

NEWS RELEASE

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Michigan Pipeline Safety Advisory Board's inaugural meeting sets path for action

LANSING, Mich. -- The Michigan Pipeline Safety Advisory Board conducted its first meeting today, setting a path for future action to ensure the safety, upkeep and transparency of issues related to Michigan's network of pipelines.

The 15-member board was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder on Sept. 3, 2015. It is co-chaired by Valerie Brader, executive director of the Michigan Agency for Energy, and Dan Wyant, director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

"This board will help Michigan better understand our risks, benefits, and alternatives to pipelines, and provide critical advice on steps Michigan can take to carry out those actions identified by the Pipeline Safety Task Force," Brader said.

Wyant said the advisory board will continue the important work begun by the Michigan Petroleum Pipeline Task Force and see that its recommendations are carried out.

"It's vitally important that we protect Michigan's natural resources – especially our water – and still make sure our state's residents have access to the energy they need," Wyant said.

Today's [meeting](#) covered organizational matters, a review of the board's responsibilities and the task force's recommendations as well as open discussion and public participation. Agendas and other information about the board's meetings will be posted on its [website](#). All meetings are open to the public.

Snyder appointed the board's members on Sept. 3 through [Executive Order 2015-12](#) after the Michigan Petroleum Pipeline Task Force issued its [report](#). Two of the task force's 13 recommendations have already been set in place -- [preventing](#) heavy crude oil from being transported through Mackinac Straits pipelines and [creating](#) the advisory board.