



NODPC Meeting

Wednesday, June 3rd, 2026

09:30am to 11:00am

6363 Selig Blvd, Independence, Ohio, 44131

1.) Introductions

- There were thirty-eight individuals in attendance (with seven new individuals).

2.) May Meeting Minutes Approved

- The May meetings were motioned to be approved and seconded without any revisions.

3.) Presentation: Aspire Energy – Alex Sigler, Safety Coordinator

- Aspire is a subsidiary of Chesapeake Utilities Corporation that operates unregulated gathering lines and one mile of transmission lines, primarily in Eastern Ohio, from the lake to the river. They have 2,262 miles of gathering pipe

- Natural gas most commonly comes from wells deep in the ground. It is often found in oil wells but can be found by itself or a product from aerobic or anaerobic digesters.

- Natural Gas is 94% methane, 4% ethane, and 2% other gases including butane, carbon dioxide, nitrogen, and isopentane. It is flammable between five and fifteen percent air to gas ratio. An odorant called mercaptan is injected at gate stations and is monitored throughout the system.

- Aspire's compressor stations are monitored 24/7 by gas controls/SCADA

- 98% of Aspires system has an excess flow valve. When a gas service line is struck during excavation, the EFV should automatically shut off the flow of gas to the service line.

- Not calling 811 accounts for 36% of all damage to Aspire facilities. 19% did not pothole, 18% failed to maintain clearance from Aspire's facilities.

- Damage rates have gone down significantly (75%) after Aspire chose to use in-house utility locating instead of outsourcing to a vendor. Jack Gautier from Aspire said that there is more of a sense of ownership when a utility marks its own facility versus contracting out the work.

- There are roughly 650 fire departments in Aspire's Ohio territory.

- The council had great discussion around why no one except qualified representatives of the gas companies should operate any valves. While intentions may be good, it is difficult to determine what gate valves turn off/on (eg. Does the mainline feed critical infrastructure, such as a hospital, power plant, etc., is the gate valve a bypass?).

4.) OHIO811 UPDATES

- The annual OHIO811 membership meeting is August 5th through August 7th in Columbus.
 - Information and registration are on OHIO811's website (on the homepage).
 - The hotel room block is open for reservations now through July 15th.
- The fall Excavator Seminars will be in the last week of October. Locations are being decided now.
- CGA Regional Partners update – Vincent Teuscher
 - The full CGA meeting minutes will be posted to OHIO811's website under the council's meeting minutes tab. Vincent covered highlights from the regional partner meeting, including OHIO811's presentation.
- May had 154,720 notifications to the center. Year to date, there have been 686,606 notifications to the center.
- OHIO811 has hired two new liaisons: Gwen Dumaran and Michael Burrows. They are in training now and will have their own assigned areas in the coming months.
- There are virtual training seminars on HB227 offered by OHIO811. They are on Wednesday, June 17th (9am and 3pm) and Wednesday, June 24th (9am and 3pm). Please visit the law and legislation tab on OHIO811's website for registration.
- HB227 takes effect on June 9th. We reviewed the key changes, including:
 - The new timeframe (forty-eight hours not counting the day of the call (excluding weekends and holidays) (ORC.3781.28).
 - Must start digging within sixteen calendar days of the notice (ORC3781.28).
 - All damage to underground utilities must be reported to OHIO811 (ORC 3781.271).
 - Mandatory Training (ORC 3781.261) – all individuals involved in the OHIO811 process must complete required training and be documented by the employer.
- NODPC/EODPC 811 Day Event – The NODPC and EODPC will be hosting a joint meeting on 811 day (August 11th) at the OHIO811 center. The current plan is to have Bloodhound locate facilities the day prior and showcase their Raptor GPR. Enbridge Gas Ohio will potentially hydrovac the gas service line tie in point. OHIO811 will provide lunch, unless there is a company who would like to sponsor. We will celebrate the staff of OHIO811 as well. The OHIO811 trailer is booked to be at this event. Registration will be sent out sometime early in July to the council members on the e-mail chain.

5.) Open Discussion

- The annual NODPC Clay Shoot is on Friday, September 11th. The registration will be sent out sometime in August.
- We asked for feedback for the Marking Standards review in 2027. There were no comments or suggestions.

- We asked for feedback for the NODPC Council Bi-laws. There were no comments or suggestions.
- We reviewed that there is no meeting in July due to the holiday.