SHINING A LIGHT ON THE LEADERS ADVANCING THE NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY



WINNERS BOOK

ABOUT THE SGA AWARDS

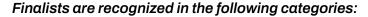
Each year, the SGA Awards program honors the people and projects advancing the natural gas industry with integrity, innovation and impact. From safety and community outreach to engineering excellence and leadership development, these awards recognize initiatives that move the industry forward.

This year, **over 5,000 votes were cast** by SGA members to help identify the top submissions across eight categories. We're proud to present the 2025 SGA Awards Finalists, nominated by their peers and selected for their outstanding contributions to the natural gas industry.

Whether you're celebrating a teammate, a partner, or your own organization's recognition, we thank you for helping spotlight what's working. Every nomination tells a story worth sharing, and every finalist helps raise the bar for what's possible.







- » Chair's Rising Leader
- » Community Service
- » Corporate Communications
- » Emergency Management
- » Engineering Innovation
- » Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG)
- » Safety & Health
- » Meritorious Action

The winners were announced live during the **2025 Operations Conference**, held July 23–25 in Austin, Texas.

To explore more about the SGA Awards and sign up to be notified when 2026 nominations open, visit the SGA Awards page on our website.

SouthernGas.org/2025-sga-award-winners



CHAIR'S RISING LEADER

Recognizing emerging professionals who demonstrate exceptional leadership potential and a clear commitment to advancing the natural gas industry. These individuals are shaping the future of our field.



Sam Trowbridge

A passionate advocate for GIS-powered innovation, Sam has led groundbreaking automation and transparency initiatives that improve safety and project efficiency. She is also a committed mentor, volunteer, and educator, helping to inspire and prepare the next generation of natural gas professionals.



ATMOS ENERGY

Donovan Clevenger

From technician to Operations Manager, Donovan's 13-year career has been marked by leadership, professionalism, and a deep commitment to people. Known for his calm presence and clear communication, he leads a large regional team while also serving his community through youth coaching and chamber leadership.



KANSAS GAS SERVICE / ONE GAS

Lindsay Freeman

As Manager of Community Relations, Lindsay turned challenges into opportunities by launching a weatherization kit program that has helped nearly 6,500 Kansas households reduce energy costs. Her dedication to service has also made her a sought-after presenter at national conferences and a trusted liaison during natural disasters.

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SGA Natural Gas Association 3

WINNER SGA

COMMUNITY SERVICE

This category honors impactful programs that strengthen local communities through service, outreach, and investment. Finalists have demonstrated a commitment to connection beyond the workplace.

SOUTHERN STAR Southern Star Cares: Fueling our Communities

Southern Star Cares empowers employees to make a meaningful impact through a team member-funded nonprofit that awarded more than \$128,000 to eight community organizations in 2024. From life-saving emergency equipment to Meals on Wheels vehicles, the grants reflect a deep and direct commitment to improving the quality of life across Southern Star communities.







BGE **BGE Youth Energy Day**

BGE Youth Energy Day connects students from vocational high schools with real-

world careers in the utility industry. Through hands-on experiences and mentorship, the event helps students, many from underserved areas, see a clear path to family-supporting jobs and longterm careers.

SUMMIT UTILITIES



communities to combat food insecurity through the Arkansas Foodbank's Summer Cereal Drive. Their efforts included donations, volunteerism, and public awareness and helped feed thousands of children in need across 33 counties. The campaign earned them the 2024 Community Partner Award.

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Effective communication builds trust and clarity. This award celebrates campaigns and initiatives that informed, inspired, and engaged key stakeholders inside and outside the organization.









Certified Safety Podcast

BGE launched the Certified Safety Podcast as a new way to share safety messages in a format that is informative,

engaging, and easy to access. The short episodes feature leaders and experts discussing timely safety topics and encouraging real-world application. This creative approach has improved safety communication across the company and gained recognition from senior leadership.



Atmos Energy launched the Gold Cup of Safe Digging to recognize contractors and partners who exemplify best-in-class damage prevention. Starting as a regional effort in Kentucky, the program quickly expanded to all eight states served by Atmos, honoring 23 recipients in 2024. The campaign strengthens safety partnerships and reinforces Atmos's ongoing commitment to safe excavation practices.

SUMMIT UTILITIES The Heart of Summit: Living Our Mission, Vision & Values

Summit Utilities reinvigorated its culture through a thoughtful refresh of its Mission, Vision, and Values. With employee input at every step, the campaign connected team members across geographies and roles. Through storytelling, training, and meaningful tools, the program helped employees align their work with the company's core purpose and values.

ENGINEERING INNOVATION

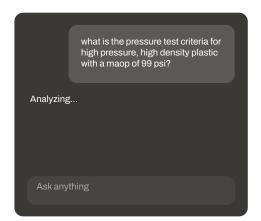
This category celebrates practical, forward-thinking engineering solutions that improve operations, reliability, or environmental outcomes. Finalists are driving real-world impact through technical excellence.

WILLIAMS Crossing the Coosa River

To overcome long-standing challenges with pipeline construction under the Coosa River, Williams successfully

completed a 3,400-foot horizontal directional drill. The project eliminated a critical system bottleneck while minimizing environmental disruption, showcasing innovative engineering and crossteam coordination that supports cleaner power generation across the region.





BGE **Gas GPT**

addressed.

BGE developed "Gas GPT," an internal Al chatbot that streamlines employee access to critical technical documents and procedures. Used by over 150 employees monthly, the tool has improved knowledge sharing, reduced time spent searching for information, and highlighted inconsistencies across standards that can now be

February 2024								
Month	Order Type	Original Forecast	Actuals	Original FC Variance	Original FC Variance (%)			
February	Reconnect or Credit	8,530	10.958	2,428	28.46%			
February	SONP or Credit	13,587	16,926	3.339	24.57%			
February	Turn ON	10,553	10,445	-108	-1.02%			
Total		32,670	38,329	5,659	17.32%			

February 2025							
Month	Order Type	Original Forecast	Actuals	Original FC Variance	Original FC Variance (%)		
February	RECONNECT OR CREDIT	7,176	6,740	-436	-6.08%		
February	SONP OR CREDIT	11,484	11,475	-9	-0.08%		
February	TURN ON	8,309	8,261	-48	-0.58%		
Total		26,969	26,476	-493	-1.83%		

SOUTHERN COMPANY GAS Predictive Analytics Solution for High Volume Work Orders

Southern Company Gas implemented a machine learning model to predict high-volume customer service orders with remarkable accuracy. By integrating economic and weather data into forecasting, the model enables better staffing, scheduling, and customer service, resulting in a 98% forecast accuracy rate and improved operational efficiency.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Outstanding emergency preparedness, rapid response, and recovery efforts are essential to the resilience of our industry. This category recognizes teams that went above and beyond in times of crisis.

BGE

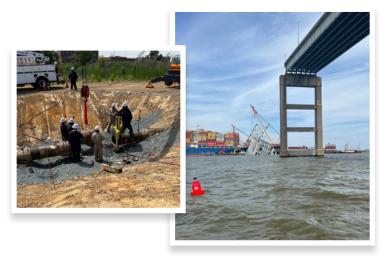
SGA

Baltimore Gas & Electric Key Bridge Collapse Response

Francis Scott Key Bridge, BGE executed a highly technical and time-sensitive operation to isolate and restore a critical 24" gas transmission pipeline lying beneath the Patapsco River. Their around-the-clock coordination with federal, state, and local partners not only protected public safety and ensured uninterrupted service for 165,000 customers, but also supported the timely

reopening of the Port of Baltimore.

Following the tragic collapse of the



ATMOS ENERGY Historic Winter Weather Sweeps Across Kansas

As extreme winter storms swept across Kansas, the Atmos Energy team in Olathe responded with confidence thanks to months of planning, system evaluations, and emergency training. From insulating infrastructure to coordinating large-scale customer communications, their efforts minimized service interruptions and helped keep nearly 100,000 homes warm and safe during sub-zero conditions.



SUMMIT UTILITIES Connected in Crisis: Summit's AlertMedia Rollout

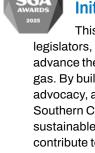
Summit Utilities launched a new emergency communication platform that enables instant, two-way outreach during critical events. The AlertMedia rollout strengthened safety protocols, improved field-level response, and allowed targeted alerts for employees in highimpact areas—all while fostering collaboration across departments and reinforcing a people-first approach to crisis readiness.

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL & GOVERNANCE

Recognizing company-wide ESG strategies that demonstrate measurable results and a long-term commitment to responsible operations. These finalists show what it looks like to align values with action.







WINNER SGA AWARDS

SOUTHERN COMPANY GAS Chattanooga Gas and Virginia Natural Gas Sustainable Gas Initiative

ATMOS ENERGY

Biodiversity

community goals.

Atmos Energy Converts

Garden that Supports

Atmos Energy transformed an idle plot of land

biodiversity and environmental education. The

employee-driven project includes native plants,

walking paths, and interactive tools, creating a

certified habitat that serves both ecological and

into a thriving pollinator garden to support

Unused Land into Pollinator

This initiative brought together customers, legislators, regulators, and industry leaders to advance the use of certified and renewable natural gas. By building trust through education, policy advocacy, and transparent communication, Southern Company Gas demonstrated how sustainable fuels can reduce emissions and contribute to long-term decarbonization goals.





THE WILLIAMS COMPANIES **Successfully Executing Our Emissions Reduction Program**

Williams' multi-year Emissions Reduction Program modernized compressor

stations across its system, resulting in significant cuts to methane and NOX emissions. With collaboration across engineering, environmental, and operational teams, the program set new benchmarks in performance while sharing valuable insights with the broader industry.

SGA

SAFETY & HEALTH

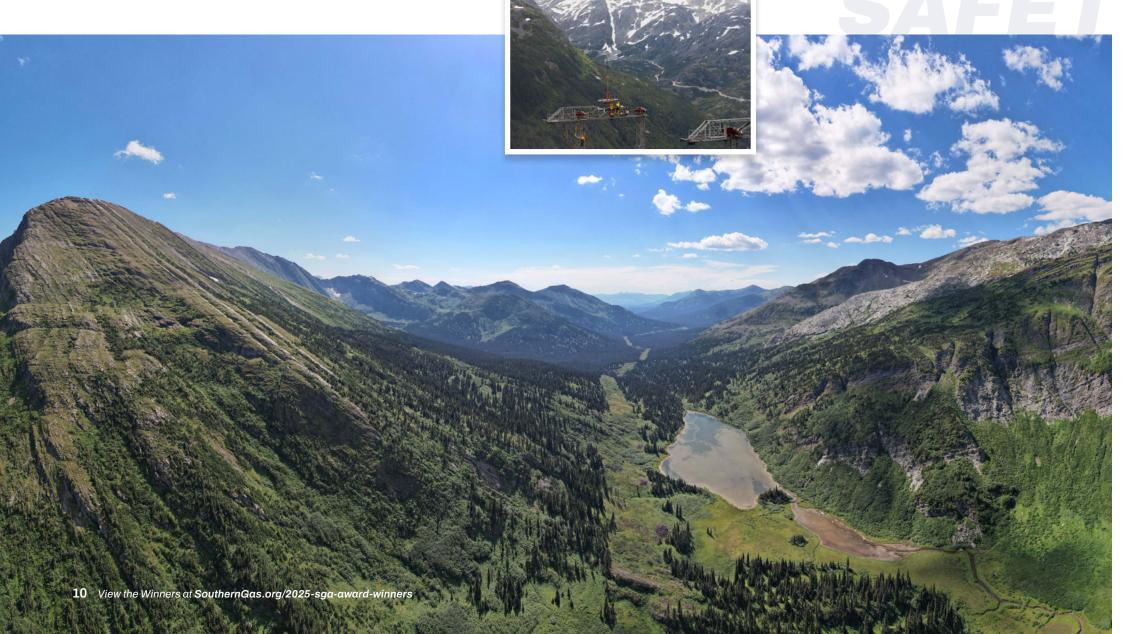
Our industry's success begins with a culture of safety. This award honors programs that have made meaningful improvements in employee well-being, injury prevention, and safety leadership.

TC ENERGY Legacy of Excellence: The Extraordinary **Coastal GasLink Approach**

TC Energy's Coastal GasLink project achieved an unmatched safety record while building a 670-kilometer pipeline through some of Canada's most extreme terrain. Through advanced safety strategies, human and organizational performance principles, and a cultural initiative known as the Extraordinary Legacy Initiative, the team fostered a united safety mindset across thousands of workers. The result: 57 million work hours with zero fatalities.









ATMOS ENERGY The Good Catch Program

Atmos Energy's Good Catch Program encourages employees to identify and report near-miss events or unsafe conditions before incidents happen. By celebrating these proactive moments, leadership fosters trust, openness, and a shared responsibility for safety. Since the program's rollout, the Louisiana division has seen months with zero injuries or vehicle incidents and a notable increase in risk assessments and safety engagement.

BGE BGE Safety University

BGE Safety University is a structured leadership program built to deepen safety knowledge, promote operational learning, and align leadership around energy-based safety practices. Designed with evolving human performance principles in mind, the quarterly sessions engage leaders in meaningful reflection and skill-building. The program helps translate safety philosophy into real-world leadership action.

SUMMIT UTILITIES More Than a Summit: Stories that **Strengthen Safety**

Summit Utilities' Safety Summit and "Why I Work Safe" campaign brought together over 180 employees across departments and states to build a culture rooted in empathy and shared accountability. Personal storytelling, peer-led sessions, and emotional connections turned traditional safety conversations into something memorable and meaningful. The campaign's momentum continues as teams now incorporate it into daily safety routines.







MERITORIOUS ACTION

This award honors individuals whose courage and quick thinking helped save or protect lives. These stories remind us of the very real impact our people can have — on the job and in the community.

ATMOS ENERGY

Jason Wheeler

After Hurricane Helene devastated the Florida Gulf Coast, Jason Wheeler used his personal time to travel over 900 miles to help impacted communities. He led resource collection efforts, assisted in clearing over 100 homes, and provided compassionate support to those who had lost everything.

ATMOS ENERGY

Donnie Pierson

Donnie Pierson recognized the early signs of a heart attack in a colleague and took immediate action, ensuring prompt medical care. His quick thinking and CPR training helped save his teammate's life.

BOARDWALK PIPELINES

Klay Allday and Bruce Camp

Klay and Bruce prevented a potential tragedy by stopping an oncoming train from colliding with a car stuck on the tracks. Their vigilance, teamwork, and fast communication averted disaster near hazardous materials and safeguarded lives.

ENERGY TRANSFER

Steven Briolo, Nicholas Couvillon, Joshua Greene and Charles Martin

When a teammate suffered a medical emergency offshore, this team performed CPR for nearly 20 minutes and coordinated emergency air transport. Their life-saving response and ongoing care helped ensure a full recovery.

MILLER PIPELINE

Jose Leal-Huerta and Valentin Quintero

In a chaotic scene outside a sandwich shop, Valentin broke up a violent altercation while Jose used CPR training and quick action to stop lifethreatening bleeding from a stab wound. Their intervention saved the shop owner's life.



Jason Wheeler – Atmos Energy



Donnie Pierson - Atmos Energy





Jordan Kidd – Miller Pipeline



Brian Hatley, Troy Turner Jr. & Dillon Wilcox – **PolyPipe**



Brett Stewart - TC Energy



MILLER PIPELINE Jordan Kidd

While driving through a tunnel, Jordan spotted a crash victim lying in the roadway. He stopped traffic, provided critical first aid, and stayed until emergency responders arrived, choosing to act when others might have passed by.

POLYPIPE

Brian Hatley, Troy Turner Jr. and Dillon Wilcox

During a flash flood at their facility, PolyPipe employees acted decisively to rescue stranded coworkers and neighboring employees. Their quick response and selflessness saved lives and exemplified leadership under pressure.

SOUTHEAST CONNECTIONS

Nick Young, James Paul and Brandon Hamby

After a hurricane knocked out power to a man on life support, this Southeast Connections crew used their generator to stabilize him and cleared nearly three miles of debris to enable ambulance access, ultimately saving his life.

TC ENERGY

Brett Stewart

After witnessing a car flip into a creek, Brett Stewart entered the icy water to rescue the trapped driver. His actions saved her life as the vehicle quickly filled with water.

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As the only US natural gas trade association supporting all sectors of the industry, we know that each individual natural gas professional plays a critical role in driving our industry forward. We invest in the future of natural gas by investing in our members and providing opportunities to learn, exchange ideas and share solutions.

SGANaturalGas.org