



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590
September 26, 2011

The Honorable John D. Rockefeller IV
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

By this letter and the enclosed document, I am submitting a report regarding Technical Assistance Grants (TAG) made by the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 in fulfillment of the requirements contained in section 9 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (Pub. L. No. 107-355, codified at U.S.C. § 60130). This report also summarizes the results of TAGs made by DOT in FY 2009.

The purpose of the TAG program is to make grants to local communities and organizations for technical assistance related to pipeline safety issues. Technical assistance is defined as engineering and other scientific analysis of pipeline safety issues. The funding also can be used to help promote public participation in official proceedings. Eligible grant recipients are communities (e.g., cities, towns, villages, counties, parishes, townships, and similar governmental subdivisions, or consortiums of such subdivisions) and groups of individuals (not including for-profit entities). Section 9 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (the Act) first authorized \$1,000,000 for the TAG program (the Act refers to the program as "Pipeline safety information grants to communities"). Section 5 of the Pipeline Inspection, Protection, Enforcement, and Safety (PIPES) Act of 2006 reauthorized the TAG program. Although the TAG program was authorized in 2002, Congress first appropriated \$1,000,000 for the program in March 2009. By law, the funding was appropriated from general revenue, not PHMSA user fees.

Section 9 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 requires that this report contain the following:

- A listing of the identity and location of each recipient of a grant in the preceding fiscal year and the amount received by the recipient;
- A description of the purpose for which the grant was made; and
- A description of how each grant was used by the recipient.

Similar to the FY 2009 grants, which were not awarded until the end of FY 2009, the FY 2010 grants were not awarded until the end of FY 2010. Therefore, PHMSA cannot yet report how the FY 2010 grants were used by the recipients because the FY 2010 grant projects are active and ongoing.

The period of performance of each grant varies, but the majority of the FY 2010 grants are scheduled to be completed by September 2011. Per the grant agreements, recipients have

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90 days after the end of the period of performance to deliver their final reports to PHMSA. The PHMSA will report the status of the 2010 grants in the annual report for FY 2011. The status of the 2009 grants is included in this report. In addition, PHMSA has published information about all of the grants, including all final reports received to date, online at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag/>.

The PHMSA posted a solicitation for 2010 TAG applications on <http://www.grants.gov> from November 13, 2009, through January 25, 2010. The PHMSA convened a panel of stakeholders to evaluate the grant applications to ensure a fair and balanced review. The role of the review panel was to make recommendations to PHMSA regarding which grants to award. However, PHMSA retained the sole authority to make the grant awards. The six-member stakeholder review panel comprised representatives from the National Association of Counties, the National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives, the National League of Cities, and PHMSA. The panel reviewed 48 applications. The PHMSA awarded a total of \$944,669 from FY 2010 funds to 21 organizations in September 2010. Activities funded by the grant program include citizen education, community awareness, public education, data development, damage prevention, pipeline emergency preparedness and response, pipeline leak detection, local ordinance development, and land use planning. A list of the grant recipients, the amounts they received, and a description of their projects is enclosed.

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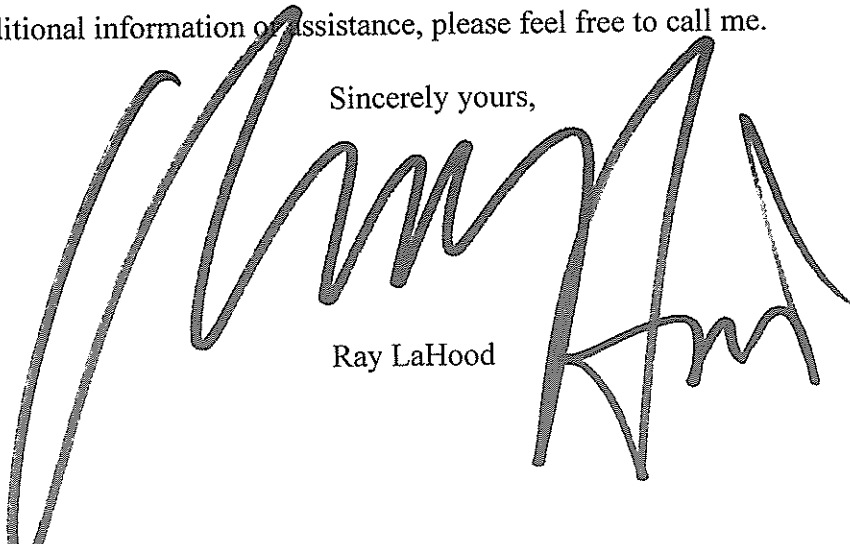
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If I can provide additional information or assistance, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely yours,

Ray LaHood

Enclosure

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THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590
September 26, 2011

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison
Ranking Member, Committee on Commerce,
Science, and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hutchison:

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Chairman, Committee on Energy and
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United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590
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Ranking Member, Committee on Energy
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United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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Ray LaHood

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THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

September 26, 2011

The Honorable John L. Mica
Chairman, Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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Ray LaHood

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THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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The Honorable Nick J. Rahall II
Ranking Member, Committee on Transportation
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U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Rahall:

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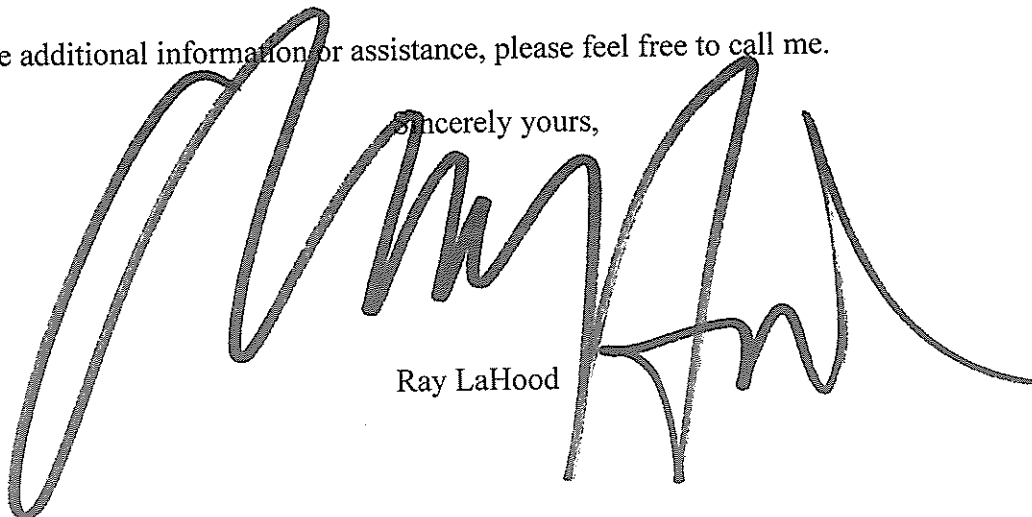
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Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce
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The PHMSA posted a solicitation for 2010 TAG applications on <http://www.grants.gov> from November 13, 2009, through January 25, 2010. The PHMSA convened a panel of stakeholders to evaluate the grant applications to ensure a fair and balanced review. The role of the review panel was to make recommendations to PHMSA regarding which grants to award. However, PHMSA retained the sole authority to make the grant awards. The six-member stakeholder review panel comprised representatives from the National Association of Counties, the National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives, the National League of Cities, and PHMSA. The panel reviewed 48 applications. The PHMSA awarded a total of \$944,669 from FY 2010 funds to 21 organizations in September 2010. Activities funded by the grant program include citizen education, community awareness, public education, data development, damage prevention, pipeline emergency preparedness and response, pipeline leak detection, local ordinance development, and land use planning. A list of the grant recipients, the amounts they received, and a description of their projects is enclosed.

The PHMSA worked closely with the Pipeline Safety Trust (<http://www.pstrust.org>) to develop the criteria used for evaluating the grant applications. The Pipeline Safety Trust is a nonprofit organization that promotes fuel transportation safety through education and advocacy by increasing access to information and by building partnerships with residents, safety advocates, government, and industry that result in safer communities and a healthier environment. The Pipeline Safety Trust structured much of their annual conference in New Orleans, November 4 and 5, 2010, around the TAGs awarded in 2009 and 2010. The theme of the conference was "Different Pathways to a Common Goal." Many of the recipients of TAGs presented their projects and exchanged ideas and information with other community representatives, Federal and State regulators, and pipeline operators who are experts on the pipelines that serve our country.

Similar letters have been sent to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; the Ranking Member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce; and the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

If I can provide additional information or assistance, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely yours,



Ray LaHood

Enclosure



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590
September 26, 2011

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy
and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Waxman:

By this letter and the enclosed document, I am submitting a report regarding Technical Assistance Grants (TAG) made by the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 in fulfillment of the requirements contained in section 9 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (Pub. L. No. 107-355, codified at U.S.C. § 60130). This report also summarizes the results of TAGs made by DOT in FY 2009.

The purpose of the TAG program is to make grants to local communities and organizations for technical assistance related to pipeline safety issues. Technical assistance is defined as engineering and other scientific analysis of pipeline safety issues. The funding also can be used to help promote public participation in official proceedings. Eligible grant recipients are communities (e.g., cities, towns, villages, counties, parishes, townships, and similar governmental subdivisions, or consortiums of such subdivisions) and groups of individuals (not including for-profit entities). Section 9 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (the Act) first authorized \$1,000,000 for the TAG program (the Act refers to the program as "Pipeline safety information grants to communities"). Section 5 of the Pipeline Inspection, Protection, Enforcement, and Safety (PIPES) Act of 2006 reauthorized the TAG program. Although the TAG program was authorized in 2002, Congress first appropriated \$1,000,000 for the program in March 2009. By law, the funding was appropriated from general revenue, not PHMSA user fees.

Section 9 of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 requires that this report contain the following:

- A listing of the identity and location of each recipient of a grant in the preceding fiscal year and the amount received by the recipient;
- A description of the purpose for which the grant was made; and
- A description of how each grant was used by the recipient.

Similar to the FY 2009 grants, which were not awarded until the end of FY 2009, the FY 2010 grants were not awarded until the end of FY 2010. Therefore, PHMSA cannot yet report how the FY 2010 grants were used by the recipients because the FY 2010 grant projects are active and ongoing.

The period of performance of each grant varies, but the majority of the FY 2010 grants are scheduled to be completed by September 2011. Per the grant agreements, recipients have

90 days after the end of the period of performance to deliver their final reports to PHMSA. The PHMSA will report the status of the 2010 grants in the annual report for FY 2011. The status of the 2009 grants is included in this report. In addition, PHMSA has published information about all of the grants, including all final reports received to date, online at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag/>.

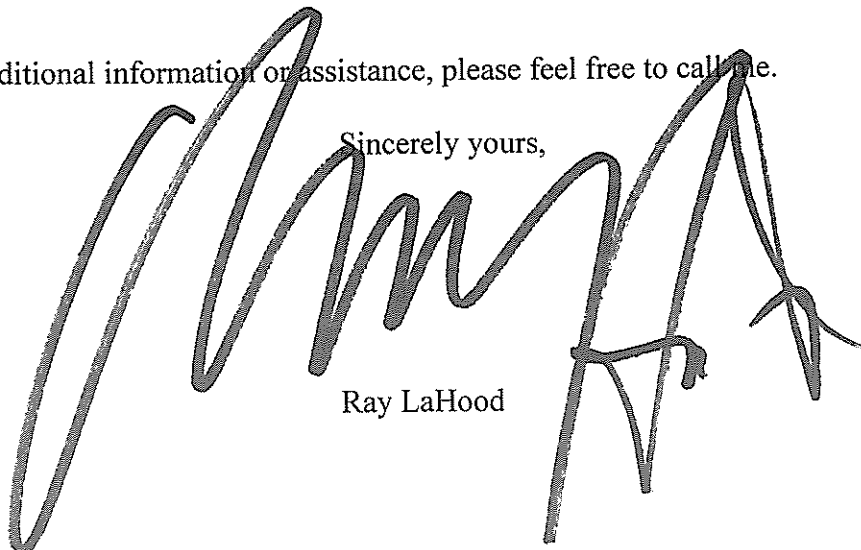
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If I can provide additional information or assistance, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely yours,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ray LaHood', is written over the typed name.

Ray LaHood

Enclosure

Technical Assistance Grant Recipients (2010)

1. The Gas Board of the city of Fayette, Alabama (\$50,000)

The board will collect GIS data pertaining to the cathodic protection system.

2. Municipal Utilities Board of Decatur, Alabama (\$50,000)

The board will collect GIS data of critical appurtenances to develop a pipeline isolation plan in the event of an emergency.

3. Southeast Alabama Gas District, Alabama (\$50,000)

The district will collect GIS data of critical appurtenances to develop a pipeline isolation plan in the event of an emergency.

4. City of Chattahoochee, Florida (\$50,000)

The city will create a GIS database of the city's natural gas system.

5. Leon County, Florida (\$50,000)

The county will enhance the accuracy of GIS data pertaining to high-pressure pipelines in Leon County.

6. City of Perry, Florida (\$50,000)

The city will develop a GIS for its natural gas distribution system.

7. Greater Lafourche Port Commission, Louisiana (\$49,954)

The commission will develop and implement a marine pipeline damage prevention and public awareness program for mariners navigating in coastal Louisiana and the Gulf of Mexico.

8. City of Seward Water Department, Nebraska (\$48,004)

The city will install hydrocarbon monitoring wells near its Wellhead Protection Area (water supply), which is in close proximity to a 30-inch oil pipeline.

9. Kearny Fire Department, New Jersey (\$17,959)

The department will purchase 12 multigas meters, four calibration systems with gas, and training DVDs to assist firefighters with responding to potential pipeline emergencies.

10. Eastern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority, New Mexico (\$50,000)

The authority will conduct work in the planning and outreach phase of a stream stability study and related implications for pipelines in a PHMSA-defined High Consequence Area.

11. Stutsman County Sheriff Department, North Dakota (\$21,000)

The department will develop pipeline GIS data for emergency responders.

12. Shawnee Township Fire Department, Ohio (\$50,000)

The department will conduct an 811 (national call-before-you-dig telephone number) awareness campaign using billboards, public service announcements, the Internet, and brochures.

13. The Pennsylvania State University, Pennsylvania (\$50,000)

The university will conduct research regarding using forest vegetation as an indicator of natural gas leaks.

14. Safety, Agriculture, Villages, and Environment, Inc. (S.A.V.E.), Pennsylvania (\$50,000)

The S.A.V.E. will create a Chester County coalition for pipeline safety similar to the Pipeline Safety Trust.

15. South Dakota State University, South Dakota (\$49,960)

The university will develop a standard for the design of the rural water pipelines that cross under crude oil pipelines.

16. Spink County, South Dakota (\$35,475)

The county will obtain independent legal and technical assistance in developing a local pipeline ordinance.

17. City of Etowah, Tennessee (\$50,000)

The city will develop GIS data in support of cathodic protection and leak management analysis.

18. Middle Tennessee Utility District, Tennessee (\$50,000)

The District will enhance GIS data to aid in collecting system information needed for implementation of the district's Distribution Integrity Management Plan (DIMP).

19. Oak Ridge Utility District, Tennessee (\$50,000)

The district will deploy GIS to laptops in their vehicles to enable faster and more effective emergency response.

20. Pipeline Safety Trust, Washington (\$22,650)

The Pipeline Safety Trust will develop a resource guide for citizens near existing and proposed pipelines.

21. Skagit County Planning and Development Service, Washington (\$49,667)

The county will develop regulations to govern development near oil or gas transmission pipelines within unincorporated Skagit County.

Technical Assistance Demonstration Grant Recipients (2009)

1. City of St. Peters, Missouri (\$8,784)

The city will develop an educational public Web page for residents, property owners, contractors, and developers to raise awareness of pipeline safety issues in the community.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

2. Brookings County, South Dakota (\$12,000)

The county will use the Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance (PIPA) Consultation and/or Planning Zone best practices to develop a zoning ordinance to protect pipeline rights of way.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

3. City of Fort Worth, Texas (\$25,000)

The city will convert paper-based pipeline records to a public geographic information system (GIS) to be used for land use planning.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

4. Montgomery County, Virginia (\$24,630)

The county will develop a GIS of pipelines and utilize PIPA Consultation Zone best practices for land use planning, analyzing pipeline Consultation Zones and revising the development review process to emphasize pipeline safety, examining zoning ordinances in relation to PIPA best practices, developing Consultation/Planning Zone educational materials in cooperation with the pipeline industry, and developing a pipeline emergency response plan and exercise the plan.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

Technical Assistance Grant Recipients (2009)

1. Copper River Watershed Project, Cordova, Alaska (\$48,380)

The Copper River Watershed Project will support citizen-based safety monitoring of the Trans Alaska Pipeline System (Alaska North Slope, Yukon River drainage, Copper River drainage).

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

2. City of Mesa, Arizona (\$50,000)

The city will elevate community awareness and education of pipeline safety issues using television-based targeted interactive advertising.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

3. The Tides Center, Suisun City, California (\$50,000)

The Tides Center will evaluate the safety of aging hazardous liquid and natural gas transmission pipelines in a pipeline corridor.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

4. Lake Apopka Natural Gas, Winter Garden, Florida (\$50,000)

Lake Apopka Natural Gas will create a geographic information system (GIS) of their natural gas distribution pipeline system. The GIS data will be made available to emergency responders to improve emergency response capabilities. The data will also be provided to land use planners to help reduce conflicts between pipelines and other land use. The data can also be used for pipeline risk analysis and pipeline replacement studies.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

5. City of Blountstown, Florida (\$50,000)

The city will create a GIS of their natural gas distribution pipeline system. The GIS data will be made available to emergency responders to improve emergency response capabilities. The data will also be provided to land use planners to help reduce conflicts between pipelines and other land use. The data can also be used for pipeline risk analysis and pipeline replacement studies.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

6. City of Clearwater, Florida (\$50,000)

The city will create a GIS of their natural gas distribution pipeline system. The GIS data will be made available to emergency responders to improve emergency response capabilities. The data will also be provided to land use planners to help reduce conflicts between pipelines and other land use. The data can also be used for pipeline risk analysis and pipeline replacement studies.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

7. City of Elberton, Georgia (\$50,000)

The city will create a GIS of their natural gas distribution pipeline system. The GIS data will be made available to emergency responders to improve emergency response capabilities. The data will also be provided to land use planners to help reduce conflicts between pipelines and other land use. The data can also be used for pipeline risk analysis and pipeline replacement studies.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

8. Toccoa Natural Gas, Toccoa, Georgia (\$50,000)

The city will create a GIS of their natural gas distribution pipeline system. The GIS data will be made available to emergency responders to improve emergency response capabilities. The data will also be provided to land use planners to help reduce conflicts between pipelines and other land use. The data can also be used for pipeline risk analysis and pipeline replacement studies.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

9. Kansas Municipal Utilities, McPherson, Kansas (\$50,000)

Kansas Municipal Utilities will provide direct technical assistance to prepare 62 Kansas municipal gas utilities for emergency or disaster response pertaining to the natural gas pipeline system. The project will also target 100 percent participation in the KSMAP mutual aid program for Kansas utilities.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

10. Prestonsburg City's Utilities Commission, Prestonsburg, Kentucky (\$26,000)

The Prestonsburg City's Utilities Commission will upgrade and enhance its gas leak detection program with the purchase of new safety equipment and training in the use of the new equipment.

Status: Active

11. City Utilities of Springfield, Springfield, Missouri (\$41,383)

City Utilities of Springfield will make upgrades to the City Utilities of Springfield Leak Training Area and Fire Training facilities and equipment.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

12. Northern Plains Resource Council, Billings, Montana (\$36,103)

The Northern Plains Resource Council will disseminate information regarding pipeline

construction and safety to affected landowners and county officials via the Montana Dakota Pipeline Safety Landowner Exchange Project.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

13. Nebraska City Utilities, Nebraska City, Nebraska (\$16,500)

Nebraska City Utilities will purchase a remote methane leak detector to enhance pipeline leak detection capabilities.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

14. City of Hamilton, Ohio (\$50,000)

The city will complete an engineering “make piggable” study of a high pressure gas distribution main. The study will determine the feasibility of altering the gas distribution main to accept an in-line inspection device.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

15. Safety, Agriculture, Villages, & Environment (S.A.V.E.) Inc., Kennett Square, Pennsylvania (\$50,000)

The S.A.V.E. Inc. will conduct education and outreach on pipeline safety involving the existing Columbia and proposed co-linear AES Mid-Atlantic Express LNG Project pipelines.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

16. West Vincent Township, Chester Springs, Pennsylvania (\$50,000)

West Vincent Township will analyze pipeline safety issues affecting the local community with regard to a Dominion Keystone project.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

17. Bradford Glen Homeowners Association, West Bradford, Pennsylvania (\$50,000)

The Bradford Glen Homeowners Association will evaluate and assess the safety of co-locating proposed Mid-Atlantic Express, LLC pipeline adjacent to an existing Columbia pipeline in the vicinity of a high consequence area.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

18. Oak Ridge Utility District, Oak Ridge, Tennessee (\$50,000)

The Oak Ridge Utility District will improve its gas distribution system monitoring capabilities, incorporate pipeline integrity management data into the development of a GIS, and add additional educational advertising for a public awareness safety campaign.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

19. Fort Worth League of Neighborhood Associations, Fort Worth, Texas (\$48,305)

The Fort Worth League of Neighborhood Associations will provide a comprehensive overview of all pipeline issues through a “State of Gas Pipelines in Fort Worth” report and disseminate information to Fort Worth residents, elected officials, and natural gas drilling and pipeline operators.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

20. The Association of Washington Cities, Olympia, Washington (\$50,000)

The Association of Washington Cities will enhance public safety by improving local government land use planning and permitting practices in the vicinity of transmission pipelines.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.

21. Pipeline Safety Trust, Bellingham, Washington (\$47,250)

The Pipeline Safety Trust will determine effective communication strategies to engage local public officials to improve pipeline safety in their communities.

Status: This project was satisfactorily completed and accomplished its stated goals. A final report for this project is available at <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/tag>.