



## FEBRUARY 2009 eBrief Print Version

### Headlines

[GPA files comments with FERC regarding intrastate pipelines](#)

[GPA to host Congressional Breakfast, meetings with state legislators](#)

[GPA announces keynote speaker for the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual GPA Convention](#)

[GPA Research Ballot Results](#)

[GPSA Board of Directors Ballots](#)

[Publication News](#)

[Chapter News](#)

[Technical Committee Activities](#)

[Venezuelan Gas Processors Association \(AVPG\)](#)

[Passing of Bob Cing-Mars](#)

[School of Gas Chromatography](#)

[Career Center Discounts – The Best Yet!](#)

[18 days and counting ... 88<sup>th</sup> Annual GPA Convention](#)

[Dates to Remember](#)

[GPA/GPSA Calendar](#)

---

### **GPA files comments with FERC regarding intrastate pipelines**

On Nov. 22, 2008, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a "Notice of Inquiry" (NOI) to explore whether changes are needed to the regulations requiring daily posting of transactions of pipelines operating under section 311 of the Natural Gas Policy Act (NGPA) and Hinshaw pipelines. While this NOI is of more interest to those GPA members that own assets of that kind, this NOI, like other recent FERC actions, indicate a continued trend of expanding FERC jurisdiction into areas beyond its traditional regulation behind the state line and into those activities upstream of the traditional interstate arena. As a result, on Feb. 13, GPA filed board-approved official comments with FERC urging the Commission not to impose any further assertion of jurisdiction over intrastate pipelines. This filing was consistent with GPA's continued objections to the Commission's claim of authority over intrastate pipelines. If you would like a copy of the GPA filing, please contact GPA Director of Government Affairs, Stuart McCalman: [smccalman@GPAGlobal.org](mailto:smccalman@GPAGlobal.org).

---

### **GPA to host Congressional Breakfast, meetings with state legislators**

On Tuesday, March 17, in Washington, D.C., GPA will host a breakfast to meet with newly minted member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Rep. Peter Welch (D-VT). This is not a fundraising event but simply an opportunity for GPA and its membership to introduce themselves to Rep. Welch and to discuss with him current and potential federal issues facing the midstream sector of the natural gas industry. If your company has a federal representative interested in attending this breakfast, please contact Stuart McCalman: [smccalman@GPAGlobal.org](mailto:smccalman@GPAGlobal.org). Additionally, GPA has scheduled meetings with state legislators, including both the Oklahoma and Texas House Speaker, in the coming weeks as part of its continuing advocacy and education program. The states and issues being targeted by GPA are discussed and determined by its Targeted State Advocacy Subcommittee. If you are interested in joining this important committee or would like additional information, please contact Stuart.

---

### **GPA announces keynote speaker for the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual GPA Convention**

GPA is pleased to welcome Michael Williams, Commissioner of the Railroad Commission of Texas, as the keynote speaker during our opening General Session, scheduled for 10 a.m. on Monday, March 9.

The Railroad Commission has primary regulatory jurisdiction in Texas over oil and natural gas industry, pipeline transporters, natural gas and hazardous liquid pipeline industry, natural gas utilities, the LP-gas industry, and coal and uranium surface mining operations. The Commission is responsible for research & education to promote the

use of LP-gas as an alternative fuel.

An advocate of alternative energy, Williams chaired the Commission from September 1999 to September 2003 and again from July 2007 to February 2009. He began his tenure at the Railroad Commission in January 1999 following his appointment by then-Governor George W. Bush to fill a vacant seat. He was then elected statewide in November 2000 to complete the unexpired term. The people of Texas re-elected him to a full six-year term in 2002 and then again in November 2008 to a term expiring in 2014.

We look forward to hearing Chairman Williams' perspective of what's in store for domestic energy initiatives relating to Texas and neighboring states, as well as insight into the guidance that comes with the new incoming presidential administration.

---

### **GPA Research Ballot Results**

All projects proposed in GPA's 2009 Research Program received approval from the membership. Due to the current difficult economic times, membership passed the projects with not quite as much "gusto" as in the past several years. Results of the ballot are shown below.

071 - Solubility of Heavy Hydrocarbons in Amine Solutions	82%
072 - Distribution of Sulfur Species in 3-Phase Separators	78%
074 - Effect of Gas Gravity, H <sub>2</sub> S and Salinity on Water Content of NG	79%
081 - Industrial NG Dewpoint by EOS Prediction	82%
082 - Impact of Aromatics on Acid Gas Injection	79%
083 - Solubility of Non-Aromatic Hydrocarbons in TEG Solutions	80%

GPA staff, research committees and the midstream industry thank our research sponsors for their continued support.

---

### **GPSA Board of Directors Ballots**

The closing date for all GPSA Board of Directors ballots was Monday, Feb. 16. Ballots returned by that date will be tallied by the GPSA Teller's Committee in early March. Results of the ballot will be formally announced at the GPSA Membership Meeting on Monday, March 9, in San Antonio.

---

### **Publication News**

Standards 2145-09 and 2172-09 are both available electronically and in print now.

---

### **Chapter News**

#### **Midcontinent GPA Annual Meeting Reminder**

Mark your calendars for the Midcontinent GPA's Annual Meeting, which will be held on April 16 at the Clarion Meridian Hotel and Convention Center in Oklahoma City, Okla. The agenda for this meeting will be available the week of March 16. Also mark your calendar for the golf tournament, which will be held April 15 at the Silverhorn Golf Club, also in Oklahoma City. For more information, please visit [www.GPAglobal.org](http://www.GPAglobal.org).

#### **Permian Basin GPA Annual Meeting Reminder**

The Permian Basin GPA's Annual Meeting will be held May 5 at the University of Texas Permian Basin CEED building in Midland, Texas. The agenda for this meeting will be available the week of April 6. Following the meeting will be the Permian Basin Chapter's Annual Shrimp Boil. Join us for the golf tournament on May 6 at the Hogan Park Golf Course in Midland. For more information, please visit [www.GPAglobal.org](http://www.GPAglobal.org).

## Permian Basin GPA Call for Papers

The Permian Basin GPA Program Committee is seeking abstracts for presentations at the May 5 meeting in Midland. If you are interested in giving a presentation to the Permian Basin GPA, please contact Kenny Wheat for details: [kwheat@GPAglobal.org](mailto:kwheat@GPAglobal.org).

---

## Technical Committee Activities

### **GPA Technical Section M – Operations and Maintenance Section – to Hold Panel Discussion on Operations and Maintenance Training Programs**

GPA's Technical Section M plans to have a short business meeting this March at the GPA Convention, followed by three intriguing presentations dealing with O&M topics:

- Operational Reliability in Gas Gathering, Compression and Processing
- Installation & Operation of Turboexpanders for Improved Reliability
- Williams Operator and Technician Training Program

The section will then hold a one-hour open panel discussion pertaining to O&M training program methods and resources currently available to the industry. If you and your company are interested in learning about training options that other organizations have taken advantage of, this is a must-attend event for you.

### **GPA Technical Section B – Analysis and Test Methods Section – Special Presentation on Combustion Ion Chromatography Technology**

Section B will have a special presentation by COSA instruments during their business meeting at this year's GPA Convention regarding the relatively new technology of combustion ion chromatography. Combustion ion chromatography allows analysis of fluoride, chloride and sulfur in one method simultaneously. This should be an interesting presentation for anyone involved in hydrocarbon analysis.

### **GPA Technical Section C – Product Specification Section – Finalizing GPA Y-Grade Specifications**

Section C plans to finalize their Y-Grade specification in preparation for balloting to membership. If you are a member of Section C or have interest in product specifications, please come to the meeting and let your voice be heard. This will likely be the last time to make comments before the document goes to ballot.

---

## Venezuelan Gas Processors Association (AVPG)

AVPG celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008 with the successful XVIII International Gas Convention and VIII Industrial Gas Exhibition, under the motto: "**Natural Gas: Energy for Development and Integration**," with 500 attendees, 38 sponsor companies, 4 plenary presentations, 50 technical papers, 2 general luncheon conferences and 5 hospitality suites. "AVPG Institutional Recognitions" were awarded in a Gala Dinner Musical Closing Show. The board of directors for 2008-2010 was appointed at the convention, with Sebastiano Rizzo named as president.

During the year, AVPG continued strengthening its relationships with the academic sector through speeches and presentations to local universities. In November, AVPG celebrated the "Academic Excellence Awards" where best theses in the gas sector receive a reward.

AVPG is planning its forum, "The Global Crisis and Its Impact in the Natural Gas Industry" for April 16. Visit <http://www.venezuelagas.net/> for more information about AVPG.

---

## Passing of Bob Cinq-Mars

We are saddened to inform you of the passing of Bob Cinq-Mars, who died on Jan. 22, 2009. He worked in the oil and gas industry for 27 years, retiring from Dynegy in 2002. He was a member of the LARAC Environmental Subcommittee and served as Chair from 1985-1988.

---

## School of Gas Chromatography

Registration for GPA's School of Gas Chromatography will start in March at the convention and will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. We had an extensive waiting list last year, so we encourage you to register at the earliest opportunity. The school will be held in Tulsa, Okla. beginning on Aug. 10 at 8 a.m. and ending on Aug. 14 around noon.

Please note – all prices below are listed in U.S. dollars

Early Bird Registration (by July 17)

GPA/GPSA Members - \$475

Non-Members - \$725

Standard Registration (after July 18)

GPA/GPSA Members - \$575

Non-Members - \$825

Hotel rooms will cost around \$90/night, and you will be responsible for your own transportation. For questions or assistance, feel free to contact Judy London or Kenny Wheat, (918) 493-3872.

---

### **Career Center Discounts – The Best Yet!**

The GPA/GPSA Career Center provides an easy, cost-effective way for employers to quickly find the right candidate to fill a position specific to the midstream industry. Members can post a single job position for as little as \$50, and we also have a member "Package Deal," which is available for a limited time only. Learn more about the packages, costs, promotional codes and availability in this informational flyer:

<http://gpaglobal.org/pdf/CareerCenterConvPromo09.pdf>

If you need assistance posting a position, call Judy London, (918) 493-3872 or the Career Center Support Line, (888) 491-8833 (press 4 for assistance).

---

### **18 days and counting ... 88<sup>th</sup> Annual GPA Convention**

Thank you to all those who registered for the GPA Convention. As of Feb. 9, we have 1,195 industry professionals signed up. Please keep an eye out for important convention-related information coming to your inbox soon. For those not yet registered, there is still time to register online or on-site. For complete information, use these quick links:

Online Registration: [https://www.gpaglobal.org/convention\\_reg2.php](https://www.gpaglobal.org/convention_reg2.php)

Schedule: <https://www.gpaglobal.org/schedule09.php>

All Convention Info.: <https://www.gpaglobal.org/convention09.php>

---

### **Dates to Remember**

**March 21** – IPTC Call For Papers deadline

---

### **GPA/GPSA Calendar**

For event location and additional details about meetings listed below, visit: [www.GPAglobal.org/calendar.php](http://www.GPAglobal.org/calendar.php)

#### **February**

17 - Midcontinent GPA Dinner Meeting

18 - GPA Europe Offshore Processing Conference

19 - Houston GPA Sporting Clays

#### **March**

8-11 - 88th Annual GPA Convention

#### **April**

15 – Midcontinent GPA Golf Tournament

16 - Midcontinent GPA Annual Meeting

#### **May**

5 - Permian Basin GPA Annual Meeting

6 – Permian Basin GPA Golf Tournament

---

**Gas Processors Association**

[www.GPAGlobal.org](http://www.GPAGlobal.org)

6526 E. 60th Street, Tulsa, OK, USA 74145 | 918-493-3872 | Fax 918-493-3875 |

E-mail: [gpa@GPAGlobal.org](mailto:gpa@GPAGlobal.org)

---