



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

October 22, 2025

Via Email

Mr. Jeremy McDiarmid
Chair
Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Chair McDiarmid:

On October 6–10, 2025, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) conducted an evaluation of the pipeline safety program activities carried out by the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (MADPU) in Calendar Year (CY) 2024. This evaluation included a review of annual Progress Report documents, pipeline program procedures and records, and an observation of an on-site pipeline operator inspection conducted by MADPU staff.

PHMSA conducted this evaluation pursuant to Sections 60105(e) and 60106(d) of Title 49 of the United States Code, which authorizes PHMSA to monitor state pipeline safety programs. This annual evaluation is designed to ensure compliance with the Pipeline Safety Act and to provide information that will allow PHMSA to determine the State's total pipeline safety grant score for the upcoming year.

PHMSA assesses the overall performance of a state's pipeline safety program by scoring information contained in the pipeline safety program Progress Report and by conducting a Program Evaluation. Detailed results are provided below:

Progress Report Review

For CY 2024, the MADPU Gas Pipeline Safety Program scored 50 out of a possible 50 points.

Program Evaluation Review

For CY 2024, the MADPU Gas Pipeline Safety Program scored 100 out of a possible 100 points.

As you may be aware, PHMSA and the National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives have developed a set of performance metrics available to the public on PHMSA's stakeholder communication website, <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/data-and-statistics/pipeline/data-and-statistics-overview>. These metrics relate to the State's leak management, incident investigations, and damage prevention program, as well as its inspector qualification, inspection, and enforcement activities. PHMSA expects each state pipeline safety program to review these metrics and take action, as necessary, to improve performance trends, thereby supporting enhanced pipeline safety.

PHMSA appreciates the identification and replacement of high-risk pipe, such as cast iron and bare steel. MADPU reported the removal or replacement of 215 miles of high-risk pipe in CY 2024, primarily through the Gas Safety Enhancement Plan. PHMSA encourages the continuation of this program due to the remaining 2,126 miles of cast iron and 139,310 unprotected bare or coated steel service lines in the State. The identification and replacement of high-risk pipe, such as cast iron and bare steel, prevent gas leaks and possible failures, and are essential components in public safety.

A reply to this letter is not required. However, your comments are always welcome. The address to send a response to is 3700 S. MacArthur Blvd., Suite B, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73179-7612, or zach.barrett@dot.gov. Thank you for your continued support of pipeline safety.

Sincerely,



Zach Barrett
Director, State Programs

cc: Mr. Richard Enright, Director of Pipeline Safety, MADPU
Mr. Robert Burrough, Director, Eastern Region, PHMSA, PHP-100
Mr. David Appelbaum, State Liaison, PHMSA State Programs, PHP-50