



Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association

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December 2020

Gas Circuit Rider Newsletter

Wrapping up 2020 and looking forward to 2021.

2020 Inspections have been completed for the year. The following attachment shows the Inspector assignments for 2021. Please note there may still be some changes to the assignments as MNOPS has had some Inspectors retire and are currently hiring replacements.

MNOPS is still working on the Inspections to be scheduled for 2021. I will send out notices of scheduled Inspections as soon I receive them.

- Next year the majority of Operators will have O & M Manual and DIMP Inspections. Each Operator must review the O & M on an annual basis. This is also a good time to review Emergency Procedures with your crews.
- Your DIMP Plan should be completed as soon as possible after you complete your 2020 PHMSA Annual Report. I am always available and willing to assist you with your DIMP Plan. Please call me to schedule this. Also, check with APGA to make sure your SHRIMP subscription is current and up to date. If you let the subscription lapse you cannot access your previous DIMP Plans.
- Plastic Pipe Fusion can be scheduled with me now for first quarter 2021. At that time we can also complete the Annual Review of your manuals and review Emergency Procedures as well.

Online Options to Help You Track Your OQ Qualifications

Sign in to **MEA EnergyU** portal (meaenergy.org), go to the Transcripts tab on the left side of the page and click on it. Your Transcript will come up. You can then scroll down and see each of your qualifications and the expiration date.

Another online option is **eConfirm.org** (for those who have access). Sign in and then click on the Report tab. From here you can download and print your information. Another great feature is the ability to download the information to your cell phone or tablet with a compatible QR Code reader/scanner app installed. Click on Employee Badges (QR Codes), find your name, click on View Report. Once the QR Code appears you can scan it with the app on your mobile device.

Check this out next time you go to your favorite home improvement store - you will notice they're selling gas piping, plastic piping, plastic fittings, etc. They even offer gas pressure-testing devices. However, the do-it-yourselfer may not be competent to install their own gas piping. This is an important topic to address/communicate to your customers. **Gas piping should only be installed by a qualified individual.** Perhaps include information on a flyer with your next invoice, address as part of your safety plan with your customers, and be sure to cover as part of your required new customer information.

NOW SCHEDULING:

MMUA Gas Circuit Rider Services & Training Opportunities

Please see the following list for complete details.

We encourage you to take advantage of our services and utilize as many as you need. Please note that services are booked on a first-come basis.

I look forward to working with each of you to meet your compliance goals.

Work Safe & Stay Well!

Happy Holidays!

If you have any suggestions, comments, or concerns, please let me know. Thank you!

Robin Klug
Regulatory Compliance and Training
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MNOPS Inspectors - MMUA Members 2021

Adam J Ratzlaff

Bagley Natural Gas, City of
Battle Lake Natural Gas
Clearbrook Municipal Gas, City of
Dooley's Natural Gas LLC, Willmar
Dooley's Natural Gas II LLC, Willmar
City of Fosston Municipal Gas
City of Henning
Two Harbors City Municipal Gas Dept

Estelle Hickman

Centennial Utilities, Circle Pines
City of Fairfax Municipal Utilities
Morgan, City of
New York Mills Municipal Gas System

Joseph Hauger

Clarissa, City of
Eagle Bend, City of

Pat Donovan

Hawley Public Utilities Commission
Lake Park Public Utilities
Perham Municipal Gas System
Randall, City of
Sheehan's Gas Company Inc

Thomas Chrisfield

Argyle Municipal Gas System
Community Utility Company, Racine
Goodhue Municipal Gas, City of
Hallock Gas Dept, Village of
Hibbing Public Utilities Commission
Stephen, City of
Tyler, City of
Virginia Dept of Public Utility, City of
Warren Gas Dept, City of

MMUA Gas Circuit Rider Services & Training Opportunities

- Annual Review As Required
 - Emergency Procedures
 - Operation and Maintenance (O & M) Manual
- Atmospheric Corrosion
- Cathodic Protection Pipe to Soil
- DRS Inspection Site Security/Regulator Test & Inspection/Relief Valve Test & Inspection
- Leak Survey/Detection/Patrolling
- Locating/Damage Prevention
- Mechanical Fittings
- Meter Sets Installation
- MNOPS Documentation Required
- Odorization
- OSHA
- PHMSA Annual Report – **DUE MARCH 15**
- Plastic Pipe Fusion
- Pressure Testing
- Program Review As Requested (i.e. new, changes, etc.)
 - Damage Prevention
 - DIMP/TIMP Plan
 - Emergency Plan
 - Fire Department Liaison
 - Operator Qualification
 - Public Awareness
- Recordkeeping/Documentation Review
- Valve Maintenance and Inspection

If there are any other services or training not listed that you are interested in, please contact Robin Klug at 763-478-7356.