



**WESTERN
GOVERNORS'
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Governor of Arizona
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Pam O. Inmann
Executive Director

Headquarters:
1515 Cleveland Place
Suite 200
Denver, Colorado 80202-5114

303-623-9378
Fax 303-534-7309

Washington, D.C. Office
400 N. Capitol Street, N.W.
Suite 388
Washington, D.C. 20001

202-624-5402
Fax 202-624-7707
www.westgov.org

July 23, 2004

Mr. Samuel G Bonasso, Administration
Research and Special Programs Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590


Dear Mr. Bonasso:

Last month, Western Governors adopted the attached resolution on pipeline and refinery adequacy and safety. The resolution recognizes that an efficient and safe pipeline infrastructure and robust petroleum product markets are critical to the region's economy, public health and safety of our residents and a clean environment.

Ensuring adequate petroleum and natural gas supplies and the safe operation of our vital pipeline network requires a cooperative effort among federal agencies, the industry, and state and local governments. In furtherance of this goal, the Governors agreed to share information on best practices. They also requested the assistance of the Office of Pipeline Safety in identifying best practices. As a first step in a cooperative effort with the Department of Transportation, we request that you designate a person within the Office of Pipeline Safety as the contact we can work with to achieve the resolution objectives- objectives the Department and Western Governors share.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,


Pam O. Inmann
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta, Secretary of Transportation
Stacey Gerard, Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety

Attachment