



September 2018
Gas Pipeline Advisory Committee Briefing

Gas Pipeline Advisory Committee Briefing: Gas Gathering Lines

GPAC Gas Gathering Lines Briefing



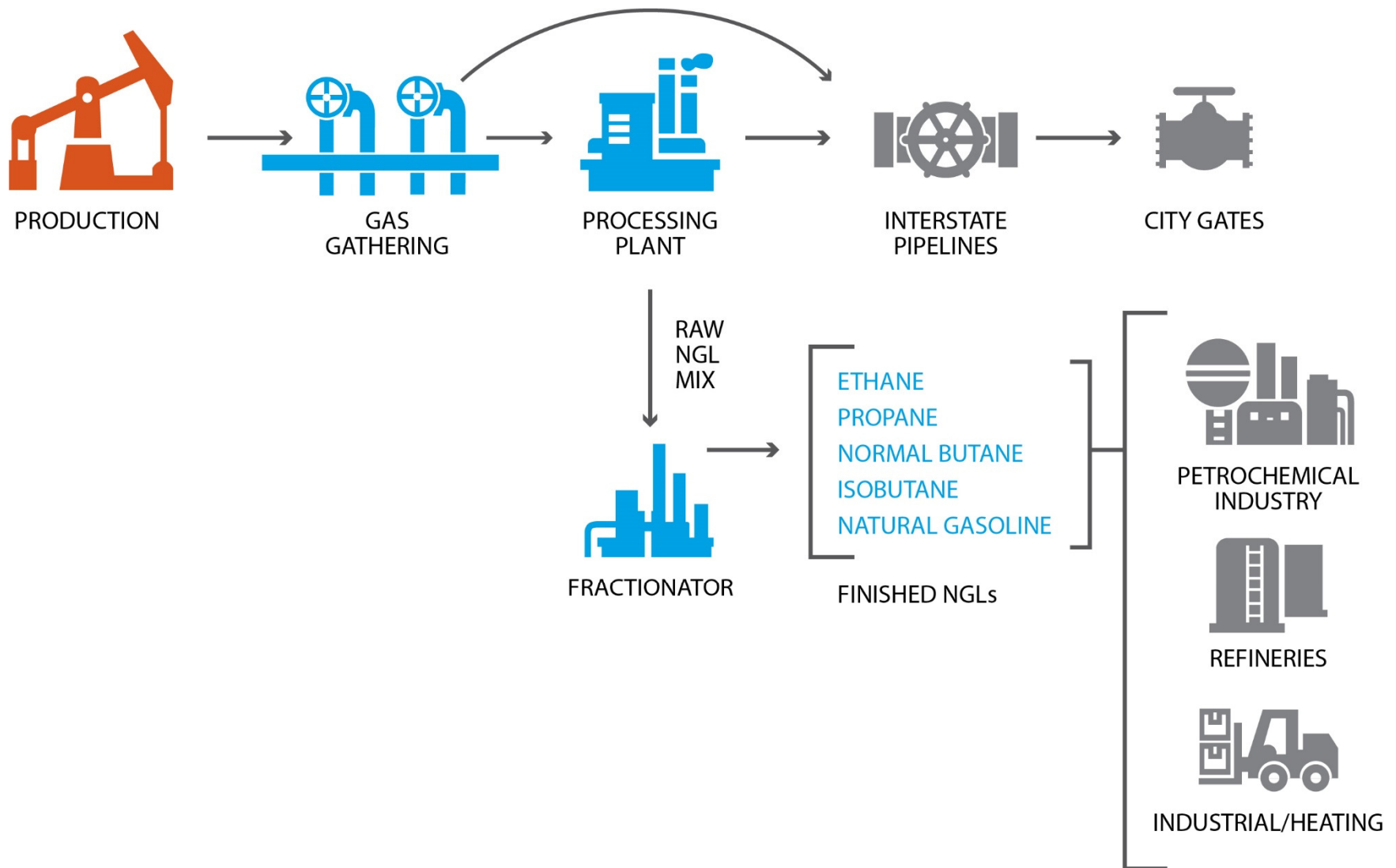
- What is GPA Midstream Association?
 - *Serving the U.S. energy industry since 1921*
 - *Nearly 100 corporate members engaged in natural gas gathering and processing, commonly referred to as midstream activities*
 - *Gas processing includes removing impurities from raw gas produced at the wellhead, as well as the extraction of natural gas liquids (NGLs) for sale, manufacture, transportation, or further processing*
 - *GPA Midstream members account for more than 90% of the NGLs produced in the U.S. from natural gas processing*

GPAC Gas Gathering Lines Briefing



- What is a gas gathering line?
 - *A pipeline that delivers gas from a production facility to a central collection point for further transportation*
- What is a production facility?
 - *Wells, piping, and other equipment used in the process of extracting gas from the ground in preparation for initial transportation*
- What is a central collection point?
 - *A treatment facility or certain gas processing plans that create pipeline quality gas, the point where gas from the same or separate production fields is commingled, and/or a compressor station that facilitates deliveries from a production facility or to transmission or distribution line*

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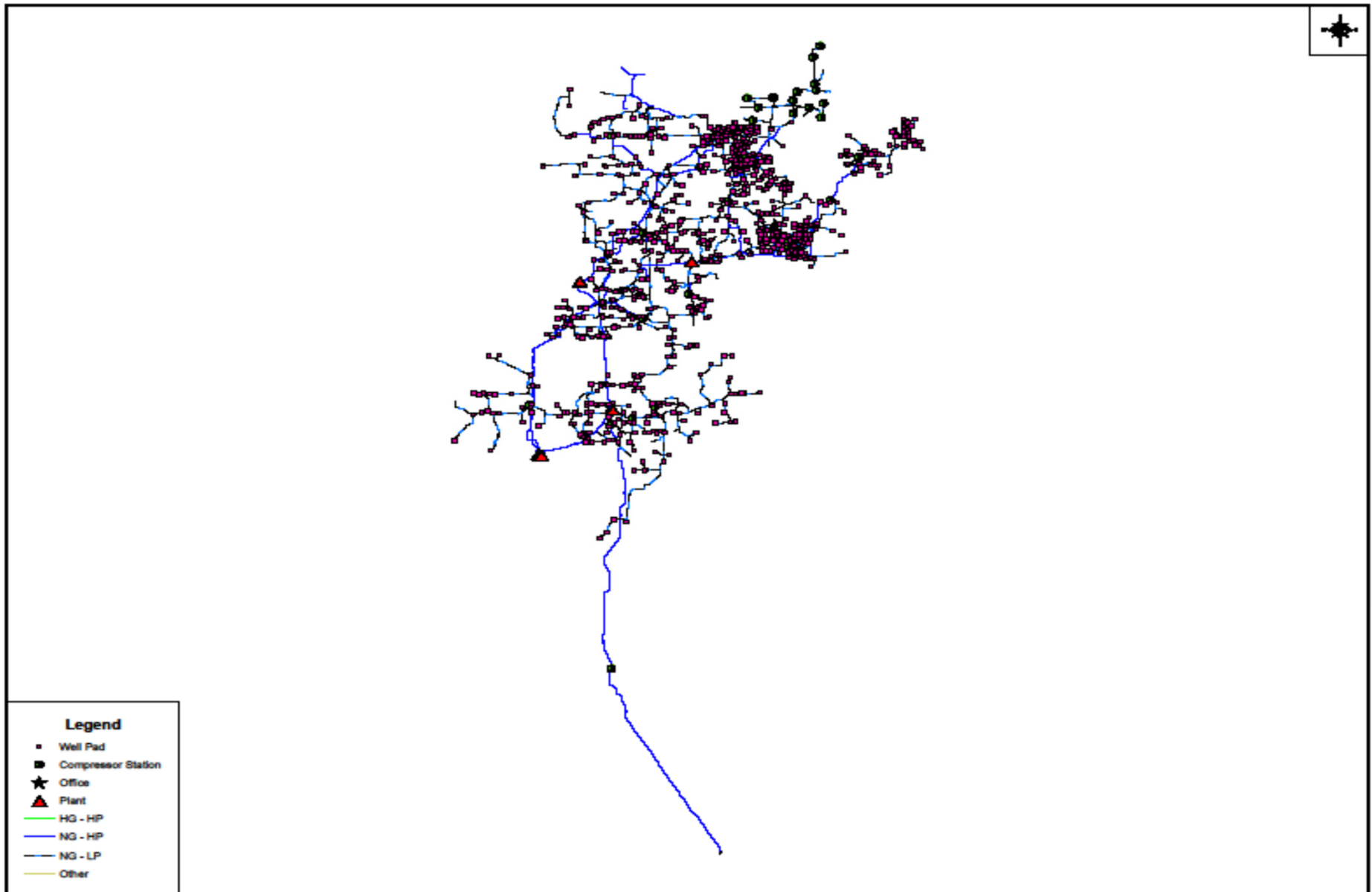


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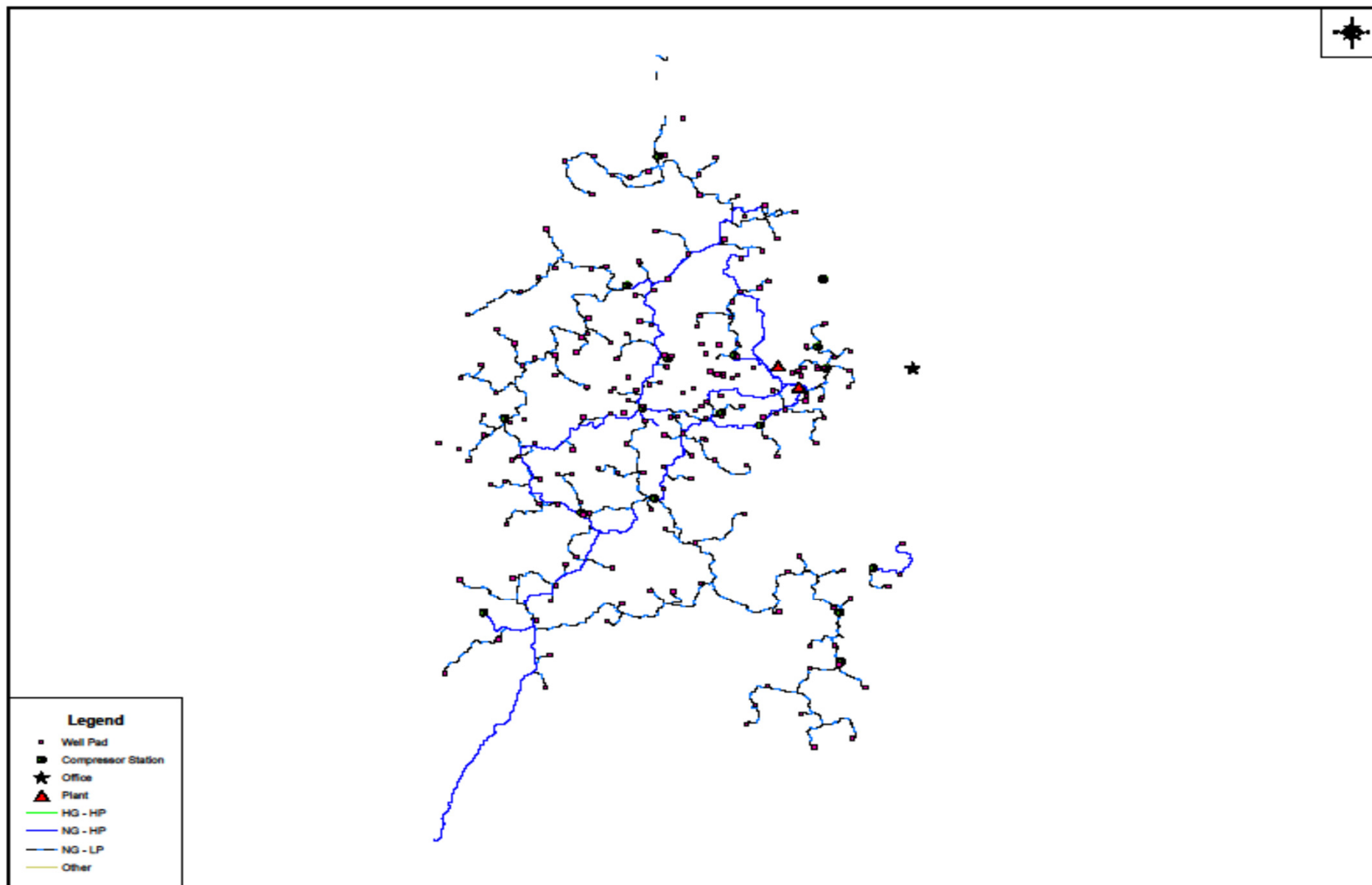


- How are gas gathering lines different from transmission and distribution lines?
 - *Generally transport raw, unprocessed gas that is not fit for end use or consumption*
 - *Wide variability in system configuration and operating characteristics*
 - *Generally not subject to public utility type regulation for economic purposes*

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- How has horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing affected gas gathering lines?
 - *Historically, gas gathering lines served conventional wells and were small diameter, low-pressure pipelines*
 - *Today, most gas gathering lines still have these traditional operating characteristics*
 - *However, some gas gathering lines that serve unconventional wells can be larger diameter, higher pressure pipelines*
 - *Steep decline curve for unconventional wells affects gathering line operating characteristics in shale plays*

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- Conclusion

- *Gathering lines deliver gas from a production facility to a central collection point for further transportation*
- *Gathering lines are different from transmission and distribution lines from an operational and economic perspective*
- *Gathering lines tend to be low-pressure, small-diameter pipelines*
- *Larger-diameter, higher-pressure gas gathering lines are present in the nation's shale plays*