



The Pipeline Safety Pulse

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A message from Richard Delaney

Winter can be a challenging time. It brings not only cold weather but also hazardous conditions that require a safety focus for many of our daily activities. Whether it's walking on ice or driving in snow, we must take the time to think about safety with each move we make.

It's the same way when we approach our pipeline safety work throughout the winter. As natural gas industry experts, we know that winter can bring special challenges. Our systems are operating closer to design conditions as gas demand increases with dropping temperatures; meanwhile, our regulator stations and gate station operations become critical to maintaining safe and reliable service for our customers. Working on our mains and services during the winter is incredibly important to maintaining service as well. We must approach our work there with a focus on SOP safety and temperature and pressure restrictions while factoring in the unique impacts of working during cold conditions.

Take the moment you need to concentrate on your personal safety and pipeline safety. Focus on a good, detailed job brief to identify the key risks – and if needed, call that Safety Stop to attend to all of the risks at hand.

Richard Delaney
Vice President, Gas Pipeline Safety & Compliance

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API 1173 assessment

As part of National Grid's due diligence of proactively maintaining an effective Pipeline Safety Management System (PSMS) that is laser-focused on continuous improvement, we have made a commitment with our regulators to utilize a third-party assessor to review the company's conformance with API 1173. National Grid has contracted the American Petroleum Institute (API) to conduct this assessment in June 2024. The assessment will require involvement of key personnel across our gas business.

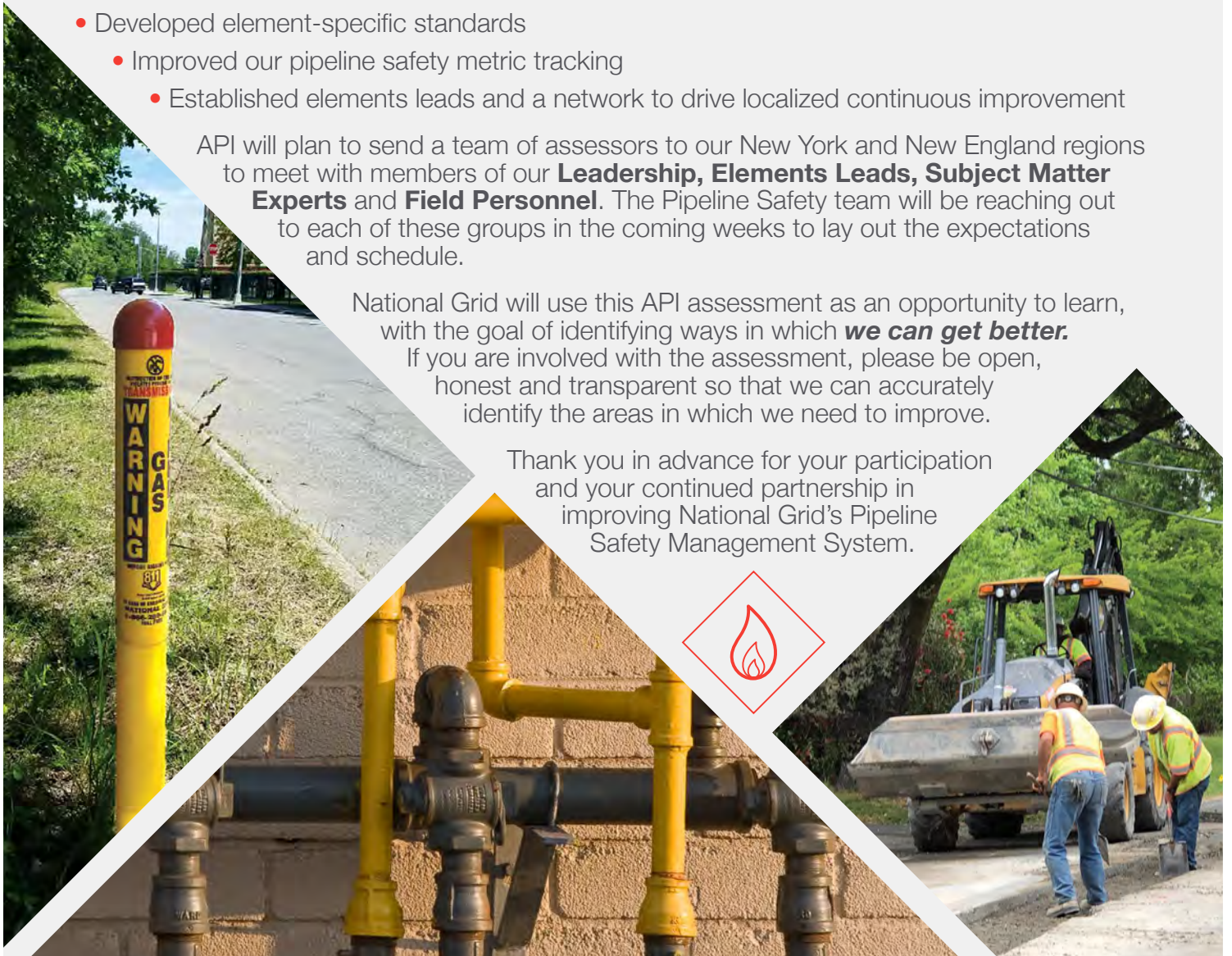
Since API 1173 was adopted by National Grid in 2017, the company has been on a journey of implementation. National Grid has come a long way since our last assessment in 2022. Much of this can be attributed to the work that everyone in the Gas Business Unit has achieved over the years. Some key milestones include:

- Developed element-specific standards
- Improved our pipeline safety metric tracking
- Established elements leads and a network to drive localized continuous improvement

API will plan to send a team of assessors to our New York and New England regions to meet with members of our **Leadership, Elements Leads, Subject Matter Experts** and **Field Personnel**. The Pipeline Safety team will be reaching out to each of these groups in the coming weeks to lay out the expectations and schedule.

National Grid will use this API assessment as an opportunity to learn, with the goal of identifying ways in which **we can get better**. If you are involved with the assessment, please be open, honest and transparent so that we can accurately identify the areas in which we need to improve.

Thank you in advance for your participation and your continued partnership in improving National Grid's Pipeline Safety Management System.



Diversity, equity and inclusion: It starts with me



DEI is everyone's business – but **it starts with me.**

We are all accountable for striving for a safe environment where everyone feels like they are included and belong.

Why is this important?

Imagine:

- being overlooked for a job because of the way you look.
- being unable to enter a building because you can't climb the stairs to the door.
- your opinion being discounted because of your accent.
- pretending your partner is the opposite gender because it's easier.
- not being able to watch the video everyone is going on about on social media because you can't hear it and there are no subtitles.
- living your life at work every day as someone you're not, just so you can fit into a team.

Imagine not being seen, heard, addressed, included.

Too many of our colleagues don't have to imagine one of these or many similar scenarios, because this is what they experience every day.

Now, imagine:

- having a conversation with someone whose different lived experience can provide a solution to a problem you've been struggling with.
- having colleagues who can add perspective, empathy, understanding and a different point of view.

None of us have to imagine these and similar scenarios – this is what we can experience every day if we include and appreciate all our colleagues without prejudice.

Everyone deserves to have a voice that is heard, and everyone should feel safe to challenge behavior and attitudes that promote discrimination.

Because we are better together, and DEI is everyone's business.

The GPSC DEI Committee has curated a wealth of tools that can help you apply DEI in your development plan. We recommend including at least one (1) DEI objective in your development plan. Click the link(s) below to find out more information to help you include DEI in your professional and personal development.

[DEI for managers](#)

[Professional Personal Development](#)

[Development Planning](#)

[DEI Strategy](#)

[Business Unit and Function DEI Networks](#)

[DEI Development Opportunities – US](#)

Contacts: Diane Itzhaki, Samantha Henderson, Brad Corbett





Inclusion and diversity



Black History Month

Black History Month, also known as African American Month, recognizes and honors the contributions that Black people have made and continue to make to life in the United States. It was the brainchild of historian and educator Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who is known as the father of Black history. The first child of slave parents to earn a PhD (from Harvard), Dr. Woodson started the first Negro History Week in February 1926. Fifty years later, February was formally designated Black History Month by then-president Gerald Ford.

This year’s theme, “African Americans and the Arts,” puts a spotlight on the many contributions that Black Americans have made in visual arts, performing arts, literature, cultural movements and more. How can you learn more about African American artists and celebrate Black History Month? Here are some ideas:

- Purchase, read and share books by Black authors
- Learn about the contributions of noteworthy Black visual artists, filmmakers and performing artists
- Donate to charities that support anti-racism, equity and equality
- Support Black-owned businesses
- Participate in Black History Month celebrations and events in your community

Our safety principles

Employee safety



Safe to say

Everyone’s voice is important – how do you feel **safe to say?**

1. We have meaningful and regular safety discussions
2. We openly discuss our safety performance, good and bad
3. We are “safe to say” what is on our minds



Safe choices

Everyone would choose safety, right? **Do you?**

1. We thoroughly assess and mitigate safety risks
2. We choose and apply the appropriate safety controls
3. We intentionally monitor changes



Safe to stop

Stop! **A simple word that could save a life.**

1. We can all challenge unsafe conditions at any time and stop when it’s safe to do so
2. We are open to challenges at all times
3. We celebrate positive safety interventions



Safe to learn

What did we learn? **Reflecting and sharing experiences will help keep us all safe.**

1. We report all safety incidents, near misses, and good catches
2. We investigate incidents thoroughly and collaboratively
3. We share learning from safety incidents to prevent recurrences





Recap on Grid:voice 2024

Company news



- The 2024 Grid:voice survey will run from **Thursday, January 25 to Thursday, February 15, 2024.**
- All colleagues who are employed directly by National Grid by **December 1, 2023** will be invited to take part.
- Any leader with **5 or more responses** will get access to their full results.
- Any leader with **3 or more responses** will get access to their **Leadership index** scores.
- **Comments** will be available to leaders with **10 or more responses** for each open question and the follow-up questions.
- We'll show trends from the 2023 annual survey and the 2023 pulse survey.
- We plan to launch the results on Monday, **March 4.**

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Storm safety awareness

Safety awareness



Forecasters are predicting wetter-than-average conditions this winter along the Atlantic Coast from Massachusetts southeast to Florida. Use these tips to keep your household safe from energy-related hazards during severe storms.

- ✓ **Avoid flood hazards.** Stay out of flooded basements and do not touch electrical appliances or equipment if you are wet or standing in water. Do not operate any natural gas appliance that has been affected by floodwaters until a qualified professional inspects it and any necessary repairs have been made.
- ✓ **Protect your natural gas equipment.** Make sure vent lines for gas dryers, furnaces, water heaters or other gas-fueled equipment are properly connected and not blocked or compromised by snow, ice or storm debris. Any blockage will prevent natural gas equipment and appliances from functioning properly and could lead to carbon monoxide (CO) accumulation in your home.
- ✓ **Stay alert for storm-damaged power lines.** Keep yourself and your vehicle as far away as possible from fallen or sagging power lines and anything they are touching, including trees, poles, fences and other utility lines. Call 911 immediately regarding ANY downed line, even if you are not sure it's a power line. Avoid walking and driving through floodwaters, as water may hide downed power lines.
- ✓ **Use generators safely.** If a generator provides your backup electricity during a power outage, be sure to run it only outdoors in open areas. To prevent CO poisoning, keep your generator *at least* 20 feet away from doors, windows and vents. NEVER plug a generator into a wall outlet. The generated power can energize utility lines, making them unsafe for repair crews and possibly delaying power restoration.

