PIPELINE AND HAZMAT SAFETY



Led by three former Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) attorneys, our Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety practice group counsels pipeline and midstream companies, gas utilities, terminal operators, investors, trade associations, and other industry stakeholders, throughout the United States. James Curry, Keith Coyle and Brianne Kurdock together have more than 25 years of experience with a multitude of pipeline safety issues.

Representative Matters:

- Counseling many pipeline and terminal operators on day-to-day regulatory interpretive and strategic counseling matters.
- Working with pipeline operators to perform comprehensive jurisdictional analyses of gas and hazardous liquid pipeline systems, terminals and other facilities across the United States (Analyses recently performed of systems located in Alaska, California, Colorado, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, New York, Utah and Texas).
- Representing pipeline operators in PHMSA enforcement proceedings and working with local counsel on state enforcement proceedings.
- Obtained complete and partial withdrawals of alleged PHMSA violations and civil penalties on the merits.
- Worked with pipeline operators and trade associations to prepare comments in various PHMSA pipeline safety rulemakings.
- Advised national trade association in litigation in the U.S Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit challenging a final rule for the design and testing of pressure vessels, resulting in a stay of enforcement by federal regulators.
- Worked with federal regulators to obtain approval of an alternative facility testing protocol for a multi-billion dollar LNG export project.
- Served as expert witness in an arbitration proceeding involving a \$20 million breach of warranty claim for pipeline safety compliance issues.
- Prepared comments for oil producer in PHMSA rail tank car rulemaking.
- Served as primary authors of a comprehensive study on the safety and reliability of natural gas pipelines for a national trade association.
- Advised natural gas liquids fractionator in agency enforcement and related litigation regarding pipeline safety jurisdiction.
- Advised pipeline operators seeking special permits from PHMSA and waivers from state pipeline safety regulators.
- Working with industry stakeholders to develop state and federal legislation on the regulation and siting of liquefied natural gas LNG facilities.
- Advised oil and gas producers and operators of truck and rail terminal facilities on obligations under the hazardous materials safety laws and regulations.
- Advised refiner, pipeline operator and petroleum producer in multiple Federal Railroad Administration hazardous materials safety enforcement matters.

If you need assistance with pipeline and hazardous materials safety matters, please contact James Curry at jcurry@ babstcalland.com or (202) 853-3461 or Keith Coyle at kcoyle@babstcalland.com or (202) 853-3460 of the Pipeline and HazMat Safety practice group.

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