

**IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
REGULATED CARRIER DIVISION**

Idaho Public Utilities Commission (IPUC) normally does not respond to accidents on-scene unless specifically requested through the response system. IPUC is primarily interested in causes of accidents or incidents and the corrective action to rectify and ensure that safer transportation measures are followed to prevent similar situations in the future.

IPUC Rail Safety Specialists that respond on-site to accidents or incidents are normally limited to major accidents resulting in immediate danger to humans or fatalities. The function of such response is normally limited to; railroad crossing accidents and rail incidents involving hazardous materials. The safety specialists accumulate data and facts that relate to proper placarding, container markings, correct container usage, container securement and identification of loads, train consists, sufficient clearance and observation at railroad crossings; and how these functions may relate to the cause of the accident. Normally train derailment is limited to investigation by the Federal Railroad Administration as lead investigators with assistance by certified state rail safety specialist.

Carrier company dispatchers and safety directors of shippers may be contacted for a specific description and identification of the commodities being transported.

All highways at rail grade crossing accidents and incident are investigated by IPUC rail safety specialist to ensure proper sight distance clearance and pre-warning signage is sufficient.

IPUC Pipeline Safety Specialists that respond on-site to natural gas pipeline accidents or incidents are normally limited to major accidents/incidents resulting in immediate danger to humans, death, personnel injury requiring hospitalization, estimated property damage of \$50,000 or more, unintentional estimated gas loss of three million cubic feet or more and events that results in an emergency shutdown of the Liquefied Natural Gas plants. The function of such response is normally limited to; intrastate natural gas transmission and distribution pipeline systems operated within the boundaries of the state. The safety specialist investigates accidents/incidents by accumulating data and facts that pertain to the safe and correct operation of the pipeline system by operators and maintainers for possible penalties, reporting and corrective actions. IPUC pipeline safety specialist are trained and certified by the Federal Pipeline Hazardous Material Safety Administration to perform accident/Incident investigations.

Normally, these on-site investigations will begin immediately after any material hazardous to human life has been removed and an “all clear” is given by responsible onsite personnel.