GPA Midstream finalizes 2019 – 2020 Executive Committee appointments

GPA Midstream Chairman of the Board Bill Ward, Superior Pipeline, has finalized his 2019 - 2020 Executive Committee (EC) appointments. Members of the committee serve a 1-year term but can be reappointed to serve additional terms. As outlined in the association bylaws, the EC is comprised of automatic and appointed positions. The EC exercises all powers of the board at times when the board is not in session. Members of the committee are:

**Automatic Members**
- Chairman: Bill Ward, Superior Pipeline
- Chairman-Elect: John Poarch, Williams
- Vice Chairman: Robert Mitchell, Carrera Gas Company
- Vice Chairman: Terry Spencer, ONEOK Partners
- Vice Chairman: Andy Giffhorn, Phillips 66
- Past Chairman: Bill Ordemann, Enterprise Products Operating
- GPA Midstream CEO: Mark Sutton
- GPA Midstream Corporate Secretary: Johnny Dreyer

**Appointed Members:**
- Wouter van Kempen, DCP Midstream
- Joseph Colella, Energy Transfer Co.
- Michael Garberding, EnLink
- Bradley Motal, Enterprise Products Operating
- Sital Mody, Kinder Morgan
- Bert Dillmann, MarkWest Energy Partners
- Clark White, Targa Resources

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**DEADLINES & REMINDERS**

GPSA membership renewals
Next month, GPSA Official Representatives will receive a kit in the mail with 2020 dues renewal invoices, plus a flash drive with information about upcoming events, opportunities, and association logos to pass along to your marketing team to get the most out of your membership. You don’t have to wait for the mailing to renew your membership. Renew online now. We appreciate your membership and prompt renewals.

Fall Technical Conference Call for Papers deadline extended

GPA Midstream’s technical committees and workgroups are actively engaged year-round to ensure the technical information that companies use to make important operating decisions remains accurate. As a service to the industry, GPA Midstream is expanding its joint technical meetings by launching the first GPA Midstream Fall Technical Conference, Oct. 21 – 23 in Oklahoma City, where our committees will meet face to face to accomplish important industry work. With the expanded program, we will also offer educational sessions and networking opportunities at an incredibly modest cost for those that attend. Just like our annual convention, this conference is being planned by your industry peers, so topics will be relevant and timely.

This conference has speaking opportunities available covering the following:
- Analysis, test methods and product specifications
- Facility design, operations and maintenance
- Measurement and quantity determination
- Pipeline design, operation and maintenance

The deadline to submit an abstract and be considered for a speaking opportunity has been extended from June 28 to July 12. Learn more about the conference or submit an abstract for consideration.
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Pipeline Safety Reauthorization efforts underway

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) released a draft Pipeline Safety Reauthorization bill on June 3, which comes on the heels of spring congressional hearings on Pipeline Safety Reauthorization. It’s important to note that Congress is under no circumstances obligated to use PHMSA’s recommendations in their writing of a Pipeline Safety Reauthorization. The current reauthorization, issued in 2016, is set to expire at the end of September.

Democratic leadership of the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s Energy Subcommittee released their Pipeline Safety Reauthorization draft, H.R. 3432, The Safer Pipelines Act of 2019. On June 19, the subcommittee held a hearing on the draft legislation. GPA Midstream submitted a letter to the subcommittee in opposition to Section 3 of the draft. In Section 3, the subcommittee proposed that all gas gathering lines and hazardous liquid gathering lines, greater than 20 percent SMYS, be regulated. GPA Midstream attended this hearing and was able to get its letter about the draft placed in the hearing record. During the hearing, Democrats came under quite a bit of heat for formulating such a negative bill, implementing a one-size-fits-all approach, failing to include PHMSA in the hearing, and failing to work with Republicans on the bill. The proposed language for gathering lines did not receive much attention during the hearing. The majority believe that high-stress gathering lines should become regulated because they think they are similar to transmission lines.

On June 26, the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s Energy Subcommittee marked up and passed an updated version of H.R. 3432. That bill passed was significantly modified.

GPA Midstream is pleased to announce that the most controversial section to GPA Midstream members that would require all gathering lines, both gas and liquid, that are greater than 20 percent SMYS be regulated has been removed from the current draft text. This is in no small part to the letter/testimony that GPA Midstream delivered, and GPA Midstream and its members lobbying relevant members and staff. Although still an uphill battle, this is a significant step in the right direction. The next step is a full committee mark up, which will occur sometime in July.

We anticipate that the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will release its draft pipeline safety reauthorization bill in the coming weeks. The Senate Commerce Committee is also working on its draft pipeline reauthorization bill. Please contact GPA Midstream Vice President of Government Affairs Matt Hite with questions.

Clean Water Act certification released by EPA in early June

On June 7, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released guidance on the Clean Water Act’s (CWA) Section 401. The new guidance replaces EPA’s previous 2010 prior
interim guidance and gives more recommendations to federal agencies, states and authorized tribes in an effort to promote early collaboration through the 401 certification process. Also, under Executive Order 13868 was the Trump administration’s guidance that EPA propose new rules that modernize the Clean Water Act Section 401 implementing regulations no later than Aug. 8. Following that guidance, EPA will propose regulations that may assist in clarification and streamlining of the CWA Section 401 certifications. The executive order by the Trump administration was issued on April 10, and EPA has already begun formal consultations with its state, local and tribal partners. The agency has also engaged in outreach with their federal partners and has encouraged written pre-proposal recommendations that can be submitted through a public docket. EPA will review recommendations as they are received.

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EDUCATION & TRAINING

**GPA Midstream School of Gas Chromatography**

**Dates:** Aug. 12 - 16  
**Location:** Tulsa, Okla.  
**Overview:** GPA Midstream gas chromatography school students, from entry level to advanced, get a week of one-on-one time with experts that have decades of experience in the chromatography field and leave with practical lab experience. A great balance between lectures and hands-on training helps students learn how to understand the data and then apply that in anticipating, evaluating and troubleshooting problems.

**Class Size:** Limited to 100  

**Cost:** By July 11, $700 for GPA Midstream and GPSA Members; $1,000 for non-members. After July 11, both rates will increase by $100

**Who Should Attend:** Chromatograph operators, measurement technicians, engineers involved with chromatography, analysts, accountants, any manager overseeing measurement, analysis, operations or sampling personnel

[Learn more and register.](#)

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**GPSA Engineering Data Book Training Course**

**Dates:** Sept. 9 - 13  
**Location:** Mont Belvieu, Texas  
**Overview:** The course offers five days of in-depth training on GPSA’s worldwide authoritative resource for midstream technical and design information and industry-approved practices and procedures.

**Class Size:** Limited to 25  

**Cost:** $2,500 for GPA Midstream and GPSA Members; $3,500 for non-members
Who Should Attend: Early career engineers and senior operations, plant or maintenance personnel

Learn more and register.

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**Introduction to Midstream Training Course**

**Dates:** Sept. 17 - 19  
**Location:** Plano, Texas  
**Overview:** Using the GPSA Engineering Data Book as a reference text, this course teaches non-technical personnel what happens at midstream operating facilities and about midstream products, equipment typically found at midstream facilities, and the processes that turn variable hydrocarbon feedstock into products.

**Class Size:** Limited to 25

**Cost:** $1,500 for GPA Midstream and GPSA Members; $3,000 for non-members

Who Should Attend: Executive assistants, accountants, data coordinators, communications personnel, engineers - any employee new to the midstream industry

Learn more and register.

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**NEW! Fall Technical Conference**

**Dates:** Oct. 21 - 23  
**Location:** Oklahoma City  
**Overview:** This new conference offers 16 educational sessions, plus open committee and workgroup meetings, in the focus areas of analysis, test methods and product specifications; facility design, operations and maintenance; measurement and quantity determination; and pipeline design, operations and maintenance.

**Cost:** $100 for GPA Midstream and GPSA Members; $200 for non-members

Who Should Attend: Engineers, chemists, lab technicians, operations personnel, and anyone with an interest in midstream industry technical activities

Sponsorship and speaking opportunities are available, and registration opens next month. Learn more.

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**RESEARCH/TECHNICAL**

**Analysis Committee approves two new workgroup charters**

Analysis, Test Methods & Product Specifications Committee members approved two new workgroup charters last month. Both ballots received 100 percent approval from voting members.
The Round Robin Accountability Group will ensure necessary data is sought, produced and obtained from each round robin project. Past round robins have identified the need to have a core group focused on ensuring data needs are met to develop precision tolerances. View the charter.

The Spreadsheet Maintenance Workgroup will ensure spreadsheets made for and distributed with approved standards are updated in a consistent fashion as corresponding documents are updated. Spreadsheets have been developed to be used for calculations and examples for various standards, which need to be housed in an accessible location and maintained in a consistent fashion as standards are updated. View the charter.

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**Facility Committee approves six operations daily checklists, revision to Survey of Recent Plant Spacing Recommendations**

Facility Design, Operation & Maintenance Committee members approved six new operations daily checklists and revision of the *Survey of Recent Plant Spacing Recommendations* document, all available for review below. Results for each ballot are also below.

To formalize GPA Midstream's ballot resolution process, create accountability ensuring all comments are addressed, and to provide transparency to the committee, GPA Midstream has implemented a new process and tool, the Ballot Comment Resolution Tracker.

Majority approval is all that is required, but we do strive for consensus. Comments made on the ballot have been entered into the new resolution tracker for this ballot item. The documents will be published only when all comments have been addressed (amicably resolved, incorporated or withdrawn).

- **Amine Treating Systems Check List**
  Results: 29 Approve, 1 Negative, 6 Abstain = 81 percent committee approval

- **Centrifugal Compressors Check List**
  Results: 29 Approve, 1 Negative, 6 Abstain = 81 percent committee approval

- **Centrifugal Pumps Check List**
  Results: 27 Approve, 1 Negative, 8 Abstain = 75 percent committee approval

- **Condensate Stabilization Systems Check List**
  Results: 27 Approve, 0 Negative, 6 Abstain = 82 percent committee approval

- **Measurement Balance Check List**
  Results: 29 Approve, 1 Negative, 6 Abstain = 81 percent committee approval

- **Oil-Bearing Turbo Expanders Check List**
  Results: 28 Approve, 1 Negative, 7 Abstain = 78 percent committee approval
Survey of Recent Plant Spacing Recommendations
28 Approve, 1 Negative, 7 Abstain = 78 percent committee approval

If you would like to learn more about or become involved in GPA Midstream technical activities, contact Director of Technical Services Martin Erne.

CHAPTERS

PERMIAN BASIN

Permian Basin GPA Midstream Rockhounds Baseball Social
Join the Permian Basin GPA Midstream Chapter for a night of baseball, food and fun on July 30 at Rockhounds Stadium in Midland, Texas. Tickets are limited and available for $10 each.

To learn more about the event, including sponsorship opportunities, visit the Permian Basin GPA Midstream website.

GPA Midstream/GPSA Calendar

July

30 – Permian Basin GPA Midstream Rockhounds Baseball Social
Learn more about the event listed above.