- 15 Gulf Cooperation Council Technical Committee Meeting
- 16 Houston GPA Clay Shoot
- 22-25 GPA Europe February Meeting
- 26 Houston GPA Young Professionals Happy Hour Event

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#### **Gas Processors Association**

[www.GPAGlobal.org](http://www.GPAGlobal.org)

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