

Gas Safety Program



Maine Public Utilities Commission

2011 Pipeline Safety Seminar
Hyannis, MA

Personnel

Reorganization:

- Pipeline Safety is Now In the Electric & Gas Division
- Damage Prevention is Now In the Consumer Assistance Division
- The Previous Division for Both, Safety & Security, Has Been Eliminated

Personnel

- Pipeline Safety

Jim Atkins

Gary Kenny

- Legal

Jordan (Jody) McColman - Staff Attorney for
Natural Gas & LPG Safety

- Damage Prevention

Dennis Hayden - Investigator

Rick LeClair - Investigator

Tammy Chamberlain - Administration (LPG Too)

Operators & Facilities

Three Natural Gas Distribution Operators

- ✓ Two Intrastate Transmission Lines
- ✓ One LNG Plant

Forty Three Propane Distribution System Operators

- ✓ Approximately 800 Jurisdictional Systems

Proposed Operators & Facilities

4.5 Mile Non-Utility Transmission Line to Serve a Paper Mill in Woodland (Adjacent to the Canadian Border)

- ✓ Commission Deliberation on July 19, 2011
- ✓ Under Construction and Scheduled to be In Service on December 1, 2011

Proposed Operators & Facilities

New Utility – 56 Mile Transmission Line (Roadside) & Local Distribution

- ✓ Anchor Customers – Paper Mills in Madison and Skowhegan (Central Maine)
- ✓ Distribution in Five Communities; Including Augusta & Waterville
- ✓ Conditional Authority Granted from the MPUC by Order on August 18, 2011
- ✓ Construction Start in 2012
- ✓ In Service 1st Quarter of 2013

2010 Inspection Activity

- 109 Person Days Spent on Inspections - Natural Gas & LPG
- Previous Plan Was to Inspect LPG Facilities Every Three Years. Shifting to Every Five Years.

Rulemaking

Revised Rule Chapter 420

Safety Standards for Natural Gas And
Liquefied Natural Gas Facility
Operators

Effective 3/5/11

Rulemaking/Legislation

New Rule Chapter 421

Safety and Operation Standards for
Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)
Distribution Systems

Effective 3/9/11

Rulemaking/Legislation

- Lobbying by the Maine Energy Marketers Association Resulted in Emergency Legislation that Essentially Drops Ch. 421 Back to the Federal Minimum.
- A Notice of Rulemaking was Issued on October 18, 2011 to Incorporate Those Changes.

Cast Iron Replacement

- One Natural Gas Distribution Operator has Cast Iron Pipe.
- Completing Second Year of 14 Year Replacement Program.

Damage Prevention Program

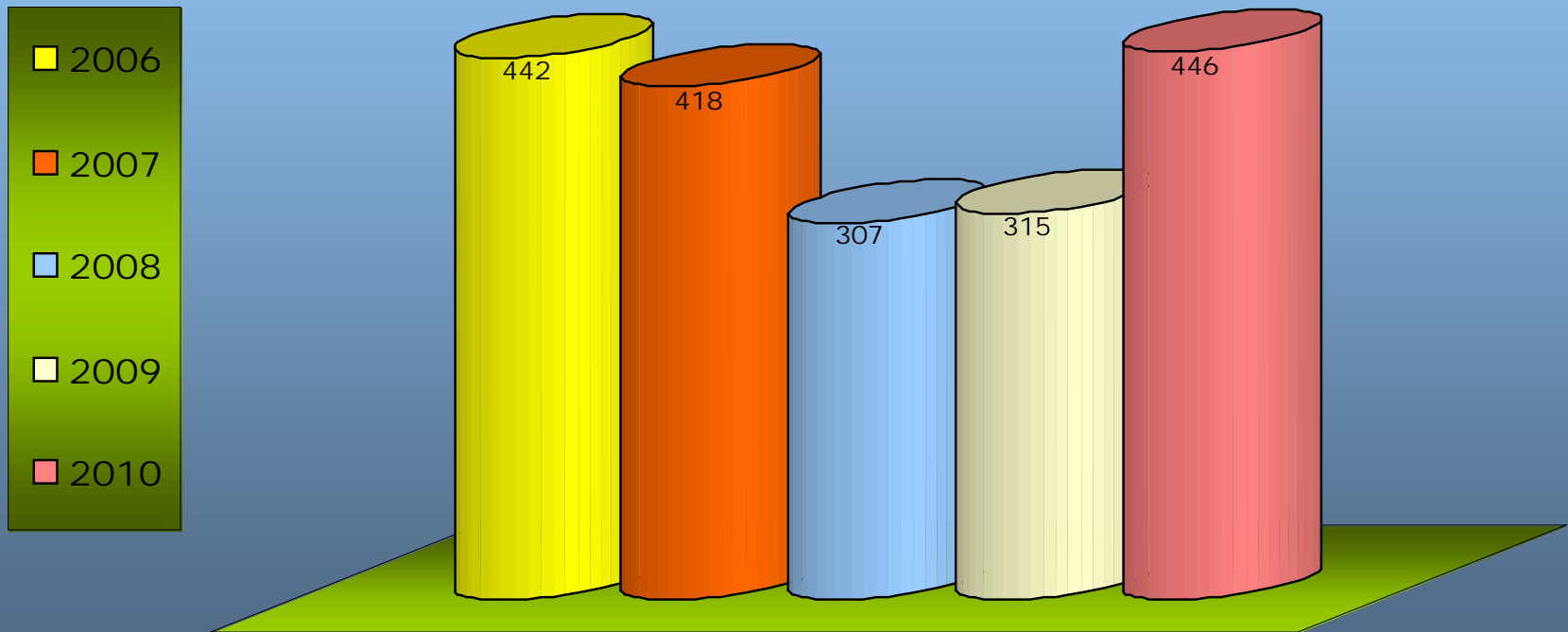
- Stakeholder meetings began in December 2009.
- Lobbying by Utilities Led to Emergency Legislation – Effective 5/9/11

Damage Prevention Program

Major Changes Forced by Legislation

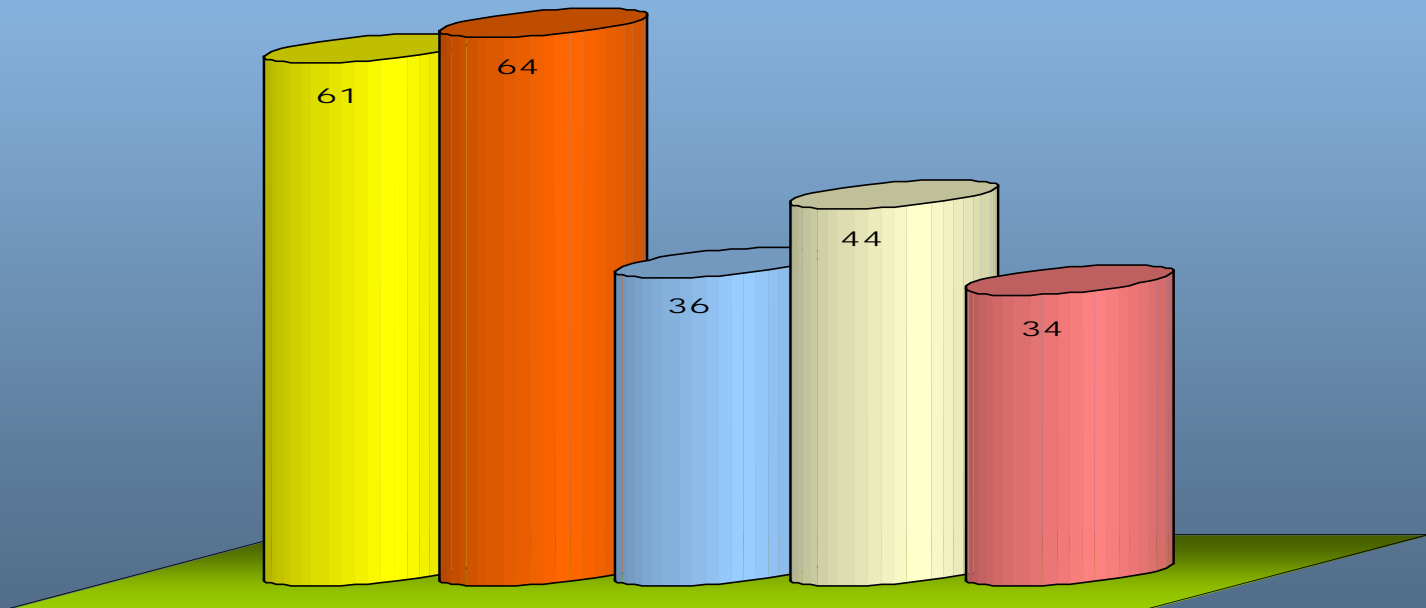
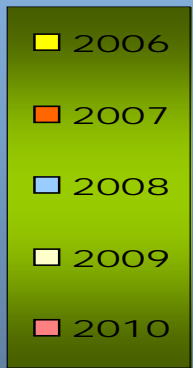
- Redefines Emergency Excavation
- Ticket Duration from 30 Days to 60 Days
- Change “Probable Violation” to More Neutral Wording Such as “Possible Violation”.
- A Municipality’s Notice to Grade a Gravel Road is Good for 12 Months.

Damage Prevention Total Incidents



(Incidents May Not Include Damage)

Damage Prevention Gas incidents



(Incidents May Not Include Damage)

Damage Prevention Program

There were 42% *more* total incidents reported in 2010 than in 2009.

Over the same period there were 23% *fewer* gas related incidents Reported.

Damage Prevention Program

Damages Per 1,000 Tickets
In 2010

All Utilities: 0.75

Gas Utilities: 1.73

Gas Incidents

None

Thank You!