

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Public Service Commission  
Gas Pipeline Safety  
Rulemaking**

**Case No. GS-14-761**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF TESTIMONY  
December 15, 2014**

My name is Patrick Fahn. I am the Director of the Compliance and Competitive Markets Division with the Public Service Commission. The Commission's gas pipeline safety program is one of the Division's tasks. The purpose of my testimony is to explain the proposed changes to the Commission's administrative rules pertaining to adopting, by reference in state administrative rule, the most recent amendments to pipeline safety regulations adopted by the United States Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

For gas pipeline safety, this proposed rule change adopts rule amendments to safety regulations that have been adopted by PHMSA since June 22, 2011, current to November 6, 2014. A description of those PHMSA rule amendments is attached.

For hazardous liquids pipeline safety, the Public Service Commission currently has statutory authority concerning pipeline safety but hasn't initiated a hazardous liquids safety program agreement with PHMSA. The Commission intends to initiate a safety program agreement with PHMSA in 2015 and is therefore adopting PHMSA hazardous liquids pipeline safety rules.

This concludes my testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions at this time. Thank you.