



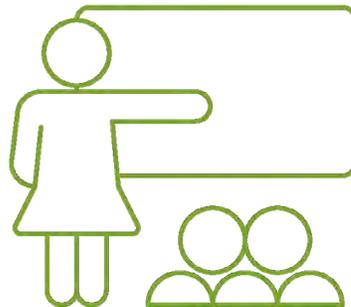
# The Pipeline Safety Pulse

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In every issue of *The Pulse*, we are exploring an element of our National Grid Pipeline Safety Management System (PSMS), which is a structured framework designed to enhance Gas Business processes and procedures to reduce and eliminate pipeline safety incidents. It is based on the American Petroleum Institute's RP 1173.

## Our Pipeline Safety Management System: Element 9



### Competency, Awareness and Training (CAT)

#### Element Purpose:

National Grid requires that personnel demonstrate a high degree of competence and professionalism in performing their assigned activities. Ensuring all personnel are qualified and competent to perform their responsibilities requires training that is both comprehensive and well-constructed. It also includes verification of training effectiveness. Contractors' competency requires assurance of contractor training and the use of field oversight. Competency, awareness and training help foster a positive safety culture throughout our organization.

*(continued on page 2)*



## Our Pipeline Safety Management System: Element 9

(continued from page 1)

### Key expectations

- Training is designed to deliver the proper information, including refresher training, that ensures personnel have the requisite knowledge, skill and qualifications to fulfill their responsibilities within the PSMS framework.
- Onboarding of new employees assures that our company values are understood.
- PSMS element-specific training is provided to personnel that is consistent with their activities related to the element.
- All personnel who perform pipeline safety tasks (e.g., planning, design, execution, documentation and closeout) receive thorough training. Prior to performing their work, they demonstrate that they are competent and qualified to operate the relevant equipment and that they know the proper procedures.
- Training includes external agencies and incorporates their requirements for training, qualification, certification and licensure.
- The training verification process uses a variety of methods to ensure the skill and knowledge of our personnel.
- Training records are documented and retained and reviewed to assure requirements are met.
- Training is provided for goals, objectives and responsibilities related to emergency preparedness.
- Contractors are trained on all National Grid procedures specific to their work function.
- Contractors involved with PSMS responsibilities go through a contractor onboarding program prior to working on company assets.



## Are you a supervisor in gas contractor oversight and complex construction?

*Please attend this important training!*

All contractors who perform high and medium risk services are required to submit their company information within ISNetwork.

To ensure we are utilizing all the tools they offer to verify contractor operator qualifications, ISNetwork will host a virtual one-hour refresher training about the NG ISNetwork account in June. Dates offered will be:

- Wednesday, June 1st at 10:00 am
- Thursday, June 2nd at 11:00 am
- Wednesday, June 8th at 2:00 pm





Inclusion and diversity



# May is Global Employee Health & Fitness Month

Global Employee Health & Fitness Month is an international and national observance of health and fitness in the workplace created by the National Association for Health and Fitness. We encourage you to promote an even more healthy and active workplace at National Grid by organizing a walk/hike or a bike ride with colleagues this month.



## Inclusion and diversity dates to remember

### May

- **May 1–31:** Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Jewish American Heritage Month, Mental Health Awareness Month, National Nurses Month, Older Americans Month
- **May 5:** Cinco de Mayo
- **May 8:** Mother's Day
- **May 30:** Memorial Day

### June

- **June 1–30:** AIDs Awareness Month, LGBT Pride Month, PTSD Awareness Month
- **June 15:** Native American Citizenship Day
- **June 19:** Juneteenth, a.k.a. Freedom Day or Emancipation Day; Father's Day





## National Hurricane Preparedness Week

Meteorological researchers are predicting a more active than normal hurricane season for 2022. This year's season is June 1–November 30. That makes Hurricane Preparedness Week the perfect time to evaluate your family's readiness for the next hurricane.

NOAA (the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) suggests that you prepare by: determining your risk; developing an evacuation plan; gathering disaster supplies; getting an insurance checkup; strengthening your home; completing a written plan; and helping your neighbors prepare.

### What should be in your hurricane emergency kit?

Keep an emergency kit year-round with a minimum three-day supply, and make sure everyone at home knows where to find it. The American Red Cross recommends including the following items. Remember to share emergency plans, the location of the emergency kit, meeting places and contact information with all household members.

- Water – one gallon per person, per day
- Canned and dried foods, and a can opener
- Flashlight (candles could be fire hazards)
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio
- Extra batteries
- Charged cell phone with chargers
- First aid kit, including medications, physician and pharmacy information, and backup power for life-sustaining medical equipment
- Blankets
- Toiletries
- Family and emergency contact information
- Baby formula and diapers



Safety awareness



June is National Safety Month.

## Use outdoor gas appliances safely

Keep safety in mind while enjoying your backyard this summer.

### Grills:

- Make sure the gas grill is turned off or disconnected before cleaning.
- Check the metal tubes under each burner for signs of spiders, insects and nests which can block gas flow, possibly causing a fire. Models with spider guards or screens can help prevent this problem by preventing spiders or other insects from moving into the tube.
- Clean regularly. Use a small flexible brush to remove debris from the metal tube and a thin wire to gently clean the holes or ports of each burner.



### Natural gas patio heaters and fireplaces:

- Have a certified contractor run the gas line.
- Keep appliances a safe distance away from your house or any building.



Working  
smarter



## How to work smarter this summer

Protect yourself when working in summer heat and sun. Make these three smart moves every day:



✓ **Hydrate!** You know you need more water in the heat, so plan ahead. Start drinking water before you get to work – and keep drinking every 15 to 20 minutes throughout the day. Make sure that water is always handy. Bring a water bottle to the jobsite and refill it as soon as it's empty. Substitute an electrolyte-rich sports drink for water during periods of extreme heat and humidity. Avoid caffeine and alcohol.



✓ **Slather on the sunscreen!** Cover up whatever skin you can with cool, loose-fitting clothing. Be sure to wear a hat that covers your ears and shades your nose, eyes and neck. Then apply a good sunscreen with at least 30 SPF to all exposed areas (especially nose, ears and the back of your neck). Reapply through the day, as sunscreen washes away with sweat.



✓ **Be alert for heat exhaustion!** When you're working hard in the sun, watch yourself and your colleagues for signs of heat-related illness, which occurs when your body is unable to cool itself sufficiently due to high temperature, humidity, dehydration or inability to sweat. Watch for:

- **Heat cramps:** Combat this mildest form of heat illness with fluids, getting to someplace cool and rest.
- **Heat exhaustion:** Symptoms include rapid pulse, heavy sweating, dizziness, goose bumps, muscle cramps and headache. Get victims out of the sun and to cooler temperatures immediately. Hydrate and use ice packs or pour cold water over yourself to cool down.
- **Heat stroke:** This life-threatening illness shows with inability to sweat, nausea and vomiting, confusion, stumbling, clumsiness and rapid pulse. Use all the earlier suggestions for treatment and call 911.





## Upcoming events

- **May 17–19:** The **2022 Annual Utility Public Safety Alliance (UPSA) Meeting** will be held in person at The Hotel Hershey in Hershey, PA. For additional information, visit [upsa-utilitypublicsafetyalliance.org](https://upsa-utilitypublicsafetyalliance.org).
- **June 7–10:** Northeast Gas Association’s annual **Gas Operations School & Exhibit** will be held in person at Bryant University, Smithfield, RI. For additional information, visit [northeastgas.org/eve-gas-ops-school.php](https://northeastgas.org/eve-gas-ops-school.php).

# GBU Safety and Compliance Recognition Program

Company news



The Gas Business Unit has initiated a new program that recognizes real-life examples of managers exemplifying the values of our safety and compliance culture. The new GBU Safety and Compliance Recognition Program began April 1, 2022, with the first quarter of FY 23.

Any colleague can nominate any full-time Gas Business Unit management employee (bands D, E, F), demonstrating outstanding safety and compliance performance, for one of two awards:

- **Quarterly Recognition Award for Safety and Compliance:** One recipient in each jurisdiction receives 750 Appreciate Award Points (\$240). This award celebrates success in one or more aspects of the GBU’s program focus areas, including Strategic Initiatives; Above and Beyond Behaviors; Safety and Compliance Plans; and Sharing of Best Practices.
- **Quarterly Finalist Award for Safety and Compliance:** One recipient in each jurisdiction receives 1,500 Appreciate Award Points (\$480). This award celebrates employees who have produced the most impactful safety or compliance achievements.

Nominations are accepted quarterly, between the first and final day of the quarter. GBU Leadership may nominate direct reports, and individuals in the GBU may nominate themselves or a colleague for either award.

Nominations will be reviewed by a selection committee and decided by a panel committee. Complete your nomination form by clicking [HERE](#), or by scanning the QR code on the left.



## Please save the date!

### Gas Pipeline Safety and Compliance Day

- Tuesday, June 28th
- Wednesday, June 29th

You are invited to join us and learn more. Additional details to come soon.





Company news 

## Pipeline safety spotlight recognition

**Emily Aitcheson** and **Beth McDonough**, Pipeline Safety Specialists

According to Kelson McDaniel, manager Pipeline Safety, Emily and Beth have been critical in prepping and facilitating the recent American Petroleum Institute Safety Management System Assessment, which will be our Pipeline Safety blueprint for the next three years. He adds: "Without Emily's and Beth's unique talents, we would not be where we are today with Pipeline Safety Maturity goals."

Thank you, Beth and Emily, for your outstanding effort, which enabled the Pipeline Safety team to not only achieve its goals, but also its stretch goals!



Every quarter, *The Pulse* will feature an article about an employee or team that you nominate for the Employee Spotlight. Nominate an employee, coworker or team who embodies National Grid values, and we will put them in the spotlight for some well-deserved recognition. Please complete [The Pulse Spotlight nomination form](#), then email the completed form to Lead Communications Specialist Lisa Callahan at [lisa.callahan@nationalgrid.com](mailto:lisa.callahan@nationalgrid.com).

