



# 2025 WESTERN REGIONAL GAS CONFERENCE



TUESDAY, AUGUST 19	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20
<p><b>7:00 – 8:00 AM REGISTRATION &amp; VENDOR EXHIBITS (Palm Ballroom ABDE) and Breakfast (Mission Grille or Snack Shacks); Vendor Setup is on Monday, August 18.</b></p>	
<p><b>8:00 – 8:15 AM</b></p> <p><b>WELCOME!</b></p> <p>Alex Hughes – Southern California Gas Co./Sempra            Director, Western Regional Gas Association, Inc.            (Palm Ballroom CF Main Session Room)</p>	<p><b>7:00 – 8:15 AM</b></p> <p><b>WAKE-UP SESSION</b></p> <p><b>Vendor Exhibit Area (Palm Ballroom ABDE)</b>            (Snack Shack Continental Breakfast or Hot Breakfast at the Mission Grille!)</p>
<p><b>8:15 – 9:00 AM</b></p> <p><b>Keynote Address: PHMSA Regulatory Focus Shifts for 2025-2026</b></p> <p>Alan Mayberry, Associate Administrator            U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline &amp; Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)            (Palm Ballroom CF)</p>	<p><b>8:15 – 9:00 AM</b></p> <p><b>Common Ground Alliance (CGA) New Excavator Training Modules Overview and Updates</b>            Speaker TBD – Common Ground Alliance            (Palm Ballroom)</p> <p><b>Pipeline Safety Management Topic TBD</b>            Speaker TBD            (Joshua Tree Room)</p> <p><b>Construction Crew Inspection Methods/Technology – Keeping in Compliance with OQ and other Regulations</b>            Speaker TBD            (Abbey Room)</p>
	<p><b>9:00 – 9:15 AM BREAK &amp; VENDOR AREA RAFFLE (Palm Ballroom)</b></p>



**Location:** The Tempe Mission Palms Hotel and Conference Center, 60 E. Fifth St., Tempe, Arizona 85281

**Registration:** Palm Ballroom Foyer

**Vendor Set-Up:** Monday, August 18 from 1:00 to 5:00 PM, Palm Ballroom Vendor Display Area

All presentations will be available for download after the conference at [www.westernregionalgas.org](http://www.westernregionalgas.org)



# 2025 WESTERN REGIONAL GAS CONFERENCE



TUESDAY, AUGUST 19	WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20
<p><b>9:05 – 9:50 AM</b></p> <p><b>Pipeline Safety Rulemaking Updates and Advisories: NPRM, Final Rule and Related Regulatory Activity</b>  <b>Cameron Satterthwaite – PHMSA</b>  (Palm Ballroom)</p> <p><b>Measurement/Pressure Regulation Track Topic TBD</b>  <b>Speaker TBD</b>  (Joshua Tree Room)</p> <p><b>Topic TBD</b>  <b>Speaker TBD</b>  (Abbey Room)</p>	<p><b>9:15 – 10:00 AM</b></p> <p><b>APGA Updates – Revisions to the SHRIMP Program; Efforts to Keep Natural Gas as Viable Fuel Source; Regulatory Impact of Recent Events to Small Operators</b>  <b>Erin Kurilla – American Public Gas Association</b>  (Palm Ballroom)</p> <p><b>Introduction to Geohazards Integrity Management</b>  <b>Jen Holmstadt – Renegade Energy Advisors LLC</b>  (Joshua Tree Room)</p> <p><b>Non-Destructive Testing Basics for Gas Construction Inspectors</b>  <b>Speaker TBD</b>  (Abbey Room)</p>
<p><b>9:50 – 10:15 AM BREAK &amp; VENDOR AREA RAFFLE (Palm Ballroom)</b></p>	<p><b>10:00 – 10:15 AM BREAK &amp; VENDOR AREA RAFFLE (Palm Ballroom)</b></p>
<p><b>10:15 – 11:00 AM</b></p> <p><b>NAPSR-PHMSA Distribution Team Updates for Operators</b>  <b>Matt Smith – Illinois Commerce Commission/NAPSR</b>  (Palm Ballroom)</p> <p><b>Measurement/Pressure Regulation Track Topic TBD</b>  <b>Speaker TBD</b>  (Joshua Tree Room)</p> <p><b>Leak Survey and Emissions Detection Technology Updates</b>  <b>Paul Wehnert – Heath Consultants</b>  (Abbey Room)</p>	<p><b>10:15 – 11:00 AM</b></p> <p><b>Status of Industry Efforts and State Actions to Utilize Hydrogen in Gas Systems</b>  <b>American Gas Association</b>  (Palm Ballroom)</p> <p><b>PHMSA Western Region Updates, Inspection Results, Compliance Actions</b>  <b>Tom Finch – PHMSA Western Region</b>  (Joshua Tree Room)</p> <p><b>Guided Wave Ultrasonic Testing as an Alternative for Non-Piggable Cased Segments Where Direct Assessment is Not Feasible</b>  <b>Andrew T. Vancura – Entrust Solutions Group (EN Engineering)</b>  (Abbey Room)</p>
<p><b>11:00 – 11:15 AM BREAK &amp; VENDOR EXHIBITS (Palm Ballroom)</b></p>	<p><b>11:00 – 11:15 AM BREAK &amp; VENDOR EXHIBITS (Palm Ballroom)</b></p>



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<p><b>11:15 AM – 12:00 PM</b></p> <p><b>PHMSA Accident Investigation Division – Incident Updates &amp; Reports; How Operators Can Work with PHMSA When Incidents Occur</b>  <b>Chris Ruhl – PHMSA Accident and Investigation Division</b>  (Palm Ballroom)</p> <p><b>Measurement/Pressure Regulation Track Topic TBD</b>  <b>Speaker TBD</b>  (Joshua Tree Room)</p> <p><b>GTI Energy Project Updates</b>  <b>Dennis Jarnecke – GTI Energy (Gas Technology Institute)</b>  (Abbey Room)</p>	<p><b>11:15 AM – 12:00 PM</b></p> <p><b>CGA Damage Prevention Institute Metrics/Updates and Other CGA Committee Proceedings</b>  <b>Louis Panzer – North Carolina 811</b>  (Palm Ballroom)</p> <p><b>Rplume Gas Migration Study Results – “What’s Going on Now?”</b>  <b>Kate Smits PhD, PE – Southern Methodist University, RPlume Project Associate</b>  (Joshua Tree Room)</p> <p><b>Continuing to Reduce Damages at Southwest Gas – Why it Works!</b>  <b>Lynsay Demko-Edwards &amp; Paul Gustilo - Southwest Gas Corporation</b>  (Abbey Room)</p>
<p><b>12:00 – 1:30 PM LUNCH BREAK (Mission Grille; Raffle in Vendor Display)</b></p>	<p><b>12:00 – 1:30 PM LUNCH BREAK (Mission Grille; Raffle in Coronado)</b></p>
<p><b>1:30 – 2:15 PM</b></p> <p><b>Gas Distribution NPRM Rulemaking Team Activities</b>  <b>Matt Smith – Illinois Commerce Commission</b>  (Palm Ballroom)</p> <p><b>Measurement/Pressure Regulation Track Topic TBD</b>  <b>Speaker TBD</b>  (Joshua Tree Room)</p> <p><b>Topic TBD</b>  <b>Regulatory Compliance Partners (RCP) Inc.</b>  (Abbey Room)</p>	<p><b>1:30 – 2:15 PM</b></p> <p><b>AGA Updates: Updates on Current Advocacy Projects; Studies on Natural Gas Bans; Other AGA Priorities for 2023-2024</b>  <b>American Gas Association</b>  (Palm Ballroom)</p> <p><b>Topic TBD</b>  <b>Speaker TBD</b>  (Joshua Tree Room)</p> <p><b>Conducting Effective Internal Pipeline Safety Compliance Audits</b>  <b>Luke Whitrock – Integrity Solutions</b>  (Abbey Room)</p>
<p><b>2:15 – 2:30 PM BREAK &amp; VENDOR EXHIBITS (Palm Ballroom Vendor Area)</b></p>	<p><b>2:15 – 2:30 PM BREAK &amp; VENDOR EXHIBITS (Palm Ballroom Vendor Area)</b></p>



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**2:30 – 3:15 PM**

**PHMSA Gas Leakage and Repair NPRM and Gas Distribution NPRM – AGA Member Perspectives and Comments to the Docket Updates**  
**American Gas Association**  
(Palm Ballroom)

**Measurement/Pressure Regulation Track Topic TBD**  
**Speaker TBD**  
(Joshua Tree Room)

**Incident Investigation/Emergency Response Lessons Learned**  
**Eddie Lynch – AEGIS Loss Control**  
(Abbey Room)

**2:30 PM – 3:15 PM**

**Public Awareness & Damage Prevention Efforts at Unisource**  
**Kristy Rees – Unisource Energy Services**  
(Palm Ballroom)

**Topic TBD**  
**Speaker TBD.**  
(Joshua Tree Room)

**State Pipeline Safety Program Updates – Positive Results from the Nevada Annual Leak Survey Requirements**  
**Nevada Public Utilities Commission**  
(Abbey Room)

**3:15 – 3:45 PM BREAK & VENDOR EXHIBITS (Palm Ballroom)**

**3:15 PM ADJOURNMENT & GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE (Palm Main Ballroom)**

**3:45 – 4:30 PM**

**Pipeline Safety Trust – Impact of Recent Governmental Changes to Pipeline Safety Efforts**  
**Bill Caram – Pipeline Safety Trust**  
(Palm Ballroom)

**Measurement/Pressure Regulation Track Topic TBD**  
**Speaker TBD**  
(Joshua Tree Room)

**Incident Investigation/Emergency Response Workshop/Overview**  
**David Zak – AEGIS Loss Control**  
(Abbey Room)

## **GRAND DOOR PRIZE RAFFLE**

**Please join us in the Palm CF Main Session Ballroom for a chance to win a MacBook laptop computer, a name brand mini tablet, and more! You must be present to win, and your name badge will be your potentially winning ticket!**

Note: The agenda is still under construction and will be updated periodically. Send any requests to review a potential topic to [rclarillos@gmail.com](mailto:rclarillos@gmail.com).

**4:30 – 6:00 PM**

**GET ACQUAINTED NETWORKING RECEPTION – Palm Ballroom Exhibit Area**

**Join us in the vendor exhibit area for light fare and cocktails as well as our main event door prize raffle drawings! Visit the vendors to collect your chances to win some great prizes including laptop computers, gift cards, outdoor gear, and much more!**