

September 17, 2025

The Honorable Robert E. Latta
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy
House Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Latta,

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify before the Subcommittee on Tuesday, July 22, 2025. Enclosed is my response to your question submitted for the record. If additional insight or information is needed, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Jim Moriarty

Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Robert Latta (R-OH)

There are many technologies that can help operators ensure safety across their pipeline networks. How can PHMSA be a better partner in efforts to increase the use of technologies, and facilitate the development of new, emerging technologies?

Chairman Latta, thank you for the question. Not surprisingly, leak detection technology is advancing at a rapid rate. However, governmental review and approval of those technologies is not.

Chesapeake Utilities has implemented advanced leak detection across our service territories, including piloting new technologies that have deployed satellite technology for methane detection and finding leaks and monitoring devices at two above-ground facilities in Ohio and Delaware. Additionally, we are integrating two new advanced mobile leak detection (“AMLD”) vehicles across our service territories and harnessing the power of cutting-edge software platforms that use artificial intelligence and machine learning to help prevent damage to assets, enhance safety and reduce operational risks.

PHMSA has been slow to approve the use of new technologies and the industry’s ability to deploy advanced technologies. PHMSA must accelerate the prompt evaluation and approval of new pipeline safety technology that will lower costs for consumers. To stay up to date with industry advances, PHMSA should maintain regular communications with industry leaders so that the Agency is abreast of all technology being tested, evaluated, and utilized within the sector. PHMSA’s advisory committees, such as Gas Pipeline Advisory Committee (GPAC), could play a vital role in helping improve communication and the prompt identification of these important technologies.