



## **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PIPELINE SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES RESOLUTION**

**Board of Directors  
NAPSR  
Resolution 2016-1**

### **A RESOLUTION SEEKING MODIFICATIONS TO STATE HOSTED TQ SEMINARS**

**WHEREAS:** The Guidelines for States participating in the Pipeline Safety Program in Section 8.5 requires each state program to conduct a Pipeline Safety Seminar with PHMSA Inspector Training and Qualifications (PHMSA TQ) participation at least every three years as part of the Program requirements; and

**WHEREAS:** The state programs are required to conduct these seminars on the indicated frequency or face points deductions in their annual Program Evaluation; and

**WHEREAS:** The state programs and pipeline operators benefit from periodic seminars whether PHMSA TQ participates or not; and

**WHEREAS:** The Director of PHMSA TQ has presented at NAPSR 2016 regional meetings prior to the National Meeting and has expressed concerns that conducting Pipeline Safety Seminars every three years may displace existing resources of PHMSA TQ and direct limited resources away from the core mission of training inspectors to be subject matter experts in regards to pipeline safety; and

**WHEREAS:** Many states support the mandatory requirement built into the Guidelines, but support the removal of Evaluation Point deductions associated with hosting a periodic PHMSA TQ Safety Seminar; and

**WHEREAS:** NAPSR supports the voluntary representation of PHMSA staff at periodic Safety Seminars.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

That NAPSR urges PHMSA to:

- 1) Revise Section 8.5 of the Guidelines for States Participating in the Pipeline Safety Program to reflect the changes presented below; and
- 2) Eliminate Part C question 5 of the Gas and Liquid State Program Evaluation forms; and
- 3) As resources permit, provide PHMSA TQ or other PHMSA support to any state Pipeline Safety Seminar or educating opportunity.

**Suggested Wording for Section 8.5 in the PHMSA State Programs Guidelines:**

**8.5 State Pipeline Safety Training and/or Seminars**

Each state agency shall demonstrate that it conducted or participated in a pipeline safety training session or a seminar within the last three calendar years to educate operators on current regulations. A PHMSA representative may be present and provide regulatory updates to the participants. For states with both gas and hazardous liquid programs it would be appropriate to hold a combined training session or seminar. Requests for assistance from PHMSA may be submitted via email, to the appropriate PHMSA Director(s), at least 4 months in advance of the start of the upcoming federal fiscal year.