



Public Service Commission of West Virginia

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PSC Announces New Director of Gas Pipeline Safety Division

The Public Service Commission of West Virginia announces Mary S. Friend has been appointed Director of the Gas Pipeline Safety Division. She comes to the PSC from the U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's (PHMSA) Office of Pipeline Safety Inspector Training and Qualification, where she has developed and taught courses for training Federal and State pipeline inspectors since 2009. She is a member of the PHMSA O&M Enforcement Team, Gas Integrity Management Team, Interpretation Team and Public Awareness Effectiveness Ad Hoc Team. She has been recognized with a Team Award in 2010, a Superior Achievement Award and the Administrator's Eagle Award in 2011.

Ms. Friend earned her bachelor's degree from Lafayette College in Easton, PA, and her master's degree from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA.

Ms. Friend began her career as a geologist at Columbia Gas Transmission. During her 30 years at Columbia she worked in a variety of areas, including exploration and development, underground gas storage, pipeline operations and pipeline safety. She has worked as an adjunct instructor at West Virginia State University and West Virginia University Institute of Technology. She has been an active member of the American Gas Association's Gas Piping Technology Committee since 2006.

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