



Louisiana Gas Association

LGA Winter
E-Newsletter
January 2016

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Your Source of News for the Natural Gas Industry

PERFORMANCE | SAFETY | PUBLIC AWARENESS



CenterPoint
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LGA Pipeline Safety Conference August 8-12, 2016

Greetings!

Please make plans to attend the this year's Pipeline Safety Conference that will be held August 8-12, 2016 at the Astor Crowne Plaza in New Orleans, Louisiana! The 2016 Pipeline Safety Conference will bring together individuals in the Natural Gas Industry, expert presenters on the federal and state levels, and suppliers to enhance performance, promote safety, and broaden public awareness.

This conference, which has been referred to as the "Premier Pipeline Safety Conference," is developing an amazing lineup of presenters as well as networking opportunities for attendees, exhibitors, and sponsors. Registration, Sponsorship, and Exhibitor Opportunities will be released soon. Do not miss out on the opportunity to participate in this great event!

Please see below for more information and contact the LGA office if you have any questions.

Hotel Accommodations:

Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel
739 Canal Street at Bourbon
New Orleans, LA 70130
(887) 408-9661

[Click here for Online Reservations](#)

Exhibitor & Sponsorship Opportunities coming soon! More information about the 2016 Pipeline Safety Conference can be found by visiting www.LouisianaGasAssociation.org. Individuals interested in learning more may also contact the LGA office for more information at (225) 218-6885

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Questions? Contact Kathleen O'Regan at the LGA office:

(225) 218-6885
LGA@tatmangroup.com

Save the Date:: Annual Operations Conference

October 24-26, 2016



When: October 24-26, 2016

Where: Crowne Plaza, Baton Rouge, LA

Schedule:

October 24, 2016:: Golf Tournament and 9th Annual Michael Hester BBQ Cook-off

October 25, 2016:: Speaker Sessions & Live & Silent Auction

October 26, 2016:: Speaker Sessions & LGA Annual Meeting

More Information Coming Soon!

Have an interesting article for the LGA E-Newsletter?

Have an interesting article to include in the LGA E-Newsletter? Send suggested articles to Kathleen O'Regan at the LGA Office. Your article will appear in the next quarterly issue!

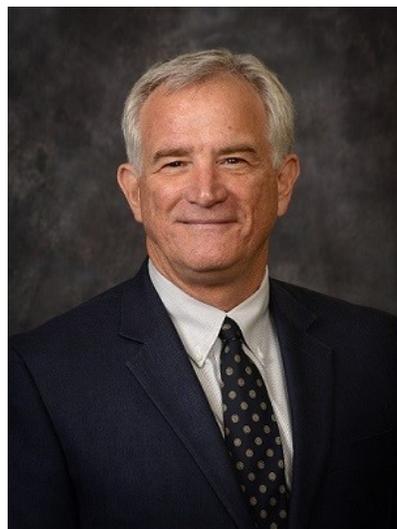
Articles may include, but are not limited to:

- LGA member, company, and/or employee recognitions
- Industry updates
- Member special events
- Company announcements
- Consumer reports

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LMGA Hires Full-Time Manager: Ken Drone



[2016 Educational Seminar Line up](#)

[Electrofusion & Valve Maintenance Training](#)

February 23, 2016
Atmos Energy in Lafayette

[Small Operator Pipeline Safety Seminar & Round Table](#)

March 2, 2016
Carencro Community Center

[Leak Survey Training](#)

March 9, 2016
Atmos Energy in Lafayette

[Damage Prevention Workshop](#)

March 21, 2016
Crowne Plaza, Baton Rouge

[Meter to Burner Tips & Technician Roundtable](#)

April 6, 2016

Louisiana Municipal Gas Association has appointed Ken Drone, LMA Assistant Director of Operations and LMGA Manager, as its first full-time Managing Director. Ken is still part of the LMA organization, but his years of service will be focused on improving and expanding the LMGA.

Ken has 25 years of local government experience, serving as Treasurer for the City of Denham Springs for eight years. Ken was first hired as LMA Chief Financial Officer in 1998. In that role he was responsible for all aspects of accounting and finances for the LMA and affiliate organizations. He was recently promoted to his current role of LMA Assistant Director of Operations in 2014, in which he oversees the daily management of the LMA and its staff.

Ken will start his new position on February 1, 2016, where he will manage all aspects of administration, marketing, and operations for the LMGA. We wish him and the LMGA the very best in their new ventures and their expansion efforts.

Gas Utility District #1

[Customer Service Roundtable](#)

May 4, 2016

Gas Utility District #1

[Regular & Relief Valve Training](#)

June 15, 2016

John H. Carter

[Catholic Protection Basic Seminar](#)

July 12, 2016

Atmos Energy, Lafayette

[Catholic Protection Advanced Seminar](#)

July 13, 2016

Atmos Energy, Lafayette

To Register for a seminar online [Click Here](#)

LGA Online Training ~ Quick, Easy & Flexible
Hazardous Liquids and Gas Transmission & Distribution
Click Here to Register Now!



AGA: Natural Gas is Boosting Our Economy

Natural gas households save \$840 per year totaling almost \$69 billion over the past four years

New York, NY - American Gas Association (AGA) Chairman Ralph LaRossa says that natural gas holds incredible opportunity for customers, utility employees and investors. Speaking at the New York Society of Security Analysts today, the President and Chief Operating Officer of Public Service Electric & Gas Co. in New Jersey said the expansion of natural gas in the United States, driven by abundant supply and affordable prices, will require a diverse and inclusive workforce to upgrade and maintain the energy infrastructure that will deliver natural gas safely and reliably to growing number of customers.

"Americans want natural gas to heat their homes, warm their water and cook their food because it is comfortable, efficient and affordable," LaRossa said. "Throughout the United States utilities are adding new pipeline capacity and upgrading existing infrastructure to make sure that the gas can get to customers - especially when they need it most. We need skilled workers to dig the trenches, weld the pipes and hook up new customers. Through greater use of natural gas, we have an opportunity to create jobs and continue to revitalize our economy."

The 30-year veteran of the utility industry also noted that the direct use of natural gas reduces emissions and can make a huge impact on the bottom line of a home, business or government. Households with natural gas versus all-electric appliances save an average of \$840 per year. In fact, low domestic natural gas prices have led to savings of almost \$69 billion for residential natural gas customers over the past four years. In addition, households with natural gas versus all-electric appliances produce 37 percent lower greenhouse gas emissions. The American Gas Association has released a report entitled **Dispatching Direct Use: Achieving Greenhouse Gas Reductions with Natural Gas in Homes and Businesses.**

LaRossa told the audience, "Natural gas is great for our communities because it creates good paying jobs and the opportunity for career advancement. It is also helping us meet our national goals of boosting our economy, improving our environment and increasing our energy security. This clean energy source will continue to play a significant role in the energy future of this nation and many others."

About the **American Gas Association**

The American Gas Association, founded in 1918, represents more than 200 local energy companies that deliver clean natural gas throughout the United States. There are more than 72 million residential, commercial and industrial natural gas customers in the U.S., of which 95 percent - just under 69 million customers - receive their gas from AGA

members. Today, natural gas meets more than one-fourth of the United States' energy needs.

DOTD: Rulemaking

Safety On-Shore Liquid Hazardous Pipelines: Issued

This rule making would address effective procedures that hazardous liquid operators can use to improve the protection of High Consequence Areas (HCA) and other vulnerable areas along their hazardous liquid onshore pipelines. PHMSA is considering whether changes are needed to the regulations covering hazardous liquid onshore pipelines, whether other areas should be included as HCAs for integrity management (IM) protections, what the repair time frames should be for areas outside the HCAs that are assessed as part of the IM program, whether leak detection standards are necessary, valve spacing requirements are needed on new construction or existing pipelines exempt from regulation. The agency would also address the public safety and environmental aspects any new requirements, as well as the cost implications and regulatory burden.

Excess Flow Valves in Applications other than single-family residences in gas distribution systems: Pending

This rulemaking would require excess flow valves (EFVs) be installed in all new and renewed gas service lines, for structures other than single family dwellings, when the operating conditions are compatible with readily available valves. These changes would be in response to NTSB and PHMSA investigations of current EFV installation practices. The intended effect of the rule is to increase the level of safety for structures other than single family dwellings currently subject to Federal pipeline safety regulation.

Gas Transportation: Pending

In this rulemaking, PHMSA will be revisiting the requirements in the Pipeline Safety Regulations addressing integrity management principles for Gas Transmission pipelines. IN particular, PHMSA will address: Repair criteria for both HCA ans non-HCA areas, assessment methods, validating and integrating pipeline data, risk assessments, knowledge gained through the IM program, corrosion control, change management, gathering lines, and safety features on launchers and receivers.

Stage:NPRM: Pending

This rule would propose installation of automatic shutoff valves, remote controlled valves, or equivalent technology and establish performance based meaningful metrics for rupture detection for gas and liquid transmission pipelines. The overall intent is that rupture detection metrics will be integrated with ASV adn RCV placement with the objective of improving overall incident response. Rupture response metrics would focus on mitigating large, unsafe, uncontrolled release events that have a greater potential consequence. The areas proposed to be covered include High Consequence Areas (HCA) for hazardous liquids and HCA, Class 3 and 4 for natural gas (including could affect areas).

For more information on the DOT Issue Significant Rulemaking Report click [HERE](#)

2016 Louisiana Prevention Summit



The 2016 Louisiana Damage Prevention Summit is scheduled for March 21 - 23, 2016 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Baton Rouge. There you can network with different type of utility professionals, build skills, participate in the locate rodeo and attend expert led damage prevention sessions. Many of the sessions encourage attendees to be involved in creating solutions to the many field scenarios you are involved with every day. Demos, a full exhibit hall, workshops and sessions create the perfect environment for having fun, building relationships and learning more about keeping Louisiana a safer place to live and work.

To register early and save or to look at this year's sessions, go to www.louisiana.damagepreventionsummit.com.

LGA is a proud GOLD SPONSOR of the summit!

To learn more about LGA or if you have any questions regarding the articles in this newsletter please contact (225) 218-6885 or visit www.louisianagasassociation.org.

Sincerely,
Louisiana Gas Association

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