

2014 Eastern Region Meeting Portsmouth N.H.

State of State Report:
State of: Massachusetts

Program Overview

- Description: The Pipeline Division currently enlists 7 Field Engineers, we are still in the process of hiring 5 additional Field Engineers, a Division Attorney and an Assistant Director.
- Direction: Re-focus the Division to ensure that state operators are inspected comprehensively and consistently. Enhance communication between the parties to create a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities.
- 2014 Focus: Continue addressing knowledge, training and qualification process deficiencies, address poor performance, establish expectations and clear lines of communication.
- Continue to Enhance public safety.

Action Items to Enhance Public Safety

11 gas operators

- Conduct quarterly meetings with operator executives to discuss operational issues
- Open and honest discussion between the parties, share information related to incidents or operations
- Perform monthly field audits with company executives to identify operational concerns and allow for items to be addressed by the organization
- Initiate peer-to-peer reviews of field operations (executives, DPU)
- Structure consistent and uniform operator inspections and audits
- Conduct individual meetings with operators to review and discuss findings and concerns (weekly, monthly)
- Enhanced Dig Safe activity including NOPV's, Training and meetings

Operational Issues

- Pressure tests not well performed and documented
- Improper fusions, pass visual inspections, technicians not recognizing defective work
- Insufficient and improper documentation
- Service risers not properly installed (buried too deep)
- Poor maps and records
- Atmospheric corrosion not being performed
- Supervision span of control
- Poor and/or inadequate responses during Protocol 9 Audits (e.g. unable to properly identify task –specific AOCs and how to react)