



APRIL 2008 eBrief Print Version

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### **GPA works to establish climate change standards**

An Ad Hoc Committee recently was established within GPA to help address some of the important issues that the midstream industry faces as Congress considers potential changes to climate change policy. Specifically, this Ad Hoc Committee is working toward the establishment of an official set of GPA climate change standards/principles to be used for presentation to policymakers. These standards will also be used as the basis for future and potential GPA advocacy and educational efforts as they pertain to this specific issue. The Senate Democratic leadership indicates that they intend to bring climate change legislation to the Senate floor for consideration sometime in June. GPA intends to have an official set of standards finalized by that time.

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### **Update regarding "lost" and "unaccounted for" gas case**

On April 4, the Texas Supreme Court granted Dynegy/Versado's Petition For Review of the Appellate Court's decision in the case of *Apache v. Dynergy Midstream Services and Versado* (now Targa Resources). *Amicus Curiae* briefs of GPA and Texas Pipeline Association also asked the Supreme Court to review the adverse decision of the lower court.

As background information on this important case to the midstream industry, the lower Texas Court of Appeals ruled that Apache is entitled to recovery of \$1,508,674 plus pre- and post-judgment interest from Dynegy/Versado for breach of contract in this dispute over the interpretation of "lost gas" and "unaccounted for gas" in percent of proceeds contract clauses.

On Jan. 31, 2007, Dynegy/Versado filed a Petition For Review with the Supreme Court of Texas seeking to overturn the Appellate Court's decision. Because the contract language and the Appellate Court's interpretation thereof directly affects common contract and accounting terms used in the midstream industry, last year GPA's Board of Directors unanimously approved filing an *Amicus Curiae* Brief with the Texas Supreme Court to point out how the Appellate Court's decision may adversely affect the historic understanding and interpretation of "percent of proceeds" contracts in the midstream industry.

GPA's brief was filed with the Texas Supreme Court on May 22, 2007, asserting that Dynegy/Versado complied with the payment terms of its contracts with Apache, and that the Court of Appeals failed to follow basic contract law when it relied on expert testimony in determining the meaning of the specific contract language since the lower courts had both determined that the contracts were not ambiguous.

GPA's brief pointed out that its members have similar contracts in Texas involving substantial volumes of natural gas gathered, processed and sold which, under the Appeals Court ruling, could be subject to claims by producers notwithstanding the historically accepted interpretation and performance of those agreements prior to Apache's lawsuit.

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## Tech Talk

### **GPA 2145-09 and 2172-08 to ballot through Technical Committee soon**

The long awaited revision of GPA 2145, Table of Physical Properties, will soon be going to the GPA Technical Committee for ballot. The physical properties standard has essentially passed its balloting through GPA technical sections with very few comments. We expect to have the document ready for distribution by mid-June/early July.

The revision of GPA 2172, Calculation of Gross Heating Value, Relative Density and Compressibility Factor for Natural Gas Mixtures from Compositional Analysis, is nearly complete with a few minor details to clarify. Once these details are resolved, the standard will be balloted through GPA Technical Committee. We expect the document to be ready for distribution in mid-June.

### **Fall Technical Committee meeting to be held in Houston**

Due to an overwhelming request, GPA will hold the fall Technical Committee meeting in Houston this year. We hope the new meeting location will enable those living in Houston and surrounding areas to contribute to GPA's technical deliverables.

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## Chapter News

### **Permian Basin**

Mark your calendar for the Permian Basin annual regional meeting May 6, followed by the always-popular Permian Basin Shrimp Boil. Make sure you stick around the next day for the Permian Basin Golf Tournament, which raises funds for scholarships given to area colleges. For more information and registration information please follow this link: <http://www.gasprocessors.com/PdfFiles/PB08RegForm.pdf>.

### **Midcontinent**

GPA's Midcontinent Chapter recently wrapped up another successful annual regional meeting with more than 100 in attendance. GPA would like to give special thanks to Tom Russell for his fantastic job with the training course that coincided with the meeting. The chapter also hosted another successful golf tournament whose proceeds go to funding scholarships given by the chapter to local colleges. For information on future Midcontinent Chapter events, see: <http://www.gasprocessors.com/midcontinent.html>.

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### **GPA Finance Committee members named**

GPA president Bob Dunn recently finalized appointments to the Finance Committee. The members are:  
Bob Dunn, Chair, Prism Gas Systems I, Inc.  
Tom Williams, Atlas Pipeline Mid-Continent, LLC  
Mary Ann Pierce, ConocoPhillips  
Rick Cargile, DCP Midstream  
Mike Heim, Targa Resources, Inc.  
Alan Armstrong, Williams  
Mark Sutton, Gas Processors Association

View all GPA committee leaders at <http://www.gasprocessors.com/officers.html>.

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### **Enroll now for GPA 35<sup>th</sup> School of Gas Chromatography**

GPA's 35th School of Gas Chromatography will be conducted in Tulsa, Okla., Aug. 4 – 8, 2008, by GPA's Analysis and Test Methods Section. It consists of a combination of lectures, demonstrations and equipment operation. The school teaches basic gas and gas liquid chromatography with an introduction to extended analysis and portable chromatographs. This school has sold out in the two previous years. If interested in attending, we recommend you enroll now. Contact Judy London, [jlondon@gasprocessors.com](mailto:jlondon@gasprocessors.com), for enrollment information.

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### **Honoring Dr. Robert N. Maddox**

It is with great regret that we inform you of the passing of Dr. Robert N. Maddox. Dr. Maddox was born in 1925 in Winslow, AR, and passed away on April 9. He was a longtime member of the GPSA Editorial Review Board, for which he received the GPA Citation for Service for his work on the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the GPSA Engineering Data Book. He was also a recipient of the prestigious GPA Hanlon Award. Dr. Maddox's technical capability was proven through the years by the publishing of eight books, nine handbook chapters, nearly 150 technical publications, almost 90 short courses and 30 publications with 50 different organizations. In 1989, GPSA awarded him recognition as the Robert N. Maddox professorship in chemical engineering at Oklahoma State University.

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### **2008 Convention contest winners**

Congratulations to the winners from the GPSA "Spot the Bogus Name" game at the GPA Convention. Kathy Fuller, Barnes and Click, won a \$350 gift card (includes a \$100 bonus for Barnes and Click being a sponsoring company) and Karen Scharf, ONEOK Partners, won a \$250 gift card.

Congratulations to David Wasserman, Targa Resources, winner of the Total Energy Hawaii Getaway.

1<sup>st</sup> place winner of the John M. Campbell & Co. Airplane Contest is Jeff Ewus, Chevron. Additional information, including a list of those "landing" in the Top 20 can be found here: [Click here](#).

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### **2008 GPA Convention attendees: post-event information coming soon**

For those who attended our 87<sup>th</sup> annual convention, "Shaping Our Role in the Natural Gas Industry," you will soon receive a link to a quick 5-minute survey that will help us with future events. After completing the survey, you will receive a link to valuable post-convention information, including a list of registrants, plus download links for presentations and photos. We appreciate your attendance and your feedback!

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### **Seeking industry experts**

Are you interested in sharing your expertise with more than 1,500 industry peers? Become recognized as an industry expert by presenting your paper at the 2009 GPA Convention. The presentations will cover both business and technical aspects of gas processing, and all who send a 200-250 word abstract to GPA by **July 21, 2008**, will be considered. Below is a list of requested topics. Even if your paper doesn't match the descriptions below, go ahead and send in your abstract by the deadline, and it will be considered.

Topics of your paper may include:

- International Developments in Gas Processing
- Regulatory Impacts on Gas Processing
- Products, Quality and Specifications
- Operational and Maintenance Issues in Gas Gathering, Processing, Fractionation, Storage and Transportation
- Business Issues Related to Gas Processing
- Technical Developments in Gas Processing, Fractionation, Storage and Transportation
- Marketing and Downstream Issues in Gas Processing
- Applications of Thermodynamics and Phase Equilibria
- Shared Practices
- LNG
- Computer Technology

Please send abstracts to Johnny Dreyer: [jdreyer@gasprocessors.com](mailto:jdreyer@gasprocessors.com).

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### **Midstream industry jobs are available**

The Career Center's recent convention pricing special was utilized by AMEC Paragon, Atmos Energy, DCP Midstream, EnCana Oil and Gas, Gulf Publishing Co., Linde Process Plants, Inc., Lummus Technology Inc., MEI, LLC, Mafi-Trench Company, Pearl Development, Pioneer Natural Resources and Washington Group International. Many thanks for your participation in this promotion and to all employers who have posted on this site to date.

Employers – be sure to register on the GPA / GPSA Career Center even if you are not yet ready to post a job. Registration ensures that you are notified of any special pricing discounts that are offered. For questions about registering or posting, contact Judy London: [jlondon@gasprocessors.com](mailto:jlondon@gasprocessors.com).

Job seekers - View the 19 current job listings at <http://careers.gasprocessors.com>.

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### **Market your company at next year's GPA Convention**

As you prepare your 2009 budgets, GPA reminds you of the opportunity to market your company and products at next year's GPA Convention in San Antonio, Texas, by hosting a hospitality. Contact Christine Simpson, GPA, for more information: [csimpson@gasprocessors.com](mailto:csimpson@gasprocessors.com).

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For event location and additional details about meetings listed below, visit: <http://www.gasprocessors.com/calendar.html>

### **May Events**

- 6 - GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) Chapter Annual Organization Meeting
- 6 - Permian Basin GPA Annual Regional Meeting
- 7 - Permian Basin GPA Golf Tournament
- 7 - GCC Chapter 16th Annual Technical Conference
- 9 - CGPA (Canada GPA) Annual Operations & Maintenance Conference/Safety Awards Banquet,
- 14 - Houston GPA Monthly Luncheon with Officer/Director Elections
- 15 - GPA Europe Spring Meeting

16 - GPA Europe Site Visit to Isle of Grain LNG Facility  
20 - North Texas GPA Golf Tournament  
21 - Environmental Subcommittee Meeting  
26-29 - Venezuela GPA XVIII International Gas Convention

**September**

10 - Rocky Mountain GPA Chapter Annual Meeting

**October**

7 - Houston GPA Annual Meeting and Golf Tournament

**November**

6 - North Texas GPA Annual Meeting

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**Gas Processors Association**

[www.gasprocessors.com](http://www.gasprocessors.com)

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