

July 6, 2011

TO: Missouri Natural Gas Operators

SUBJECTS: 1) DIMP Regulation
2) Public Awareness Survey

Note: Copies are not sent to all operator personnel. Please forward letter to appropriate person(s).

1) **DIMP Regulation**

Staff reminds operators that the “Integrity Management Program for Gas Distribution Pipelines” must be developed and implemented by **August 2, 2011**. Operators are expected to submit their Distribution Integrity Management Program to Staff by the implementation date of **August 2, 2011**. Staff will review the plans for completeness, then begin to conduct DIMP inspections at the operator’s facilities, either during the operator’s annual safety inspection or as a separate DIMP inspection. The PHMSA-DOT webpage for DIMP <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/dimp/> provides links to information (inspection form, FAQ’s, webinars and other resources).

2) **Public Awareness - Effectiveness Evaluations**

API RP 1162 recommends that the effectiveness of public awareness programs be evaluated at intervals of not more than four years. The suggested evaluation techniques include surveys of stakeholder audiences, assessing changes in stakeholder behavior, etc. Operators were required to have public awareness programs that met the requirements of API RP 1162 written by June 20, 2006. Therefore, the Effectiveness Evaluation was due no later than **June 20, 2010**.

Staff is currently in the process of contacting operators that have not submitted their Effectiveness Evaluation. If you have not submitted your Effectiveness Evaluation, please complete the evaluation/survey and forward it to Staff as soon as possible.

If you have any questions concerning any of these topics, please contact me at 573/751-3456.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Leonberger
Assistant Manager – Gas Safety/Engineering

RF, GW; RRL