



United Kingdom Onshore Pipeline Operators' Association

## **Summary Notes of the HSE/UKOPA Liaison Meeting held in Sheffield on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2007**

### **1. Present**

Steve Wing – HSE  
Steve Chatfield – HSE  
Nigel Riley – HSE  
Mark Harrison – UKOPA  
Neil Jackson – UKOPA  
Phill Jones – UKOPA

### **2. Presentation on UKOPA's Strategy 2007 -2012**

Mark Harrison outlined UKOPA's strategy for the period 2007 to 2012 as detailed in the presentation referenced UKOPA/07/0057, and the following items were noted during discussion:

#### **2.1 Emergency Plans**

It is intended to amend PSR to require testing of emergency plans (see item 3 below) and it may be appropriate for UKOPA to review what Members are currently doing in this area – how often, scope of tests, etc.

#### **Action: UKOPA (EPWG)**

Steve Wing also suggested that UKOPA should make contact with the Civil Contingency Organisations to make them aware of UKOPA and its views and arrangements in this area.

#### **Action: UKOPA (EPWG)**

With regard to training for dealing with emergencies it was agreed that UKOPA will look at what Peter Lombardelli (Fire Services College) has produced and to consider whether a copy should be issued to the HSE for information.

#### **Action: UKOPA (EPWG)**

#### **2.2 Exchange of Information on Incidents and Accidents**

The HSE to advise any suggestions for UKOPA to develop its exchange of accident/incident information for its own Members and the HSE.

#### **Action: HSE**

### **2.3 Safety**

#### **(i) Safety Performance Indicators**

Safety and technical performance indicators are considered by the HSE to be high on the list for improving safety performance and they would be interested in what Members are doing in this respect.

When assessing an MAPD/safety case, the HSE consider what control measures are in place and whether they are working effectively. They would expect safety indicators to provide the necessary management awareness.

**Action: UKOPA (Chairman) to convey to Members**

**(ii) Texas City (Baker Report)**

The outcomes of the Baker Report form important themes for HSE and influence their ongoing inspection programme.

**Action: UKOPA (Chairman) to raise with Members at next meeting.**

**(iii) Process Safety Summit**

The HSE is to organise a process safety summit in 2008 to which 250 top chief executives from UK industry will be invited to attend. It is intended that the theme of the summit will encourage executives to ask themselves whether they have got their businesses under control.

**2.4 Failure Frequencies**

UKOPA to advise the position with regard to published failure frequencies and the sharing of failure data with EGIG.

**Action: UKOPA (FDMG)**

**2.5 HSE View of UKOPA**

The HSE considers that the single point contact for the industry is extremely useful and that it should continue to do what it has done and continue to develop as outlined in its current strategy document. Noted that when asked a question relating to pipeline issues, the HSE will often refer the enquirer to UKOPA or the UKOPA website.

**2.6 Pipeline Infringements**

(i) The UKOPA Infringement Working Group has made two DVD relating to pipeline infringements; one aimed at contractors and one aimed at landowners and tenants. Both DVDs contain the basic messages relating to infringements and can be used as they are or customised by UKOPA members to meet their particular needs. UKOPA to look at having the standard DVDs available for viewing on its website.

**Action: UKOPA (IWG)**

(ii) It was noted that the Stoneleigh event (UKOPA/HSE/NG) had been very successful, and that it had been agreed at the time that it should be followed up with a further event with updated information etc. This was agreed in principle and it was agreed that the matter should be delegated to the IWG.

**Action: UKOPA (IWG)**

THE HSE noted that it would be interested to hear of anything that they might be able to collaborate with UKOPA on, and in particular relating to reducing infringements and getting people to recognise pipelines as hazards.

**Action: UKOPA (IWG)**

**Action: UKOPA (Chairman) to highlight at next Association meeting and seek members ideas**

2.7 HSE noted that they have produced a couple of documents with BERR (Business Efficiency, Reform and Regulation) formerly the DTI on storage and LNG and that they will forward links to UKOPA.

**Action: HSE**

### **3. Proposed Legislative Changes to PSR 1996**

(i) HSE confirmed that it is proposing to progress changes to PSR 1996 relating to:

- (i) Gasoline pipelines – to reclassify them as major accident hazard pipelines.
- (ii) Emergency plans - requirement to test etc.
- (iii) Carbon dioxide pipelines – noted that another group in the HSE is looking at the risks relating to carbon dioxide which can be greater than other gases particularly in dense or critical phase.

The programme for implementation is not clear at this time, but the earliest is likely to be October 2008. A consultation document will be published and it was agreed that it is important that UKOPA sees this before it is issued if this is possible.

**Action: HSE** to provide access to draft amendments as soon as possible.

**Action: UKOPA (Chairman) to include on the agenda of the OCTOBER meeting.**

(ii) Land Use Planning

HSE also noted that they are considering revising the guidance associated with land use planning and are prepared to look at any revisions that UKOPA might wish to offer. There is currently no intention to change the legislation but HSE will consider any proposals submitted by UKOPA on the issue.

**Action: UKOPA include on the agenda of the OCTOBER meeting.**

### **4. Updating of the HSE's Extranet**

The effort to update the pipeline information on HSE's Extranet was a topic of criticism by UKOPA members at the February 2007 meeting. National Grid and Northern Gas Networks had provided details of their pipelines and the planning authorities through which the routes pass and the HSE had updated their details accordingly. HSE undertook to write again to the other operators: Southern Gas Networks, Scottish Gas Networks and Wales and the West Utilities to ask them to provide similar information for their areas.

**Action: HSE**

### **5. List of Operator Contacts**

The entry portal on HSE's Extranet has links to contact points for the pipeline operators. Although intended to allow appointed persons in the Local Planning Authorities to contact someone from the pipeline operator who would be able to confirm the Planning Authorities are using the latest version of the pipeline map for a planning application of interest, in many cases the contact details provided do not fulfil this role as they do not provide a link to anyone who knows anything about pipelines and are not able to direct the Planning Authorities to someone who does.

HSE requested UKOPA assistance to improve the entries and asked UKOPA to consider providing a list of operator contact details on the controlled access area of its website with a link from the HSE website.

**Action: UKOPA include on the agenda of the OCTOBER meeting.**

**6. Future Meetings**

It was agreed that the meeting had been very useful and that it should be held annually. A date for the 2008 meeting will be agreed in due course.

Circulation:

Attendees  
UKOPA Members