Monday, July 30

9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Onsite Registration/Badge Pick Up

1:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.  
Operating Conference Opening & Welcome

Welcome to Tampa  
T.J. Szelistowski  
President, Peoples Gas System

Award Presentations & Volunteer Recognition  
Bill Cantrell, SGA President & CEO

Keynote Address: The Power of Influence: Getting Along and Getting Things Done  
Andy Urich  
Oklahoma State University

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Break

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
All Things PHMSA: Rulemakings, Enforcement Trends, and Due Diligence Pointers  
Brianne Kurdock & James Curry – Babst Calland

This presentation will cover the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration’s (PHMSA) pending rulemakings, an analysis of 2017 enforcement trends, and PHMSA’s expectations for corporate due diligence. This topic is particularly timely because PHMSA is in the midst of an extensive overhaul of the federal natural gas pipeline regulations.

4:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
Reception with Exhibitors
• Project Documentation in the Cyber Era
  o What did you know and when did you know it?
  o Use of ftp sites and share file sites for Contract Documents and Project Records and the importance of tracking when records were made available to the project players
  o Sharing project information with your subcontractors and suppliers
• Proving your Claim: the need for former employees as friendly witnesses
  o Ethical issues
  o Compensation issues
  o Logistical Issues
• Conflicting Contract Documents
  o Navigating conflicting contract provisions, specifications, drawings, and compliance regulations to determine performance requirements.
  o Where we see these issues arise: Right-of-way issues, E&S controls, welding standards, restoration requirements
• Inspectors
  o Pipeline inspectors, environmental inspectors
  o What authority do they have over the contractor’s work?
• Partial and Final Lien Waivers
  o Preserving claims

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Break

9:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Are You Prepared for a Crisis?

Monté Williams & Shawn Morgan – Steptoe & Johnson
Karen Stallings - Enbridge

Have you considered how best to protect your company’s assets from technology attacks? Have you implemented best practices for crisis management? Are all of your employees trained in how to respond properly and efficiently to an emergency? Monté Williams and Shawn Morgan will conduct a table-top exercise during this session, for participants to analyze how they and their businesses would respond to a cybersecurity incident.

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Permit Roadblocks – Panel Discussion

Jane Lewis-Raymond – Parker Poe Adams
Bernstein, Armando Benincasa – Steptoe & Johnson
Jeremy Marwell – Vinson & Elkins LLP

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. OSHA Reporting and Investigation of Fatalities and Serious Accidents in the Gas Industry
Many employers go for long periods without interaction with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. In an instant, that changes with a serious accident or a fatal accident on the job. This topic will cover obligations on accident reporting with OSHA; the OSHA investigation process, role of counsel in the process; potential penalties for OSHA violations; how to challenge and litigate those assessment and finally this topic will look at safety qualifications for contractors you hire.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  Reception with Exhibitors

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  Dinner and Special Event

Lowry Park Zoo

Wednesday, August 1

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.  Breakfast with Exhibitors

8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  Drafting & Negotiating Easements: “Get to Yes” While Protecting the Gas Company’s Interests

Jerome (Jerry) Cook – Benesch
Matt Rhoad – Smith Anderson
Michael Snyder – Benesch

Effective easement agreements are essential to protect the gas company’s rights to easements needed for gas pipelines and related facilities. Replacing outdated forms with language that reflects the current state of the law is critical. Too much legalese and antiquated language also leads to confusion and resistance from owners, as well as potential court disputes. Moreover, property owners often request additional or alternative language than the language proposed by the gas company. This presentation will guide attendees in drafting effective agreements and navigating difficult negotiations. Topics will include: (1) “Gold standards” for updating easement forms; (2) Alternative language that can accommodate the owner’s concerns while maintaining appropriate protection of the gas company’s interests; (3) Pitfalls to be avoided; and (4) Practical considerations from the land agent’s perspective.

10:30 a.m.  Conference Adjourns