

Register now for GO-WV Summer Meeting

Bring the entire family and join your friends for the 2025 GO-WV Summer Meeting taking place at The Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. You won't want to miss the excellent lineup of speakers during the industry presentations on Monday and Tuesday. The fun of GO-WV's Annual Summer Meeting takes place August 3-5 and you will want to take full advantage of the good times awaiting you!

Please see the forms on page 24 and 25 to register or visit www.gowv.com. Discounted early registration fees will expire at noon on July 17; all fees will increase \$50 at that time.

Golf tee times are available Sunday morning from 11:07 a.m. to 11:37 a.m. on the Meadows Course.

Sunday evening is the western-themed welcome reception and banquet atop Kate's Mountain. Come enjoy our traditional buffet of lobster and filet mignon. The Josh Stewart Band will be providing entertainment for this popular, comfortable and casual event.

Summer Meeting

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*Craig Colombo
GO-WV Vice Chair
& Program Chair*

GO-WV members elect seven board members

GO-WV members elected seven new members to the GO-WV Board of Directors for three-year terms. New board members include four Producers and three representing other operator sectors. All those elected will begin their term immediately following the 2025 Summer Meeting in August.

The retiring Board member is Jeff Isner of Pillar Energy.

Producer Sector

Representing *Conventional Producers* will be Ben Sullivan and Eric Vir.

Ben Sullivan is Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Legal & Risk Officer & Corporate Secretary of Diversified Energy Company. He joined Diversified in 2019 with oversight of the company's legal, land/real estate, community engagement, and policy/



governmental affairs functions and works with the CEO and board on risk, compliance, and governance matters. Prior to joining Diversified, Ben worked with Greylock Energy (an ArcLight Capital Partners portfolio company with extensive national holdings) and its predecessor (Energy Corporation of America) as Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary with supervision of many business units. Prior to Ben's tenure at Greylock Energy, he worked as counsel for EQT Corporation and in private practice. He is a member of the leadership and Board of Directors of several commerce, legal, and industry groups, and has considerable experience in corporate governance and reporting/ESG, complex commercial transactions, land/real estate, acquisitions & divestitures, financing, government investigations, and corporate workouts and restructurings. Sullivan graduated from the University of Kentucky with a B.A.

Board members

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Op-Ed: HB 2014 powers WV's future with natural gas, innovation

As a proud West Virginian and your Senate Energy Chairman, I'm thrilled to celebrate the passage of House Bill 2014, the Power Generation and Consumption Act. This landmark legislation, signed into law by Governor Patrick Morrisey, is a game-changer for our state's energy future, our economy, and our rightful place as America's energy powerhouse. By unleashing the potential of microgrids and data centers, HB 2014 positions West Virginia to lead in the global tech race while harnessing our abundant natural gas resources to drive prosperity for our people.

West Virginia has long been the backbone of America's energy supply, from coal to natural gas. Sitting atop the Marcellus and Utica Shale formations, our state produces nearly 3.5 trillion cubic feet of natural gas annually, making us the nation's fourth-largest producer. Yet, too often, our resources have been shipped elsewhere, leaving our communities hungry for the jobs and revenue they deserve. HB 2014 changes that. By incentivizing the development of microgrids—*independent energy systems that can operate autonomously from the main grid*—this bill ensures our natural gas stays close to home, powering cutting-edge data centers that will anchor West Virginia in the digital age.

Data centers, the nerve centers of artificial intelligence and cloud computing, are the future of economic growth. Companies like Google, Microsoft, and Meta are racing to build these facilities, but they require massive, reliable energy—*exactly what West Virginia's natural gas can provide*. HB 2014 removes outdated restrictions, allowing microgrids to tap into our coal, gas, and other resources without being tethered to renewable-only mandates. This flexibility makes our state the "single best place in America for data centers," as Governor Morrisey has boldly declared. By enabling companies to build their own microgrids, we're cutting red tape and inviting billions in investment to our hills and hollers.

The economic impact is staggering. A single data center with a microgrid could generate \$160 million to \$200 million in annual tax revenue for its host county, funding schools, roads, and public services without raising taxes on hardworking West Virginians. Projects like Fidelis New Energy's \$5 billion Mountaineer hydrogen-powered data center campus in Mason County promise 800 full-time jobs and 4,200 construction positions. These are real opportunities for our welders, electricians, and young people who want to build a future right here at home. By spreading these developments across our state, we can reverse population decline and

HB 2014 powers

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2024-25 OFFICERS

Interim Chair & Vice Chair:

Craig Colombo

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Brett Loflin

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Kelly Moss

Past Chair:

Jeff Isner

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Chris Weikle, Expand Energy

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Tim Wilcox, Amcox Oil & Gas

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Ben Hardesty

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Don Nestor

Bob Orndorff





Supreme Court scales back scope of NEPA review on some projects

Through a unanimous 8-0 decision, the Supreme Court of the United States addressed what it described as “continuing confusion and disagreement in the Courts of Appeals” over the scope of judicial review for claims asserting violations of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). *Seven County Infrastructure Coalition v. Eagle County*, No. 23-975 (May 29, 2025). In doing so, the Supreme Court clarified that decisions by federal agencies under NEPA are entitled to substantial deference, and courts should not be in the business of second-guessing how agencies weigh competing considerations under NEPA. “The bedrock principle of judicial review in NEPA cases can be stated in a word: Deference.” Additionally, the Supreme Court ruled that NEPA does not compel federal agencies to address the environmental effects of projects separate in time or place from the construction and operation of the proposed project at issue.

Justice Kavanaugh authored the main opinion joined by Justices Alito, Thomas, and Barrett along with Chief Justice Roberts. Justice Sotomayor penned a separate concurring opinion joined by Justices Kagan and Jackson. Justice Gorsuch did not participate in the case.

Rail Project at Issue

In December 2021, the federal Surface Transportation Board approved an application to construct an 88-mile rail line in Utah’s Uinta Basin that would primarily transport crude oil to interstate rail lines and ultimately to refineries along the Gulf Coast.

NEPA required the Board to evaluate environmental impacts of the proposed project and consider potential alternatives to the project that would avoid or minimize those impacts. The Board’s NEPA evaluation was reflected in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) spanning more than 3,600 pages. Several non-governmental organizations and a local county filed a legal challenge under NEPA in the District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals, alleging that the Board

failed to adequately consider the impacts of certain “upstream and downstream” activities that are separate from the proposed rail line. Specifically, the Board did not perform a detailed analysis of (1) increased crude oil development that may occur in the Uinta Basin once the rail line goes into service; or (2) air emissions at refineries along the Gulf Coast associated with processing crude oil extracted from the Uinta Basin.

Court of Appeals Decision

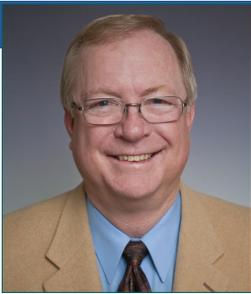
Finding in favor of the challengers, the D.C. Circuit agreed that future crude oil development and refining were “reasonably foreseeable impacts” that the Board should have evaluated. The D.C. Circuit rejected the Board’s position that those effects arose from other projects that were separate in time and space from the rail line and were also beyond the jurisdiction of the Board, which does not regulate crude oil extraction or refining.

Kavanaugh Opinion

The main court opinion makes clear that judicial review under NEPA involves affording substantial deference to the decisions by the federal agencies involved. That is because assessment of environmental effects and feasible alternatives involves “a series of fact-dependent, context-specific, and policy-laden choices.” Thus, courts “should afford substantial deference and should not micromanage those agency choices so long as they fall within a broad zone of reasonableness.” Nevertheless, Justice Kavanaugh observed that “[s]ome courts have strayed and not applied NEPA with the level of deference demanded by the statutory text and this Court’s cases.” In doing so, “NEPA has transformed from a modest procedural requirement into a blunt and haphazard tool employed by project opponents (who may not always be entirely motivated by concern for the environment) to try to stop or at least slow down new infrastructure and construction projects.”

NEPA review

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From the Burd's Nest: 2025 IOGCC Stewardship Nominations now open

About this time each year, I dedicate my monthly article to the promotion and advancement of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC) "Chairman's Stewardship Awards."

The IOGCC has a rich 90-year history of advocating sound oil and natural gas environmental policy. These awards, created in 2001, represent the IOGCC's highest honor for exemplary efforts by the oil and natural gas industry to recognize and incentivize organizations that go beyond legal mandates to protect and enhance our natural resources. Ultimately, the award-winning projects represent but a few of the many positive projects and programs initiated by domestic oil and natural gas organizations and industry. Stewardship within the industry is one of the great untold success stories and the projects represent only a sample of those in operation throughout the world. A list of past winners that are part of GO-WV is provided at the end of this article.

The IOGCC is now accepting nominations for the 2025 Chair's Stewardship Awards. The 2025 winners will be honored at the IOGCC Annual Conference in Anchorage, Alaska, September 22-24, 2025.

You may apply on your behalf or nominate another project. Past winners are encouraged to apply with new projects. If you have applied in the past and you feel your project has been enhanced, the IOGCC encourages you to resubmit your project. **Nominations or entry forms are due by close of business, Tuesday, August 12.**

In the nomination form you will find the four different categories. Please choose one that best fits your project with a brief project summary. Please limit your summary to three pages or less. Click [here](#) to submit a project for one or more of the award categories below.

Here are the four award categories:

- The **Environmental Partnership Award** recognizes innovative projects led by non-

industry organizations with the cooperation and participation of industry.

- The **Energy Education Award** is presented to a group or an organization that has created a program to educate the public about oil and natural gas and the hundreds of ways it affects the lives of Americans each day.
- The **Small Company Award** recognizes an innovative project by a small oil and natural gas company that demonstrates positive environmental stewardship. Small companies are those that operate in a limited area or region.
- The **Large Company Award** recognizes an innovative project by a large oil and natural gas company that demonstrates positive environmental stewardship. Large companies are those that operate nationwide, and in many instances, internationally.

As a past chairman of the IOGCC's Public Outreach Committee, I strongly encourage you to consider submitting those projects initiated by your company that is tied to any form of environmental stewardship. For more information on the Chairman's Stewardship Awards, please contact Amy Childers at amy.childers@iogcc.state.ok.us.

Lastly, please take the opportunity to add your company's name to this list of outstanding GO-WV past award winners.

- **2010**
Energy Education:
Energize West Virginia
WVONGA's public outreach program
- **2011**
Energy Education:
Just Beneath the Surface Alliance
IOGAWV's public outreach program
Large Company:
Chesapeake Energy (Now Expand Energy)
- **2012**
Energy Education:
Just Beneath the Surface Alliance
IOGAWV's public outreach program

Burd's Nest

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Pipeline safety regulatory initiatives under the Trump administration

Introduction

Since entering office, President Trump has issued multiple executive orders seeking to promote the deregulation of American business, improve government efficiency, and unleash American energy. In response, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and its agency responsible for pipeline safety, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), have initiated multiple rulemakings to achieve these objectives. This article will provide a brief overview of the initiatives that will impact operators subject to PHMSA's pipeline safety regulations. Operators can engage with DOT and PHMSA by providing comments to assist in the deregulatory efforts.

DOT Initiatives

Ensuring Lawful Regulation; Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs Request for Information

On April 3, 2025, citing President Trump's executive orders related to deregulation and government efficiency, DOT published a request for information (RFI) seeking the public's input to identify which DOT regulations, guidance, paperwork requirements, or other regulatory obligations can be modified or repealed.

The RFI is broad in scope and applies to all DOT programs, including the pipeline safety regulations, and seeks information to help drive future deregulatory rulemakings and initiatives. DOT requested comments on the RFI to be submitted by May 5, 2025, but has also established an email inbox, Transportation.RegulatoryInfo@dot.gov, which remains open on a continuous basis for the public to submit additional ideas on programs suitable for modification or repeal.

Administrative Rulemaking, Guidance, and Enforcement Procedures Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

On May 16, 2025, DOT published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to recodify certain

DOT administrative procedures and practices in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Known informally as the "Rule on Rules," the NPRM primarily addresses the process and procedures that control how the DOT performs its core regulatory functions of rulemaking, guidance development, and enforcement. The first Trump administration promulgated a Rule on Rules in 2019, but the Biden administration rescinded nearly all its provisions in 2021. The NPRM would reinstate, update, and expand on the requirements in the first Rule on Rules.

The NPRM includes rulemaking procedures that would apply to all DOT modes for each phase of a rulemaking and would recodify in the CFR provisions related to the DOT Regulatory Reform Task Force (RRTF). The RRTF is responsible for evaluating existing and proposed DOT regulations and providing recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation on whether regulations should be repealed or modified to reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens. Another key proposal in the NPRM includes heightened procedural requirements for rulemakings determined to be economically significant and high-impact (established through an estimation of the costs and job losses attributed to the proposed rule).

For enforcement requirements, the NPRM includes provisions that stress that DOT must use its investigatory powers in a manner consistent with due process, basic fairness, as well as avoiding the use of enforcement as a "fishing expedition" to search for potential non-compliance. The NPRM also proposes to disqualify DOT personnel with personal animus against specific regulated parties from participating in enforcement against those parties, and allows operators to petition the DOT's Office of General Counsel (OGC) to determine if DOT personnel violated an enforcement rule. If a violation occurred, DOT OGC may, among other

Trump regs

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Science Teacher Workshop educates 40 STEAM educators

GO-WV recently conducted its seventh Science Teacher Workshop in Morgantown, WV in early June. Nearly 40 middle and high school math and science teachers from around West Virginia attended and received tools and knowledge necessary to integrate energy-related concepts into the classroom.

Seven comprehensive sessions provided curriculum, resource materials, lesson plans and engaging activities for teachers to reference throughout the school year. In addition, they toured WVU's Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering (PNGE) school and labs. Sam Ameri, chairman of the PNGE, and other professors in the program, did an outstanding job of introducing the science behind our industry. Many teachers commented on how much they enjoyed the tour and how it changed their perspective on our industry and the efforts we make to assure safety and address environmental stewardship. Based on requests from prior classes, this year included a field trip to a drilling rig, hosted by Northeast Natural Energy.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the teachers were given the opportunity to earn master's credit hours from Marshall University in exchange for applying the curriculum learned at the workshop into their classroom. Nearly all the teachers signed up for this opportunity.

Maureen Miller, who acts as our teacher liaison for this program throughout the year, teaches at George Washington Middle School in Putnam County and vets the curriculum proposed by the teachers for Marshall to ensure that it meets all the necessary guidelines and criteria.

Educating West Virginia teachers about the natural gas industry generates benefits that

ripple through both our education system and community at large. By equipping these educators with a comprehensive understanding of the natural gas sector, we enable them to integrate relevant, up-to-date knowledge into their curriculum and

Teaching teachers

Continued on page 7



Above and below, nearly 40 middle and high school teachers from across the state spent two days learning about the oil and natural gas industry and its impact on the real world.



better educate the upcoming generations about our industry.

We would like to thank our sponsors for making this possible: Apex Pipeline, EQT, Ergon, TC Energy and Williams.



Above, teachers visit a Northeast Natural Energy drill rig. Top right, teachers become the students for two days of lessons on the industry, taught by Jim Crews of MPLX (at right) and others. Below, Dr. Sam Ameri, GO-WV's Lori Miller Smith, Dr. Ilkin Bilgesu and GO-WV's Charlie Burd visit WVU.





SelectUSA 2025 Investment Summit and YOU

The May SelectUSA Investment Summit put on by the U.S. Commerce Department was a fast-paced 3-day event in Washington, D.C. with over 5,000 attendees from businesses all over the world. Shale Crescent USA's (SCUSA) brand-new 20-foot booth drew lots of attention. The booth communicated SCUSA's core messaging well and gave us a strong presence on the floor. In total, SCUSA had over 60 meaningful meetings with businesses interested in investing in the USA.

One of the most common reactions we received was surprise. Many people could not believe the scale of our region's natural gas resource, how affordable our energy is, and what it means for manufacturing profitability. The U.S. is a large country, much of the world is still unaware where the energy is located and the advantage that exists in the Shale Crescent USA. That gap in awareness is an opportunity for us.

In those 60+ meetings, a few themes emerged. There was strong interest from Eastern Europe (especially Romania and Turkey) and India. Many of the companies we met with were in packaging, metals, and petrochemicals. The size of companies varied. Some were multibillion-dollar companies, most were in the \$50-\$150 million revenue range, which meant we were often speaking directly with CEOs or other key decision-makers. That kind of access speeds up the decision-making process.

Power and energy came up naturally in most conversations. Several companies walked up to us and said **"energy costs make up 20% to 40% of our costs."** In a conversation with an aluminum company, after 30 minutes of discussing our region's fundamental manufacturing and energy advantages, the executive pulled out a list of states he had already met with and asked, "Which of these should I cross off?" The messaging works and is giving manufacturers a clear roadmap for where to invest in the U.S.

Tariffs barely came up. What mattered more was energy, proximity to markets,

long-term investment confidence and security. Several smaller projects we spoke with were already asking detailed questions about site locations and timelines—indicating they are well into their planning process.

Next Steps and Follow-Up

We are now in the first round of follow-ups with each of the companies. Multiple video calls are happening daily. These conversations help us better understand each company's needs and how we can position the Shale Crescent USA region, as a solution—whether through access to dependable economical energy, sites, feedstocks, infrastructure, or partnerships. As we learn more about their needs, we will start identifying which opportunities are the best fit for deeper engagement. We have already hosted visits from two companies we met at SELECTUSA. Four more visits are scheduled and more are in the planning stages.

One major change from the last two years when we were also very busy was the focus on economical, dependable energy. **No one asked for a renewable component in their energy mix.** The concern was profitability not carbon footprint. European companies understand the costs of depending on renewables to run a factory.

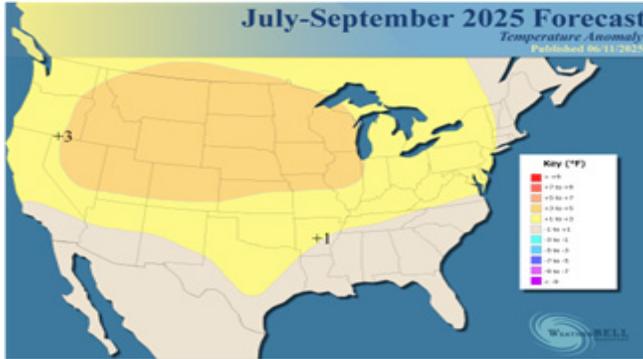
The USA is a large country. Most foreign investors knew only where New York City, Disney World, Texas and Hollywood are. They thought all the gas and oil were in Texas. Our region was

Investment summit

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WeatherBELL: Late summer forecast



For more information about WeatherBELL's services and to get the hot-off-the-press forecast updates, please visit our website www.weatherbell.com or contact us at sales@weatherbell.com.

After a cool May and very rainy start to June in much of the central to eastern U.S., we saw late June turn hot and dry, centered on the Plains.

We continue to expect the drought that started earlier in the spring centered over Nebraska to cause feedback heat. The hottest temperatures should be centered over the Plains through early August, and it wouldn't surprise us to see a +5°F anomaly for the 3-month period somewhere in that orange zone, reminiscent of the 1930s.

Wet weather in the East should cause high humidity and elevated nighttime lows. While periodic hot spells, such as we saw in late June, can be expected along the East Coast, it's between the Rockies and the Appalachians we expect the hottest daytime high temperatures relative to normal.

The Tropics should heat up in August, though we don't expect as impactful of a season as 2024.

Oil & Gas Museum

The Oil, Gas and Industrial Historical Association, West Virginia's only multi-site museum, highlights the history and present day impact of oil and gas in the Appalachian Basin.



We honor and celebrate the rich history of West Virginia and the Mid-Ohio Valley, supporting research, preservation and interpretation at our sites.



Start exploring the Oil and Gas Museum and travel back in time with us.



MUSEUMS
of the Mid-Ohio Valley



119 Third Street, Parkersburg, WV
304.485.5446

Learn more www.oilandgasmuseum.org

BUYING GAS FOR HOPE GAS

Craig Colombo

VP Gas Supply

804-921-2788

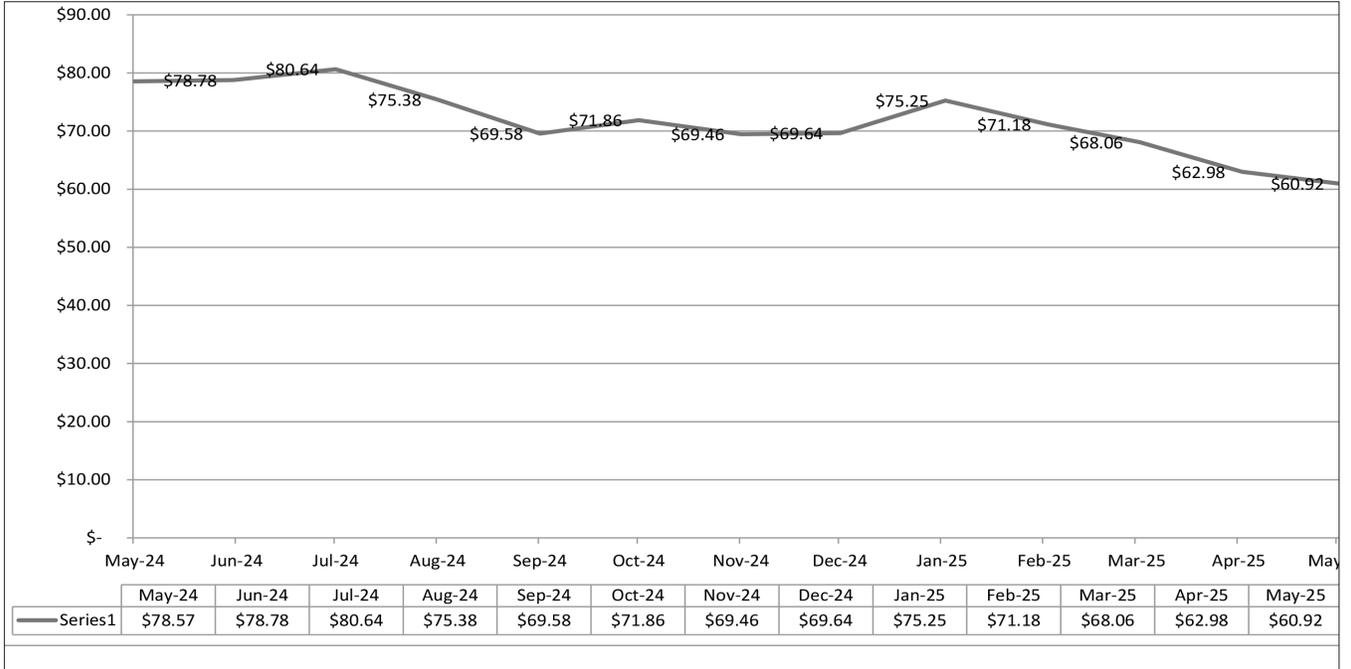
48 Columbia Blvd.

Clarksburg, WV 26301





Monthly Appalachian Basin crude oil prices



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Joseph Shriver
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joeshriver@chancellorins.com

304.422.3563

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You may be eligible to join our Encova Safety Group Program for workers' compensation with your GO-WV membership. For more details and to see if you qualify for a premium discount, please contact mark.pettry@encova.com or visit encova.com to find an agent.

encova
INSURANCE





GO-WV welcomes five new members in June

Please join the GO-WV Board of Directors in welcoming these members approved in June:

Critical Control Energy Services

ISP

174 Union Carbide Dr.
South Charleston, WV 25303

Zach Atha

Mobile: (304) 400-6498
info@criticalcontrol.com
<https://criticalcontrol.com>

Insignia Environmental

PRO

126 E. Burke St.
Martinsburg, WV 25401
Phone: (650) 321-6787
Fax: (650) 321-3787

Alisa Lykens

Mobile: (681) 247-0022
alykens@insigniaenv.com

Jessica Thompson Salesperson/REALTOR

ASO

1097 Country Estates Rd.
Danville, WV 25053

Jessica Thompson

Mobile: (304) 641-3279
jessthompsonwvrealtor@outlook.com

Moonlight Oil and Gas

POP

PO Box 687
Elizabeth, WV 26143

Daniel Ludwig

Mobile: (304) 588-5881
dludwig1983@gmail.com

TAPO Energy LLC

POP

PO Box 235
West Union, WV 26456
Phone: (304) 873-2536

Jerry Poling

Mobile: (304) 991-3231
fossilxp@aol.com

Get your GO-WV license plate now!



[Click here](#) for the application or see page 15.



Upcoming events for your review

July 11, 2025

**Antero Foundation's Oil & Gas Dodgeball
Tournament**
Hite Field, Clarksburg, WV

August 3-5, 2025

GO-WV Summer Meeting
The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV
Info: gowv.com

September 11-13, 2025

WV Oil & Gas Festival
Sistersville, WV

September 12, 2025

WV O&G Festival Person of the Year Ceremony
First Baptist Church, Sistersville, WV

September 15, 2025

BHE GT&S Golf Outing
Pete Dye Golf Course, Clarksburg, WV

September 16-18, 2026

Shale Insight Conference
Bayfront Convention Center, Erie, PA

September 22-24, 2025

IOGCC Annual Conference
Anchorage, AK
Info: iogcc

September 26-27, 2025

GO-WV Sports Weekend
*Bridgeport Country Club and
Mountaineer Field*

October 2, 2025

SOOGA Fall Trade Show
Marietta, OH

October 21-23, 2025

SPE Appalachian Chapter Annual Meeting
Charleston, WV

February 5, 2026

Gas & Oil Day at the Legislature
State Capitol, Charleston, WV

August 2-4, 2026

GO-WV Summer Meeting
The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV



Industry Intelligence. Focused Legal Perspective.
Unparalleled Value.

HIGH-YIELDING RESULTS.



Energy &
Natural Resources



Environmental &
Regulatory



Business
Transactions



Real Estate,
Land Use & Zoning



Pipeline &
HazMat Safety



Commercial
Litigation

We are critical thinkers who are focused, driven and cost effective in everything we do.

Meet our attorneys at babstcalland.com.

Babst | Calland
Attorneys at Law

Where Trust and Value Meet.™



PITTSBURGH, PA | CHARLESTON, WV | HARRISBURG, PA | STATE COLLEGE, PA | WASHINGTON, DC





Safety and the industrial athlete

In today's demanding industrial environment, workers face physical challenges that require the same preparation and care as professional athletes. Enhancing worker safety starts with a proactive approach to fitness, nutrition, and flexibility. These three pillars support endurance, reduce injury risk, and increase productivity on the job.

Fitness: Building Strength & Endurance

Do:

- Encourage regular physical activity (e.g., walking, lifting, core workouts).
- Promote strength training for back, shoulders, and legs.
- Incorporate cardiovascular training to improve stamina.

Don't:

- Ignore signs of fatigue or overexertion.
- Use poor form during lifting or repetitive tasks.
- Skip warm-ups before physically demanding work.

Why it matters: Strong, conditioned bodies are less prone to strains, sprains, and overuse injuries common in manual labor.

Nutrition: Fueling the Industrial Athlete

Do:

- Eat balanced meals with lean protein, whole grains, and vegetables.
- Stay hydrated throughout the shift.
- Plan ahead with healthy snacks and meal preparation.

Don't:

- Rely on energy drinks, soda, or junk food for quick energy.
- Skip meals, especially breakfast.
- Ignore signs of dehydration or low energy.

Why it matters: Proper nutrition helps maintain energy levels, mental focus, and recovery — reducing mistakes and injury risks.

Flexibility: Preventing Injury & Supporting Recovery

Do:

- Stretch daily, especially before and after shifts.



- Target problem areas like hamstrings, lower back, and shoulders.
- Encourage micro-breaks for movement throughout the day.

Don't:

- Rush into tasks without warming up.
- Perform stretches incorrectly or too aggressively.
- Neglect mobility in injury prevention programs.

Why it matters: Flexibility improves range of motion and reduces the risk of muscle pulls, joint injuries, and repetitive strain.

Bottom Line

Treat your workforce like industrial athletes — because they are. When fitness, nutrition, and flexibility are prioritized, safety isn't just improved — it becomes part of the culture.



Editor's note: We thank Encova for providing this information for GO-WV members.

degree in History and received a J.D. degree from the West Virginia University College of Law. He holds licenses to practice law in several States, including Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Eric Vir is the Chief Financial

Officer of Pillar Energy LLC based in Charleston, WV.

Prior to joining Pillar in June 2021, he served as Marketing Manager for Northeast

Natural Energy LLC and

various Accounting/Marketing positions for Energy Corporation of America.

Mr. Vir has 20 years of experience working in the gas industry at companies that were either conventional, unconventional, or both. Vir is a past board member of IOGAWV and has been an active participant in the GOWV Producers Issues Committee & IOGAWV Commerce Committee for the past decade. He has been a West Virginia native for over 30 years and a graduate of University of Charleston with degrees in Accounting & Finance. He resides in Charleston, WV with his wife Katey and has three boys Maxim, Myles, and Merek.



Representing *Unconventional Producers* will be Maribeth Anderson and Chris Weikle.

Maribeth Anderson is the Director of Government Relations for Antero Resources.

She came to Antero at the end of 2017, after serving in similar roles for Southwestern Energy and Chesapeake Energy since 2007. Prior to entering the energy sector, Maribeth was the news director for WSAZ Television. Maribeth has served in industry leadership roles across four states, as the former board President for the WV Oil and Natural Gas Association, former President of the Gas and Oil Association of WV (GO-WV), and a board member of the Ohio Oil and Gas Association and the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program. In former roles, she was elected to the boards of the Oil and Gas Associations in Kentucky and Virginia. She is currently Chair of the WV Chamber of Commerce. A graduate of Marshall University, Maribeth lives in Huntington with her husband



and has two children in college.

Chris Weikle was born in Charleston, West Virginia in 1981 to the wonderful parents of Phil Weikle and Debbie Phillips. Chris went on to grow up in Teays Valley where he lumbered through the Putnam County school system graduating from Winfield in 1999. Chris then spent eight great years in Morgantown attending West Virginia University. While eight years seems like a lot, he did go on to graduate in 2003 with a B.S. in Political Science and in 2007 with a J.D. from West Virginia University. After graduating law school Chris left West Virginia for a year to live in the coastal Charleston. He quickly realized the error of his ways and returned to West Virginia to work in the legislature for the Joint Committee on Government and Finance. After that Chris was proud to work on the campaign and then serve in Governor Earl Ray Tomblin's administration as Deputy Director of Public Policy. While in the governor's office, Chris dedicated himself to education, energy and government efficiency. Chris reluctantly left the Governor's office to join LGCR Government Solutions as the Deputy Director of Government Relations and Advocacy. At this firm he represented clients ranging from Fortune 500 companies to small non-profits. Chris is now Director of Government Affairs for Expand Energy Corporation. He formerly held a similar position with Southwestern Energy. He has served on the Board of Directors at WVONGA, IOGA-WV and GO-WV. He has been married to his wife Kelly Matheney Weikle for over a decade and their two magnificent kids, Ainsley Jane and Landon Arlo keep Kelly and Chris on their toes.



Other Operators Sector

Representing *LDC's* will be Craig Colombo.

Craig Colombo has over 38 years in the Oil and Gas Industry and is Vice President of Gas Supply for Hope Gas. Colombo worked with Dominion Energy West Virginia (DEWV) for 34 of those years, where he has



Board members

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established and developed countless relationships with producers and individuals in the oil and gas industry and the business community. During his years with DEWV, Craig was responsible for the procurement and contracting of natural gas supplies and the contracting of pipeline and storage capacity with multiple upstream interstate pipelines. Owing to a knowledge of the industry, gained over his career, Colombo has been called on to participate in State Regulatory proceedings as an expert witness and to testify before the WV House Energy Committee in support of producers of West Virginia. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the North American Energy Standards Board (NAESB) for over 14 years. NAESB serves as an industry forum for the development and promotion of standards which lead to a seamless marketplace for wholesale and retail natural gas, the business community, participants, and regulatory entities.

Representing *Pipeline and Storage* will be Jason Harshbarger.

Jason Harshbarger is the WV & OH State Policy Director for BHE GT&S (Berkshire Hathaway Energy Gas Transmission and Storage) for stakeholder engagement and relationship development with local elected and municipal officials, government agencies, community organizations and business groups. He also is responsible for the company's philanthropical program across the ten states they operate in. Harshbarger is a 1997 graduate of Marietta College with a degree in Environmental Science and an emphasis in Petroleum Engineering. He has 26 years of experience in the energy sector and is a past member of the WV House of Delegates where he served on the following committees: Chairman of Natural Resources, Judiciary, Energy, Industry & Labor and was an Assistant Majority Whip. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for: the Gas and Oil Association of West Virginia (GO WV), Discover the Real West Virginia Foundation, Inc., WV Chamber of Commerce, WV Roundtable as immediate past chair, Harrison County Chamber of Commerce, West Virginia Damage and



Prevention Board, and Governor's One Shot. Harshbarger has worked in several areas of the energy sector from engineering to environmental compliance. Upon graduation, he began his career in the Gulf of Mexico performing formation evaluation and directional drilling then in 2000 he moved to Akron, OH to work in the environmental department at FirstEnergy. He later transferred to the Sammis Power Plant where he oversaw permitting and later becoming unit engineer. In October 2005, Harshbarger started his career with Dominion Energy in the environmental department, managing compliance for multiple gas transmission divisions and later in the gas storage department where he maintained the integrity of gas storage assets. In 2019 he was named to his current role as the State Policy Director. In November 2020 Jason moved over to Berkshire Hathaway Energy due to the acquisition of the natural transmission and storage assets from Dominion Energy. Harshbarger has been active in state wide organization and in the local community where he previously served on the American Red Cross Central Appalachia Region, West Virginia Damage and Prevention Board, a volunteer for the Ritchie County 4-H Program, the Mid-Ohio Valley Technical Institute (MOVTI) Advisor Committee, the Ritchie County Economic Development Authority Board, and the West Virginia Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership as past president and corporate board treasurer. He was also selected as a member of the elite Young Guns Class of 2018 by WV Executive Magazine for his dedication to lifelong learning and service to the State of West Virginia. Jason and his wife Michelle live on their 680 acres family farm in the White Oak community that dates back to the mid-1800's near Pullman, WV with their daughter Mackenzie.

Representing *Processing and Fractionation* will be Erin Osting (replacing Jim Crews).

Erin Osting currently leads all state government and public affairs efforts for Marathon Petroleum throughout the Northeastern states and Kentucky. This region hosts key MPC/MPLX



Board members

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assets which include but are not limited to, a key refinery, gathering and processing plants, product terminals, pipeline assets, and key customers. Since joining MPC in 2002, Erin has held diverse roles, beginning with a decade in various field positions within the marketing organization.

Following her early field experience, Erin transitioned to Findlay, OH, where she led the recruitment and training programs for marketing interns and new hires. She then advanced to light products scheduling, managing pipeline and barge shipments from the Gulf Coast to New York Harbor. In 2016, Erin moved into state government affairs, which brought her and her family to Lexington, KY, where they now reside.

Erin holds a dual bachelor's degree in criminal justice and political science from the University of Findlay, where she was a member of the women's basketball team, competing in two Final Four tournaments. She later earned an MBA from the same institution.

Erin and her husband, Charles (Casey), are proud parents of three teenage boys. They spend much of their family time on the soccer pitch, football field, and in ice hockey rinks throughout the Bluegrass State and beyond!

Burd's Nest

Continued from page 4

- **2013**
Energy Education:
Energy Speaks Education
IOGAWV's public outreach program
Large Company:
Dominion Resources
- **2016**
Environmental Partnership:
Williams
Large Company:
Southwestern Energy (now Expand Energy)
- **2017**
Large Company:
Southwestern Energy (now Expand Energy)
Chevron (Honorable Mention)
- **2022**
Large Company:
Williams
Small Company:
BioSqueeze



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Industry presentations and business session begin on Monday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Eisenhower Room. Guest speakers will include leaders from both industry and government.

Monday is filled with sporting events, as well, with something for everyone.

- The morning begins with the men's and women's doubles tennis tournament from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Tennis Club.
- The Trap & Skeet Tournament will take place at The Greenbrier Gun Club on Kate's Mountain Monday, August 4, with shooting times available from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Practice times will be available on Sunday. Please call (800) 624-6070 to make practice and tournament reservations at the Gun Club.
- Golf tee times are available Monday on the Meadows Course from 11:07 a.m. to 12:17 p.m.
- The mixed doubles tennis tournament takes place from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday at the Tennis Club.

Monday evening features dinner on your own. Following dinner, wear your GO-WV badge and head to the casino for our After Dinner Reception at 8:30 p.m. The Casino Night fun will feature a private GO-WV bar and the opportunity to enjoy an evening of your favorite casino games. Music and dancing are also available.

Tuesday begins with our second set of industry presentations from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Eisenhower Room. Guest speakers will again include industry and government leaders.

The festivities then move back outdoors for more sporting fun. The Pickle Ball Tournament is first up from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Tennis Courts, while the Trap & Skeet Tournament enjoys its second day of competition from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Finally, the shotgun-start golf tournament will take place on the Old White course Tuesday, August 5, beginning at 12:30 p.m. To sign up for the tournament, please contact Hill Herrick at (304) 536-7851 or hill_herrick@greenbrier.com.

For those not participating in golf or other sporting events, join us for "Luncheon and Lewisburg." We will begin at noon with lunch in the Crystal Room. Following lunch, you will be transported to Lewisburg. Spend some time exploring Lewisburg, and you'll see why this surprisingly cosmopolitan town of 4,000 people garners accolades. Lewisburg often appears on must-see lists for travelers. You'll find the town charming and the locals welcoming. The cost is \$125 per person and includes lunch and transportation.

Your Summer Meeting adventure concludes Tuesday evening with an awards reception at the Outdoor Pool from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A Mardi Gras dinner will follow the awards reception, also at the Outdoor Pool, from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. This special evening concludes with music, dancing and our now famous fireworks!

To make room, golf or to make Trap & Skeet reservations, call 1-800-624-6070. Contact cynthia_glover@greenbrier.com to book your room.



breathe new life into communities that have faced decades of economic hardship.

Critics, often from out-of-state environmental groups, claim HB 2014 harms ratepayers or the environment. They're wrong. This bill protects our utility customers by ensuring microgrids bear the cost of any reserve power, not residential ratepayers. It also leverages our natural gas, a cleaner-burning fuel, to meet the skyrocketing energy demands of AI-driven data centers—demands that renewables alone can't reliably meet. West Virginia's natural gas is a bridge to a prosperous future, reducing emissions compared to coal while delivering the 24/7 power tech giants need. And with 10% of excess microgrid electricity available for sale on the wholesale market, we're fostering competition that could lower rates for our neighbors.

Some naysayers worry about local control or water usage. Let's be clear: HB 2014 streamlines development without silencing communities. Counties and municipalities retain their voices, but we can't let bureaucratic roadblocks scare away transformative investments. As for water, data centers' cooling needs are manageable, and our state's robust water management systems—

honed through decades of energy production—will ensure responsible use. We're not sacrificing our environment; we're building a sustainable economy that respects our land and people.

For my fellow conservatives, HB 2014 embodies the MAGA spirit: energy independence, economic strength, and putting West Virginians first. This isn't just about data centers; it's about reclaiming our destiny as a state that powers America. By coupling our God-given natural gas reserves with forward-thinking policy, we're outmaneuvering coastal elites and foreign competitors who want to dictate our energy future. This bill is a declaration that West Virginia will lead, not follow.

As we look to the horizon, HB 2014 is just the beginning. It dovetails with other bold reforms—like permitting streamlining in HB 2002—that make our state a magnet for innovation. Together, we're building a West Virginia where our kids don't have to leave to find opportunity, where our energy fuels the world's tech revolution, and where our communities thrive. I'm proud to have championed this bill, and I'm even prouder to stand with you as we power America's future—right here in the Mountain State.

NEPA review

Continued from page 3

Kavanaugh's opinion wholly rejects the notion that NEPA requires federal agencies to consider other existing or potential future projects that are separate in space and time from the proposed project under consideration. The opinion observes that NEPA's focus is the "project at hand – not other future or geographically separate projects that may be built (or expanded) as a result of or in the wake of the immediate project under consideration." Consequently, "NEPA does not require the agency to evaluate the effects of that separate project." The Board was therefore "[a]bsolutely correct" in concluding that it need not perform a detailed analysis of the potential for future crude oil development in the Uinta Basin and refining activities along the Gulf Coast.

Lastly, Kavanaugh observed that NEPA litigation should not be a forum for project opponents "to air their policy objections to

proposed federal actions." "Citizens may not enlist the federal courts, 'under the guise of judicial review' of agency compliance with NEPA to delay or block agency projects based on the environmental effects of other projects separate from the project at hand."

Concurring Opinion

The concurring opinion authored by Justice Sotomayor and joined by Justices Jackson and Kagan observes that the Board lacked jurisdiction over potential future crude oil development and refinery activities, and lacked authority to restrict transportation of crude oil on the proposed rail line. Therefore, there was no need for the Board to consider impacts of those activities.

What's Next?

NEPA has been called one of the most litigated environmental statutes in the United States.

NEPA review

Continued on page 21

treated the same as states like Missouri, Iowa and New York until they understood our energy advantage. Then everything changed.

YOU, the American Gas & Oil industry, in less than 20 years have unlocked the prosperity and potential of the Shale Crescent USA region. Thousands of high wage jobs are being created. The best is yet to come. Thanks for all you do!

Bonus: Key Industry Insights from U.S. Trade Director at SelectUSA

During the event, the Senior Director of U.S. Trade stopped at the SCUSA booth. He shared these high-level insights with us:

- **Strong Investment Momentum:** Confidence in U.S. investment is high and building globally.
- **Power as a Differentiator:** The Governor of Mississippi summed it up well: “There are two kinds of states—those that can provide power and those that can’t.” This was a recurring theme at the event.
- **“Made in America” as Strategy:** The push for U.S.-based manufacturing is more than patriotic branding—it’s becoming a key part of long-term business strategy. U.S. policy is now being seen as an asset rather than a barrier.
- **Global Alignment with U.S. Policy:** The White House and federal agencies are actively strengthening economic ties with trusted



allies. Countries like Saudi Arabia and the UAE are moving toward closer alignment with the U.S., reflecting deeper engagement across the Middle East.

- **Trade Relations Hold Firm:** Despite ongoing tariffs, strong trade relationships with NATO allies and strategic partners are intact. The U.S. remains a stable and attractive destination for industrial investment.
- **Top Target Sectors:** Companies are focusing their investments in energy, advanced manufacturing, semiconductors, and AI—sectors that demand reliable infrastructure and scalable power.
- **Opportunity Still on the Table:** Mercedes, a major U.S. exporter, emphasized that significant growth potential remains for companies willing to invest and produce domestically.

NEPA review

Continued from page 20

This decision should set a higher bar for project opponents to succeed on NEPA claims. The Court made clear that the judiciary should afford substantial deference to how federal agencies weigh the respective impacts and benefits of a proposed project. Whether this pronouncement will prompt developers to move forward with additional projects, and how much deference will actually be afforded by the lower courts, remains to be seen. This decision does not directly affect

the legal landscape for challenges brought under substantive environmental statutes like the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, or Endangered Species Act, although actions challenging major projects that allege violations of these statutes are often paired with a NEPA claim.

If you would like to discuss this decision or NEPA in general, please contact Robert M. Stonestreet at rstonestreet@babstcalland.com or 681.265.1364.

relief, remove the responsible DOT enforcement team from the case.

For the first Rule on Rules, the Trump administration directly issued a final rule without providing an opportunity for public comment, because the rule only incorporated internal DOT administrative procedures into the CFR. For this rulemaking, since certain proposals in the NPRM would confer express rights to regulated parties, such as the ability to petition the OGC about DOT violations of enforcement procedures, DOT is seeking public comment. The public comment period for the NPRM closes June 16, 2025. Following the comment period, DOT will begin to evaluate the public comments and work to finalize the rule.

PHMSA Initiatives

Mandatory Regulatory Reviews to Unleash American Energy and Improve Government Efficiency Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

On June 4, 2025, PHMSA published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM) seeking public comment to identify requirements in the pipeline safety regulations suitable for repeal or modification. The ANPRM is broad in scope and requests comments on any PHMSA interpretation, guidance document, or any other material implementing the pipeline safety regulations which are suitable for modification or repeal. Additionally, the ANPRM seeks comment on whether PHMSA should codify in the pipeline safety regulations a requirement to conduct periodic regulatory reviews so that the agency is continuously reviewing and identifying regulations that require modification. Public comment on the ANPRM is due by **August 4, 2025**.

Liquefied Natural Gas Facilities Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

On May 5, 2025, PHMSA published in the Federal Register an ANPRM seeking public comments to help guide amendments to 49 C.F.R. Part 193, the safety standards applicable to liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities.

Citing the growing importance of LNG to the economy and that the current Part 193 requirements incorporate out-of-date industry standards that no longer align with modern

LNG operations or facilities, PHMSA requested public comment to understand how best to revise Part 193. Specific topics discussed in the ANPRM include (1) the appropriate means to clarify the scope of PHMSA's jurisdiction over LNG facilities; (2) whether different types of LNG facilities, e.g., peak shavers and export terminals, should be regulated differently; (3) possible amendments to LNG facility reporting requirements; and (4) how best to update the current industry standards incorporated in Part 193. The public comment period for the ANPRM closes on **July 7, 2025**.

Repair Criteria Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

On May 21, 2025, PHMSA published an ANPRM requesting public comment on how best to update the agency's repair criteria in 49 C.F.R. Part 192 for gas pipelines, and in 49 C.F.R. Part 195 for hazardous liquids and carbon dioxide pipelines, as well as updating inspection requirements for in-service breakout tanks. Parts 192 and 195 include repair criteria and remediation timelines for certain pipeline anomalies, such as dents and corrosion. These requirements differ depending on whether the pipeline is subject to Part 192 or 195 integrity management (IM) requirements.

Noting that certain Part 192 or Part 195 repair criteria and timelines had not been updated for an extended period and do not accommodate advances in modern technologies and methods to manage pipeline integrity, PHMSA requested public comment on an extensive list of topics to help guide a future rulemaking to modernize the repair criteria and reduce their current regulatory burden. Certain specific topics in the ANPRM include (1) whether the current repair criteria and remediation timelines provided commensurate safety benefits when measured against compliance costs; (2) whether the current regulations can appropriately accommodate the use of innovative technologies or methods; (3) identification of potential amendments to annual, incident, and safety-related condition reporting; and (4) identification of potential changes to the IM repair criteria for longitudinal seam weld corrosion on

hazardous liquid pipelines. The comment period for the ANPRM closes on **July 21, 2025**.

Public Comments on Interpretation Requests

Apart from new rulemakings, PHMSA has also adopted a new process which allows the public to provide comments on interpretation requests under review by the agency. Under PHMSA's regulations, any person may file an interpretation request seeking PHMSA's guidance on the meaning of its regulations or how the regulations would apply in specific circumstances. Previously, PHMSA did not make an interpretation request publicly available until it also published its response. Under the Trump administration, PHMSA now publishes the interpretation requests it receives on its website, and provides a 30-day comment window, so that the public may provide input on how PHMSA should respond. The new process provides

operators with notice of pending interpretation requests that may have industry-wide implications and allow operators to participate in the interpretation process.

Conclusion

For pipeline operators, the current focus of DOT and PHMSA to improve efficiency, modernize, and deregulate its programs provides an opportunity to inform DOT and PHMSA's efforts by providing comments in the rulemaking proceedings. Additionally, operators should be aware that the situation remains dynamic, and it is likely that DOT and PHMSA will continue to add new deregulatory initiatives alongside those already announced. Operators should continue to track DOT and PHMSA activity to determine if there are any new initiatives that they may want to participate in.



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2025 GO-WV Summer Meeting Sponsorship Form

August 3-5, 2025 | The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV

Sponsorship opportunities:

Company Name Contact Person

Address City State Zip

Telephone Email

- _____ **Premier Event Sponsor** **\$25,000**
 - Banner hung at *every* event
 - Specific signage at sponsored event
 - Logo on attendee name badges
 - Listing on Premier Sponsor board
 - Logo and name listed in event PowerPoint presentation
 - Logo listed in event program, web site page and newsletter
- _____ **Elite Event Sponsor** **\$20,000**
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 - Specific signage at sponsored event
 - Listing on Elite Sponsor board
 - Logo and name listed in event PowerPoint presentation
 - Logo listed in event program, web site page and newsletter
- _____ **Diamond Event Sponsor** **\$10,000**
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 - Specific signage at sponsored event
 - Listing on Diamond Sponsor board
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 - Logo listed in event program, web site page and newsletter

- _____ **Platinum Sponsor** **\$5,500**
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- _____ **Gold Sponsor** **\$4,000**
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 - Logo and name listed in event PowerPoint presentation
 - Logo listed in event program, web site page and newsletter
- _____ **Silver Sponsor** **\$2,000**
 - Listing on Silver Sponsor board
 - Logo and name listed in event PowerPoint presentation
 - Logo listed in event program, web site page and newsletter
- _____ **Bronze Sponsor** **\$1,000**
 - Listing on Bronze Sponsor board
 - Logo and name listed in event PowerPoint presentation
 - Logo listed in event program, web site page and newsletter

Please return this form to GO-WV, address below, by July 20, 2025. Be sure to email a high resolution (300-dpi minimum) version of your company's color logo and a link to your web site to lmillersmith@gowv.com.
Thank you for your continued support!

www.gowv.com | 300 Summers Street | Suite 820 | Charleston, WV | 25301 P: (304) 344-9867 F: (304) 344-5836





2025 GO-WV Summer Meeting Registration Form

August 3-5, 2025 | The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV

Please complete and return this form, along with your check, by July 20, 2025. Please type or print the information as you would like your badge to read.

Name on Room Registration

Company Name

Address

City, State, Zip, Telephone

Registration Fees

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| A) Member (per person) \$ 525.00 | F) Kate's Mtn. Only, < 21 \$ 150.00 |
| B) Member's Spouse \$ 375.00 | G) Non-Member (per person) \$ 750.00 |
| C) Children Under 21 (if attending GO-WV events) \$ 250.00 | H) Non-Member's Spouse \$ 500.00 |
| D) Children Over 21 \$ 375.00 | I) Luncheon & Lewisburg \$ 125.00 |
| E) Kate's Mountain Only \$ 300.00 | |

Individuals with special needs (mobility, access, medical diet, etc.) should indicate specific needs in a letter attached to your registration form.

<u>Name as it should appear on badge</u>	<u>Circle one</u>	<u>Fee</u>
_____	A B C D E F G H I	\$ _____
_____	A B C D E F G H I	\$ _____
_____	A B C D E F G H I	\$ _____
_____	A B C D E F G H I	\$ _____
_____	A B C D E F G H I	\$ _____
	TOTAL	\$ _____

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 NO REFUNDS AFTER JULY 20, 2025

Golf Tee Times should be made directly with Jake Fullerton:
 email hill_herrick@greenbrier.com or call 304-536-7851.





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